

University of Pretoria: Public Policy Hub

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Fiscal Decentralisation in Africa

The Economics and Management Sciences (EMS) Faculty at the University of Pretoria is establishing a transdisciplinary Public Policy Hub (PPH) aimed at connecting and bridging the gap between policymakers, practitioners, field experts in the public sector as well as researchers in academia to strengthen evidence-based, contextually relevant, and sustainable public policy in Africa. One key pillar of the PPH is to produce transdisciplinary and policy-relevant research with implementable solutions for societal impact. The PPH's overall goals and research focus areas are anchored and developed within the framework of the African Union's (AU) Agenda 2063 and the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

To build a core PPH engagement on fiscal decentralisation, we invite applications for a Postdoctoral Fellowship. The successful candidate will be expected to work in close collaboration with Prof. Nara Monkam (Host) to produce innovative research in fiscal decentralisation and subnational government finance including property taxation in Africa. In addition, the Postdoctoral Fellow will be required to organise and participate in policy dialogues organised by the PPH and assist the Host with some postgraduate teaching and student co-supervision.

Applicants should have, or should be close to completing, a doctorate in a field closely related to Fiscal Decentralisation and Subnational Government Finance and Property Taxation. The candidate must have **graduated within five years prior to beginning the fellowship**. Demonstrated experience in qualitative and quantitative methods and statistical data analysis is essential; and the knowledge of at least one programming language (i.e., R, Python and MATLAB) is an added advantage. Excellent writing and verbal communication skills are highly desirable.

The position is for two-years, **starting as soon as possible**, with the possibility of renewal for a further year upon satisfactory performance and funding available. The annual stipend of **R450,000.00 is tax-free and relocation costs** (i.e., flight ticket and visa) will be included.

Applicants should send the following application package* to Prof. Nara Monkam (Host) at fn.monkam@up.ac.za and Ms. Sibongile Zulu at u15281265@tuks.co.za; Tel: +27 12 420 3461: 1) A CV no more than 5 pages with content relevant to one of the above focus areas, 2) a job market paper, 3) a research proposal of **not more than 1000 words** outlining how the candidate would produce innovative research and engage African countries and relevant stakeholders to support policy changes in the above focus areas and, 4) one academic letter of reference from academic sources to testify to the candidate's academic abilities and the suitability of his/her research experience in the above focus area. *Applications which do not include the documents required above will not be considered.* **Deadline for applications is 17 February 2023** and candidates should be available for virtual interviews and in-person interviews where possible.

*Assessment criteria: PhD completed within the last 5 years or about to be completed; Quality of publications arising from PhD research; Impact and feasibility of research proposal in an African context with a focus on multidisciplinary research and policy relevance.