



Adrienne Arsht- Rockefeller Foundation Resilience Center

Adrienne Arsht-Rockefeller Foundation Resilience Center – Weather and Climate Risks Group¹ at ETH Zurich Partnership

Rapid Economics of Climate Adaptation Tool Development & Implementation JOB DESCRIPTION

October 1, 2019

Job Description

The Atlantic Council's Adrienne Arsht-Rockefeller Foundation Resilience Center is seeking a postdoctoral fellow with an interest in climate risk and resilience and a strong background in social science and quantitative skills. Working with experts at ETH Zurich and the Council, this individual will contribute to the further development of an existing tool (Economics of Climate Adaptation² method implemented in CLIMADA³) that will rapidly assess the impacts of climate change, along with the economic and social effectiveness of potential climate adaptation interventions, in different geographies. This individual will use her/his knowledge of modeling and Python programming to incorporate existing datasets and models into an easily usable analytical tool that can be applied by project planners and local government officials to determine the most cost-effective interventions. The tool will also include social vulnerabilities, gender, and biodiversity as factors, as well as ecosystem-based adaptation options.

The ideal candidate will be a contributing member of the team and eager to support the Adrienne Arsht-Rockefeller Foundation Resilience Center's goal of reaching one billion people with resilience solutions by 2030. Applicants should have a creative, solutions-oriented mindset; excellent quantitative, analytical and Python programming skills; and experience in climate change, social vulnerabilities, and economics. The individual will be hired by the Atlantic Council in Washington, DC (likely at the end of 2019), and would ideally spend the first year working in Zurich, Switzerland and a second year working in Washington, DC.

Job Responsibilities

- Further development of the CLIMADA impact modelling platform in Python, possibly developing a web-interface for the platform
- Research and establish framework for consideration of social vulnerabilities, gender, and biodiversity
- Develop a framework to evaluate adaptation options, including ecosystem-based, in a globally consistent yet pragmatic fashion
- Work with partners to co-design and beta-test the tool

¹ <https://wcr.ethz.ch>

² <https://wcr.ethz.ch/research/casestudies.html>

³ Aznar-Siguan, G. and Bresch, D. N., 2019: CLIMADA v1: a global weather and climate risk assessment platform, Geosci. Model Dev., <https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-12-3085-2019> direct open access to all code and documentation: https://github.com/CLIMADA-project/climada_python

Job Qualifications

Requirements:

- PhD in economics, sociology or natural science combined with a strong interest in quantitative approaches
- Strong analytical skills, eagerness to understand and model complex natural-socio-economic systems
- Solid knowledge of social science methods and approaches
- Strong programming knowledge (Python is preferred)
- Deep interest in combining natural catastrophe impact modeling with dynamic socio-economic modeling

About the Adrienne Arsht-Rockefeller Foundation Resilience Center

The Adrienne Arsht-Rockefeller Foundation Resilience Center (AARFRC), funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, will reach one billion people with resilience solutions to climate, migration, and security challenges by 2030. We focus our efforts on people and communities to help them better prepare for, navigate, and recover from climate-driven shocks and stresses, including human migration. This work will be delivered through three products and services categories: Policy Frameworks and Public Finance; Finance and Risk Tools; and Communications, Technology, and the Arts. The Resilience Center is a part of the Atlantic Council, a nonprofit organization with deep policy experience and global reach headquartered in Washington, D.C. Learn more at our website: www.onebillionresilient.org

About the Weather and Climate Risks Group at ETH Zurich

Driven by curiosity and responding to societal needs, the Weather and Climate Risks Group at ETH Zurich engages in research and teaching on weather and climate risks (WCR). We bridge the gap between science and society through reflection, modelling, and engagement with stakeholders in order to support option appraisal and decision making. The Group works on matching the supply and demand side of weather and climate information in order to improve the resilience of our societies in the face of volatile weather and climate change. Read more at <https://wcr.ethz.ch/the-group.html>

To Apply by October 31, 2019: Please send cover letter and CV to resilience@atlanticcouncil.org