



## Climate System Analysis Group (CSAG)

<http://www.csag.uct.ac.za>

*Applications are invited from suitable candidates for THREE POST DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS who will join a new interdisciplinary research team involved with:*

- *Developing regional climate change information*
- *Regional climate change process change and downscaling*
- *Application and uptake of climate change information in decision making*

CSAG seeks to expand the existing post-doctoral team to explicitly focus on integrating climate science and society through partnerships between research disciplines on climate change. The post-docs will join an interdisciplinary research team and be expected to undertake in-depth research within their disciplinary focus, and to collaborate on the integration of the research to meet the larger needs of bridging the science-society gap.

This is in response to funding received for two major new projects. The first is sponsored by the UK DFID/NERC Future Climate For Africa programme FCFA<sup>1</sup> in which CSAG lead one of the four international consortia: the Future Resilience for African Cities and Lands (FRACTAL<sup>2</sup>) project on climate change and African cities. FRACTAL is a 4-year inter-disciplinary project by a consortium of leading regional and international partners and led by CSAG at UCT. The focus is broad and covers fundamental research on the physical climate system, and the tailoring, delivery and uptake of climate information in city management decision making in five cities; Windhoek, Lusaka, Maputo, Cape Town, and eThekweni (Durban). The second contract is from SASSCAL<sup>3</sup>, and considers the development of climate information for regions from seasonal to multi-decadal time scales.

The key foci include:

- Communication and translation of climate information informed by key vulnerabilities of societal systems, especially at the scales of cities and their co-dependent regions.
- Uptake and integration of climate information in decision frameworks in cities.
- Methodologies to distil scale relevant and robust information from multi-model multi-method climate projection data sets (also aligned with the WCRP's Working Group on Regional Climate agenda on the research frontier of climate distillation).
- Uncertainty, probability, likelihood and confidence in scale appropriate climate information.
- Assessment of the co-behaviour of multi-scale climate process response to anthropogenic forcing and natural variability.

Successful candidates will undertake research together with the project consortium researchers on those aspects of the project as most appropriate to their respective backgrounds.

We are looking for strongly motivated applicants to join the CSAG research team who are interested in making a significant contribution to development in Africa, particularly through engaging in fundamental research that contributes to bridging the divide between research and real world decision processes. Flexibility to travel in Africa and Europe will be required.

The fellowship is tenable up to three years, and renewal each year will be subject to satisfactory academic progress. The value of the fellowship is **R250 000 per annum**. The award complies with the rules laid down by SARS and is exempt from taxation.

Additional funds are available for relevant travel within the region and to international partners as needed, and for approved conference attendance.

<sup>1</sup> <http://futureclimateafrica.org/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.fractal.org.za>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.sasscal.org/>

### Requirements

1. Applicants must have had the PhD awarded within the last 5 years, in a relevant discipline.
2. Eligible applicants may not have previously held permanent academic or professional positions.
3. Demonstrable experience in a relevant research area applicable to the project (e.g. regional climate analysis, climate modelling, downscaling, climate impact and adaptation, uncertainty analysis, information theory, social science themes in decision making, vulnerability, and resilience).
4. Excellent skills in working with data and relevant computing skills.
5. Strong organizational and writing skills, with a clear ability to work in a team environment.
6. The successful applicants will be required to comply with the University's approved policies and procedures.

Preference will be given to strongly qualified applicants from southern Africa.

### Applications

Applications must be submitted in electronic form to [climapp@csag.uct.ac.za](mailto:climapp@csag.uct.ac.za) and should include:

- a comprehensive CV;
- a letter of motivation outlining research interests, and
- the names of three referees.

***Application closing date: 09 November 2015***  
***Start date: January 2016 or as soon as possible thereafter.***

Eligible applications will be assessed by a selection committee of senior researchers in CSAG.

Further information can be obtained from <http://www.csag.uct.ac.za/2015/10/09/new-post-doctoral-opportunities/> , or queries may be submitted to [fractal@csag.uct.ac.za](mailto:fractal@csag.uct.ac.za).

The University of Cape Town reserves the right to disqualify ineligible, incomplete and/or inappropriate applications. The University of Cape Town reserves the right to change the conditions of award or to make no awards at all.
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