

We are looking for a talented and motivated researcher (PhD Student) to advance the following research project:

Early Stage Researcher (ESR 5)

Landscapes for Transit-Oriented Development: Developing an analysis of everyday sustainable landscapes

An Innovative Training Network in Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) for Rural-Urban Regions

TOD-IS-RUR is looking for talented and motivated candidates with the skills, knowledge, and enthusiasm to help the Innovative Training Network (ITN) make significant research contributions to the scientific and societal challenge of countering sprawl in Europe. The 9 Beneficiaries and 12 Partner Organizations create a unique platform for 10 Early Stage Researchers (ESRs), providing interdisciplinary and intersectoral training to analyze rural-urban placemaking and develop novel, context-based planning schemes for rural-urban regions (RURs). The network aims to extend the concept of Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) to RURs with a context-based approach, in which interactions between mobility and urbanization are studied in relation to social and environmental qualities. Drawing on a wide range of European RURs and bringing in expertise from urban studies, research and training prepare a new generation of highly-skilled professionals able to meet the challenge of sprawl and implement inclusive and sustainable planning schemes for RURs.

Description of the research project (ESR5)

Scientific objectives

In tandem with the research projects of ESR1-8, ESR5 will develop qualitative methods for landscape analysis (or landscape characterization) of and for TOD, in order to capture its site-specific values. The PhD student will primarily employ history and ethnographic methods as a complement to conventional (primarily spatial) methods in landscape analysis, to examine the everyday landscape of TOD, especially its importance for everyday mobilities and recreation. Case studies are expected to be carried out in Sweden and Germany.

Tasks and Responsibilities

- You perform independent research within a collaborative international research consortium.
- You deliver written reports of your research on a regular basis.
- You prepare a doctoral thesis on the topic of methods for landscape analysis of TOD.
- You publish scientific articles related to the research project.
- You participate in and contribute to scientific meetings and conferences, presenting your research to the scientific community.
- You actively participate in outreach activities aimed at promoting your research to a wider audience.
- You collaborate with the other members of the consortium to advance your research and training.
- You participate in the tailored training program.
- The selected candidate will take part in the following planned secondment: Academic secondment to the Center for Metropolitan Studies, Technische Universität Berlin (TBU) (5 months, Germany) for studying German cases and potentially for deepening the historical approach.

About the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences – Department of Urban and Rural Development

<u>The Department of Urban and Rural Development</u> is located at the main campus of <u>SLU</u> in Uppsala. It has a unique profile with its four main divisions, Landscape architecture (including planning), Environmental communication, Rural development, and Agrarian history. It offers a rapidly growing, international, and interdisciplinary research environment with a research focus on the interplay between the environment and society.

Profile and requirements

- You hold a master's degree in Landscape or Environmental Planning, Landscape Architecture or Human Geography, or a similar master's degree with a specific focus on landscape studies and planning. Master students in their final year may apply. Final selection under the condition of showing transcripts of their master's degree in July (15th at the latest).
- You have outstanding academic records.
- You have skills in qualitative and geographic/spatial methods of relevance for landscape characterization/analysis.
 Experience of working with history, ethnographic approaches and/or landscape theory in landscape characterization or planning (in academic projects or in practice) is an advantage.
- You are interested in interdisciplinary, theory-driven research and have strong analytical skills.
- You are quality-oriented, conscientious, creative, and a team player.
- You have strong communication skills. Documented experience in academic writing is an advantage.



- Language proficiency: excellent use of English is essential (C1 level minimum). Knowledge of Swedish, Danish or Norwegian (B2 level or more) is required; if necessary, language courses will be offered in Swedish by the project partners." German (B2 lever or more) is an advantage.
- A person has basic eligibility for third cycle education if he or she has taken a second cycle qualification or has completed course requirements of at least 240 higher education credits, including at least 60 higher education credits at second cycle education. Find out more about PhD studies at SLU at: https://www.slu.se/en/education/programmes-courses/doctoral-studies/
- Applicants can be of any nationality but have to comply with the H2020 MSCA eligibility criteria:

H2020 MSCA Mobility Rule: researchers must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the host organization for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the recruitment date. Compulsory national service, short stays such as holidays, and time spent as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention are not taken into account.

H2020 MSCA ESR eligibility criteria: Early Stage Researchers (ESRs) must be, at the date of recruitment by the host organization, in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of their research careers and have not been awarded a doctoral degree. Full-Time Equivalent Research Experience is measured from the date when the researcher obtained the degree entitling him/her to embark on a doctorate (either in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the country in which the researcher is recruited, even if a doctorate was never started or envisaged).

Benefits

- The guaranteed PhD funding is for 36 months (i.e., EC funding). In line with university regulations and following a positive evaluation, the host institution can provide additional funding for a maximum of 12 months to complete a doctoral degree.
- The start date will be September 1st, 2021.
- A competitive salary, plus allowances. Moreover, funding is available for technical and personal skills training and participation in international research events.
- The selected candidate will benefit from the designed training program offered by the host organization and the TOD-IS-RUR consortium.
 - The selected candidate will participate in international secondments to other organizations within the TOD-IS-RUR network and in outreach activities targeted at a wide audience.

Application

How to apply:

- The closing date for applications is March 29th, 2021.
- Please apply through the University of Antwerp's online job application platform. First, complete the eligibility check form. Secondly, complete the online application form and be sure to include the following attachments: Motivation letter (max. 2 pages); CV (Europass format, including a list of all countries of residence in the last 4 years); Details of at least two referees or two reference letters; Copies of certificates (Bachelor & Master's degrees with the list of completed modules, English and other language certificates); Work samples (e.g., publications; Master's thesis summary); List of publications (if any).
- The selection committee will review all of the applications as soon as possible after the application deadline. As soon as a decision has been made, we will inform you about the next steps in the selection procedure. The online recruitment event with the shortlisted candidates will be organized in the first week of May.
- The recruitment process of ESRs within TOD-IS-RUR is in line with the principles set out in the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers.

For more detailed information about the selection process and links to the application portal: https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/projects/tod-is-rur/jobs/

| For additional information | |
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