



## **Job Openingr**

Deadline: 15 November 2021  
38/2021

### **Researcher – Cross-sector Dialogue for Wildfire Risk Management (part-time)**

Equity and justice (equ) research group, IIASA population and just societies (POPJUS) program

**We are looking to hire a researcher with a background in social sciences and an interest in wildfire risk management (WFRM), disaster risk insurance, and participatory processes. The successful candidate will join an interdisciplinary team of researchers and experts, addressing the increasing demands for more public participation, transparency and fairness in risk management institutions and procedures.**

#### ***Background***

The mission of the IIASA Population and Just Societies (POPJUS) Program is to identify sustainable development challenges and explore people-centric system solutions for sustainable, resilient, just and equitable societies. The program focuses on strengthening the human-centered and population-based approach, taking into consideration equity and the just distribution of opportunities, outcomes, and processes. The POPJUS Equity and Justice (EQU) Research Group focuses on the human dimension of selected globally relevant policy challenges, with the aim of delineating and advancing their analysis, management, and governance with special attention paid to the design and application of equity and justice frameworks, both within the group and across IIASA.

#### ***THE POSITION***

This is a part-time (50-75%) opportunity representing 20 to 30 hours per week. The work will be conducted as part of the research project FIRELOGUE “Cross-sector dialogue for Wildfire Risk Management”, funded by the European Commission’s Horizon 2020 program. As a Coordination and Support Action, FIRELOGUE aims to coordinate and support the [Innovation Actions](#) – the three other major projects on WFRM in Europe next to FIRELOGUE – by integrating their findings across stakeholder groups and fire management phases. It therefore builds on different formats to process the existing knowledge and innovations into the FIRELOGUE platform. In addition to developing dedicated knowledge sharing formats for the exchange between the IAs, FIRELOGUE also aims to (1) deconstruct conflicting (and synergizing) aims, interests, mandates, policies and practices existing in WFRM, (2) identify real or perceived injustices linked to these conflicts, (3) provide a space

for deliberating on these conflicts and synergies in a just and inclusive way, in order to (4) co-develop integrated strategies to overcome these conflicts.

## **main tasks and responsibilities**

- Coordinate the consolidation of WFRM knowledge and information from the Innovation Actions and the wider community into a WFRM Knowledge Base
- Translate this WFRM Knowledge Base into the Working Group and Thematic Strands structure of the FIRELOGUE project and processes it for use in the workshop dialogue formats
- Coordinate the Insurance Working Group and the Socioeconomic Thematic Strand in the FIRELOGUE stakeholder engagement framework
- Conduct a discourse analysis of cross sector Working Group workshops to identify patterns and clusters in the WFRM field and assess the dialogue forums for conflict and synergies across working groups
- Assist in publishing relevant results in peer-reviewed journals/books and participate in scientific conferences and workshops
- Contribute to the dissemination of knowledge and results
- Support outreach activities for the project
- In line with the team spirit that prevails at IIASA, the incumbent may occasionally work on other tasks assigned by their superiors, that might not be directly related to this appointment but where the post holder has relevant experience and skills, and/or a shortage of immediate personnel capabilities requires such.

## **requirements, skills and qualifications**

- A master's degree (or equivalent) in economics, social or political sciences, statistics, geography, environmental science, or other relevant field.

### **The following skills and qualifications are required:**

- Knowledge of the literature and practice on disaster risk management, ideally with a focus on WFRM, and particularly in the European context
- Excellent communication skills (both written and verbal) in English, good presentation skills and the ability to write scientific articles and contribute to science-policy reports
- Excellent organizational skills, results-oriented mindset, proactive and adaptable
- Experience organizing and implementing participatory stakeholder engagement processes
- Proficiency with standard data editing software (e.g., MS office).

### **The following experience would be highly desirable:**

- Knowledge of the literature on disaster risk insurance, participatory processes, and Just Transition
- Experience with qualitative and quantitative social science data collection and analysis.
- Experience in the coordination of international research teams

IIASA offers an interdisciplinary and international workplace, and the possibility to interact with researchers of different nationalities, with strong ties to a world-wide network of research institutions engaged in environmental systems research. The successful candidate must be able to work in, and have respect for, an intercultural environment, and [IIASA core values](#).

## appointment terms

The selected candidate should be available to take up the position as soon as possible in 2021. We offer an initial fixed-term, one year, part-time employment contract (50 -75% representing 20 to 30 hours per week, depending on the availability of the successful candidate), with the possibility of extension thereafter.

Duties will be carried out at the IIASA premises in Laxenburg, near Vienna in Austria (up to 100 days per year home office working possible).

The corresponding profile for this opportunity is **R1** according to the [IIASA profiles for research careers](#).

### *WE OFFER:*

A **minimum** gross annual salary of EUR 33,000.00 (full-time equivalent), which is exempt from income tax in Austria.

The advertised salary is:

- Negotiable, based on the qualifications, skills and experience of the selected individual.
- Subject to deductions for health insurance and/or social security.
- Not directly comparable with other employers in Austria, due to the unique legal status and privileges granted to IIASA.
- Subject to the principle of income aggregation (Progressionsvorbehalt in German).

### *In addition:*

- Educational subsidies for children of school age enrolled in private schools in Austria.
- A generous annual leave entitlement.
- Moving and settlement allowances and paid home leave for employees in scientific and professional categories hired from international locations.
- The possibility to work up to 100 days per year in home office (within Austria)
- Assistance for newcomers to Austria with visa, work and residency permit applications.
- Support finding accommodation in Austria.

Further details here: <https://iiasa.ac.at/web/home/about/workingatiasa/Working-Environment-.en.html>

## *About IIASA*

IIASA is committed to a working environment that promotes equality, diversity, tolerance and inclusion within its workforce. This is reflected in our [Core Values](#). We encourage qualified candidates from all religious, ethnic, and social backgrounds to apply. In the case that candidates are equally qualified, preference will be given to applicants from countries where IIASA has a [National Member Organization](#) (NMO).

## *Further Information*

For further information about this opportunity please contact:

[Thomas Schinko](#), EQU Research Group Leader

For general information about working at IIASA, please contact:

[recruitment@iiasa.ac.at](mailto:recruitment@iiasa.ac.at)

## *Applications*

To apply for this opportunity, you will need to provide the following documents in English:

- A cover letter outlining your motivation for and fit to the position
- A detailed Curriculum Vitae
- The names, addresses (including e-mail), and telephone numbers of two work-related reference givers.

Deadline for receipt of applications: 15 November 2021