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

February 25, 2020

**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 position will begin on April 1⁴, 2020, or as soon as available. The individual will begin work in Zurich, Switzerland at ETH Zurich and will ideally work in Washington, DC with the Atlantic Council in the second year.

**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 valuate adaptation options, including ecosystem-based ones in a globally consistent yet pragmatic fashion
- Work with partners to co-design and beta-test the tool

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¹ [https://wcr.ethz.ch](https://wcr.ethz.ch)

² [https://wcr.ethz.ch/research/casestudies.html](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](https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-12-3085-2019) direct open access to all code and documentation: [https://wcr.ethz.ch/research/climada.html](https://wcr.ethz.ch/research/climada.html)
**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](http://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](https://wcr.ethz.ch/the-group.html)

To Apply by March 12th, 2020: Please send cover letter and CV to resilience@atlanticcouncil.org.