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INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENT CALL FOR A POST-DOCTORAL POSITION WITHIN THE ARDHI UNIVERSITY 'Y-ENGAGE' RESEARCH PROJECT

The Institute of Human Settlements Studies, Ardhi University (ARU) invites applications for one (1) 4-year full-time Post-Doc position within the research project “**Young People’s Climate Change Engagement in Tanzania (Y-ENGAGE)**”.

The research project is funded by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The successful candidate will be expected to start on May 1, 2022 or as soon as possible thereafter.

The Y-ENGAGE Project

Climate Change (CC) is one of the greatest threats facing humanity, and a defining issue of our time. Young people in sub-Saharan Africa are on the frontline of this crisis. They constitute both the largest and most vulnerable group to experience the harmful effects of CC. It is critical that we learn from and engage young people in the fight against effects of CC. However, much current knowledge on young people’s climate engagement reflects the experiences of young people in the global North. By generating insights from Tanzania, Y-ENGAGE seeks to diversify our understandings of young people’s engagement with CC and galvanise the activism potential of young people in sub-Saharan Africa.

The Y-ENGAGE project thus draws on qualitative and participatory research methods, including photography, to explore: 1) young people’s experiences, conceptions, struggles, and ways of coping with CC in Tanzania; 2) opportunities and challenges for young people to exert influence and transform climate-related practices; and 3) the role of teachers and schools in facilitating engagement with CC.

The project is collaboration between Ardhi University, the University of Dar es Salaam, the University of Copenhagen, the Tanzania Youth Coalition and Save the Children.

The Postdoctoral Position

The postdoc will co-lead a methodological Work Package (WP) called ‘Picturing Climate Change’, designing and evaluating the Photo-voice method used. Photo-

voice is a participatory action research method that supports a process by which young people are given cameras to tell their stories through photography. Photo-voice will form the backbone of the four empirical studies that make up the Y-ENGAGE project. However, the photos will not stand alone. They will be complemented with a written or spoken story explaining the significance and meanings of the pictures taken, and be used to spark discussions and dialogue in individual in-depth interviews and focus group discussions.

Specifically, together with a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Copenhagen and the Tanzania Youth Coalition, the Postdoc will be involved in the project design, training and research as follows:

Design:

- Support the recruitment of young people as co-researchers,
- Review literature on Photo-voice modalities,
- Work with the young co-researchers in formulating and co-creating Photo-voice modalities that fit to each of the four empirical studies,
- Work with the research team to develop strategies for disseminating photos and stories to local decision makers.

Training:

- Introduce the Y-ENGAGE methodology to local communities in open sessions,
- Train a group of young people to become co-researchers,
- Support and train PhD students executing the empirical studies using the Photo-voice methodology.

Research:

- Pilot test the different methods with the young co-researchers,
- Carry out observations and interviews with participants and young co-researchers, ethnographically comparing and contrasting the opportunities, challenges and ethical dilemmas arising from the different Photo-voice methods and explore their potentials to instigate personal and community climate change awareness, agency and action.
- Write peer-reviewed articles documenting our experiences of using the Photo-voice methodology.

Also, the candidate will as part of the postdoctoral training at ARU be expected to:

- Participate in dissemination of findings emanating from the project to stakeholders,
- Prepare quarterly and annual progress reports of the project,
- Support and manage administrative research tasks, such as applying for ethical approval,
- Participate in active research environments including a stay in another research environment. In this project it includes a 12-week stay at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

Essential qualifications

Prospective applicant must have:

- A Master's and PhD degree in social psychology or sociology or anthropology or human geography or global public health or similar relevant qualification,
- High experience of working with qualitative and participatory methods,
- Practical experience of working with children and young people, either in public health, education or CC research,
- Strong written and oral communication skills in both English and Kiswahili languages,
- Experience of publishing peer-reviewed academic papers

Desired qualifications

- Experience of conducting qualitative research using Photo-voice or other visual methods,
- Knowledge of CC challenges in Tanzania,
- Experience of publishing peer-reviewed methodological papers.

Additional Attributes

In addition to the above qualifications, applicants should be able to demonstrate their interest in the project, as well as their ability to work independently, take initiative and be team players. The project is looking for detail-oriented Tanzanian candidate with strong analytical skills, outstanding organizational skills and a drive to be part of a research project and the climate response. The candidate must be willing to travel to Copenhagen, Denmark, as part of postdoctoral training.

Appointment Conditions

The position is a part-time 4-year post and the candidate will be based at ARU in Dar es Salaam. The successful candidate will report to Dr. Tatu M.Limbumba (**Co-PI Tanzania**).

Please contact Dr. Tatu M. Limbumba (tatumtwangi@gmail.com) for a full description of the research project and more information about the position.

Application Procedures

Eligible candidates should submit their application in English to the Director Postgraduate Studies – ARU and a copy to the Ag. Director IHSS and Project Co-PI Tanzania, Dr. Tatu M. Limbumba at tatumtwangi@gmail.com. The deadline for submission of application is 28th March 2022 midnight East African Time.

Applications must include:

- Cover letter explaining a clear motivation for contributing to the project,
- Curriculum vitae – detailing experience in conducting qualitative research,
- Copy of relevant certificates,
- Names and contact information of three (3) referees, with associated letters of recommendation

Shortlisted applicants shall be required to write a more detailed protocol/project description and shall be invited to a face to face and/or Zoom interview on a date to be announced to them. Respective remuneration will be paid to the successful candidate for the time spent in the project in line with the project's set budget.