

PELE LE PELE RESEARCH PROJECT CALL FOR MASTER'S BURSARY APPLICATION 2011

The French Institute of South Africa (IFAS) is pleased to announce that as part of the Pele le pele research project, coordinated by Michel Lafon (IFAS/CentRePol, University of Pretoria) and Vic Webb (CentRePol, University of Pretoria), in partnership with CentRePol, it will be offering one **Master's bursary of ZAR 20 000** for the conduction of field research in line with that of the Pele le pele research program. The eligibility criteria are the following:

Eligibility

- Being registered at a South African University and enrolled in a Master's program for the academic year 2011.

Scientific objectives:

The project concerns the use (or lack of it) of African home languages in school. Everyone familiar with the South African scene will know just how important the language issues in education are, not only for pedagogical and cognitive reasons, but for political and ideological ones as well.

The promotion and recognition of African languages is an explicit part of the political project of the team in power, a fact to which various initiatives and policies, education included, since 2003 bear witness.

In that light, the Pele le pele programme examines any issue relative to linguistic behaviour in 'African' schools - schools where the learners are all or overwhelmingly African - focussing on the main intervention area of the University, viz., Pretoria townships and/or the city-centre.

The research would have to fit into one of the following axis of analysis:

- Use of African home language in Foundation Phase as LoLT for literacy and numeracy
- Teaching of African home language as subject in Foundation Phase and beyond
- Issues of so-called standard language vs local urban varieties
- Strategies of linguistic communication in city-centre African schools where teachers normally do not have any African language in their repertoire

Apply:

To apply, please send the following documents to research@ifas.org.za before the **15th of March 2011**:

- 1 CV of 2 pages maximum ;
- A cover letter of 2 pages maximum explaining how the research topic would fit into the questionings and axis of analysis of the research programme
- A reference letter from the research director
- A proof of academic registration