

Hosting offer for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships (PF) 2022 at University of Antwerp Institute of Development Policy (IOB)

[MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships](#) are individual research grants offering excellent postdoctoral researchers the chance to develop their skills by means of international mobility. Through the implementation of an original and personalised research project, MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships aim to foster excellence through training and mobility and to equip researchers with new skills and competences in order to identify solutions to current and future challenges.

The **Institute of Development Policy (IOB)** at UAntwerpen invites motivated postdoctoral researchers to jointly prepare an application for the [MSCA-PF-2022 call Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships](#) call ([MSCA-PF-2022](#)) with them as host organisation.

Description of Hosting organisation/group

The **Institute of Development Policy (IOB)** is a multidisciplinary institute involved in academic teaching, scientific research and service to the community in the area of economic, political and social aspects of development policy. We offer three Master programmes, short-term training courses and a PhD programme. Our research is oriented to 'development' as a multi-level and multi-actor phenomenon. IOB networks with other European development institutes through EADI and CERES, and actively engages with several institutional partnerships in the South.

For more information, see: www.uantwerpen.be/IOB

Topics/expertise

In line with IOB's vision of a just and sustainable world, we strive to help build such a world through **multidisciplinary academic research** in close connection with academic education and political engagement, while allying with different types of partners. Our research group positions itself in the field of **development studies**, which aims to cultivate a multidisciplinary and mixed-methods approach to researching particular societal or policy issues. We stress the link between research and outreach, recognising the importance of situating research within broader development processes and exchanging with a variety of stakeholders in order to (co-)create pathways of change and impact.

Our work can be organised along three research lines: 'Global governance and inclusive development'; 'State formation and resilient societies'; and 'Environment and sustainable development'. Each of these lines clusters research activities carried out by different academic staff members of IOB, while opening up space for new and innovative research at the forefront of major development challenges.

All three research lines give concrete shape to the multi-level governance perspective we want to cultivate at IOB, reaching from the global to the local and vice versa. And each of the research lines also combines empirical work with an explicit Central Africa focus with work carried out elsewhere.

We welcome postdoctoral candidates to conduct research at IOB on the topic of Development Processes, Actors and Policies. To make this broad topic more concrete, we hereby list **a number of possible supervisors and the topics** they work on. This list is non-exhaustive so we invite you to be in touch if you think your research interests align with some of the research being conducted at IOB.

Danny Cassimon is a **development finance** specialist, and current chair of IOB. He works on the topic of external debt sustainability and the relevance of **debt relief** initiatives. He also inquires into the broader interplay of public and private actors in 'Finance for Development', such as related to innovative

development financing, in which he often applies 'real option' theories to analyse financing mechanisms and decision making'.

Sara Geenen is interested in the **global and local development dimensions of extractivist projects**, addressing questions about **more socially responsible and inclusive forms of globalization**. Keywords: informalization processes, labour in the extractive industries, transnational supply chain regulation, participation of small producers. Geographic focus: Democratic Republic of Congo.

Nathalie Holvoet is a full time professor at IOB with a long track record in the areas of **monitoring & evaluation** and **gender & development**. Current research projects focus on sustainable collective-level impact of **unconditional cash transfers** in rural Uganda, impact of gender-sensitive mobile **community based monitoring/citizen science** in Tanzania, **gender & climate change** in Ethiopia.

Kristof Titeca is an associate professor at IOB, working on **governance and conflict in Central and Eastern Africa**, issues on which he has published extensively. His current research interests are (i) environmental conservation and conflict, and (ii) donor-recipient country relations in Central and Eastern Africa. Possible themes for related postdoc research: Environmental conservation and conflict (particularly the role of international conservation actors co-managing protected areas); the agency of recipient countries vis-à-vis donor countries in Central and Eastern Africa; and understanding conflict and rebel groups through vernacular photography.

Tomaso Ferrando is Research Professor at the Faculty of Law and IOB. He holds a Phd in law from Sciences Po University (Paris) and has been visiting a fellow at Harvard University Law School, University of Sao Paulo and the University of Cape Town. His current research covers the legal construction of global value chains, the socio-ecological injustices that are associated with transnational trade and investments, and the role of law and legal structures in the consolidation of fair, short, accessible and sustainable food systems that reward people and ecosystems.

Your profile

- You must have a completed PhD at the time of the call deadline (14 September 2022).
- Candidates must have a maximum of 8 years full-time research experience from the PhD award date until September 14, 2022. Periods of inactivity in research (e.g. unemployment, periods of employment outside research, parental or sick leave) do not count towards the time of research experience.
- For European fellowships, candidates can be of any nationality and must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Belgium for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before September 14, 2022.
- Highly motivated candidate with an excellent research track record appropriate to career stage, as evidenced by academic publications and other scientific output.

What we offer

- Support and guidance for the preparation of your MSCA PF proposal
- A stimulating environment which aims to foster high-level multi-disciplinary and mixed methods research and which recognises the intrinsic link between research and societal outreach.

How to apply?

Indicate your interest by contacting the host institution as follows:

Please contact frederic.huybrechs@uantwerpen.be by e-mail with a short CV and motivation to indicate your interest to prepare a MSCA-PF application.

After the supervisor agrees to support you as a MSCA-PF candidate, you can start preparation of MSCA PF project proposal and will be supported further by the supervisor and the Research Support Office of the host university.

For more information on the MSCA PF scheme or the host institution, you can contact the MSCA coordinator of the University of Antwerp: Dr. Liesbet Cockx (Research, Innovation & Valorisation Antwerp, Grants Office): Liesbet.cockx@uantwerpen.be