

The Nordic Africa Institute is a centre for research, knowledge, policy advice and information on Africa. Based in Uppsala, Sweden, we are a government agency, funded jointly by Sweden, Finland and Iceland.

The Nordic Africa Institute (NAI) invites applications for the position of

Senior Researcher (s)

(Urban dynamics, Agricultural development & Rural transformation)

Closing date for applications: 2019-08-23

About the Nordic Africa Institute (NAI)

The Nordic Africa Institute (NAI) was founded in 1962 and since then has provided knowledge in the form of high-quality research, timely information and extensive documentation on Africa. Over a period of half a century, NAI has remained committed to academic and policy research, information dissemination and documentation on African issues. NAI has followed the trends and development of Africa studies in the Nordic region and in African continent, and also actively initiated new ideas and forms of engagement to fulfil its mission as the main Centre for African knowledge in the Nordic countries and to serve its stakeholders in the Nordic countries and globally.

The Nordic Africa Institute (NAI) is currently implementing a Five Year Strategy, 2017-2021. Promoting academic and policy-oriented research programmes on Africa in the Nordic countries is one of the Institute's strategic goals. The Institute therefore will prioritize applications that show prospect of ensuring that the Institute's Strategy 2017-2021 is achieved.

It is in pursuit of this goal that NAI is looking for senior and experienced academics with records of accomplishment in research and writing on contemporary Africa for employment as Senior Researcher (s) with specialization in one or two of these areas, which include urban dynamics, agricultural development and rural transformation, and urban-rural connections. In addition, it is important that candidates have demonstrable professional relationship with other Africanists and research institutions working on Africa particularly in Africa and the Nordic countries.

NAI offers a stimulating intellectual environment, an interdisciplinary research orientation, a team of researchers from different social and scientific backgrounds, and a library with modern facilities. In addition, the institute is linked to an extensive networks of research institutions in Africa and the Nordic countries.

Job Description

Senior researchers at the Institute are expected to initiate new research projects and as well lead the execution of research projects/programmes and other intellectual engagements including policy dialogues, media engagements, dissemination activities etc. within their areas of specialization and expertise. As senior academics, they should be able to participate actively in the preparation of research projects/programmes, review of applications scholarship/fellowship programmes, and supervision of scholarship holders. Other task and assignments may include planning and organizing research seminars & conferences, facilitating academic networking and dissemination of research findings. In addition, the senior researchers will carry out other duties as may be assigned by the Head of Research.

Key qualifications

- A PhD degree in relevant disciplines in social sciences or humanities.
- Working experience in research and writing on Africa-related themes.
- Demonstrated experience in policy advice and media engagements.
- Ability to work within a team and in a multi-cultural environment.
- Working knowledge of English language, and competences and skills in effective communication
- Ability to present complex issues in a readable form for both academic and non-academic audiences.
- Strong analytical skills including the use of quantitative and qualitative research techniques.
- Knowledge of policy process, policy environment, as well as networks of Africanists and other relevant stakeholders.
- Working knowledge of research centers, networks, and universities in the Nordic countries and in Africa will be an added advantage.
- Demonstrated capacity to attract external funding for research programmes and projects.

The application should contain:

- A. Proposal for a research project not exceeding 5 pages. It should include:
 - Research problem, methodology and conceptual & theoretical framework;
 - Possible sources of external funding for the proposed research project;
 - Strategies for disseminating research findings (including platforms for policy engagements and media activities).
- B. A complete CV with a list of scientific publications including books, monographs, research reports, policy notes etc.)
- C. Three sample publications by applicant that relate to the thematic area of research. (in three copies each if print copies are sent).
- D. The names and addresses (phone, fax, e-mail) of two referees.

As part of the recruitment process, shortlisted candidates will be invited to make presentation based on their proposed research projects for the Nordic Africa Institute.

Condition of Service

Contract period will be until the end of the current NAI Strategy 2017-2021. Salary is negotiable within the Institute's current salary levels and remuneration packages. Starting date of the employment is negotiable.

Contact persons:

Victor Adetula, Head of Research, Eva-Lena Svensson, Human Resources Manager. Trade Union representatives: Johan Sävström (OFR/ST) and Henrik Alfredsson (Saco-S). All can be reached at +46 18 471 52 00.

More information about NAI's research focal areas and themes, on-going research activities, grants, library services and publications is available on the Institute's website: www.nai.uu.se.

The application should be sent:

by email to nai-applications@nai.uu.se. (Including publications to the extent possible or by indication of internet addresses where they might be available).

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The Institute promotes equal opportunities for all, and good representation of African regions. Women are particularly encouraged to apply.