



**POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP MACHINE LEARNING AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) ALGORITHMS TO ENHANCE POPULATION-BASED PREVENTION OF, AND PERSONALISED TREATMENT FOR, COMMUNICABLE AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES IN AFRICA**

**DELTAS AFRICA SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN CONSORTIUM FOR ADVANCED BIOSTATISTICS (SSACAB) PROGRAMME**

**THE CALL WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL THE POSITION IS FILLED**

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Wits School of Public Health (SPH) and University Medical Center Utrecht (UMCU) seek to recruit a post-doctoral fellow to manage the theme on how machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms can be used to enhance population-based prevention of, and personalised treatment for, communicable and non-communicable diseases in Africa

The fellow will be hosted and spend time at Wits SPH. This is a fully funded two year renewable full-time position. Responsibilities will include the co-development of the research focus, management of the theme, postgraduate co-supervision (MSc and PhDs), and publishing of research. The fellow will have full guidance and mentorship by the theme leads within the DELTAS Africa SSACAB II programme.

Funding will come from DELTAS Africa SSACAB II, a consortium of six African and two northern partner institutions, and nine collaborating institutions with the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg as the Lead Institution. SSACAB II received funding through the Developing Excellence in Leadership, Training, and Science in Africa (DELTAS Africa) program. DELTAS Africa is an initiative of the Science for Africa Foundation (SFA) with funding support of Wellcome and the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO, UK). The funding aims to develop and improve biostatistical skills among researchers to create biostatistical research nodes of excellence and a network to nurture researchers with advanced skills and expertise.

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**ELIGIBILITY:**

The Post-Doctoral fellowship is open to candidates with a strong background in Statistics, Mathematics, Demography, and other quantitative fields. Previous knowledge of spatial statistics will be an advantage. Former DELTAS Africa SSACAB fellows who have recently been awarded or have completed a PhD in Biostatistics are also encouraged to apply.

The scholarship is open to nationals of low and middle-income countries in the Sub-Saharan

African region who are resident in the region as per World Bank definition:  
<http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-and-lending-groups#Sub-Saharan Africa>

Applicants should be under 45 years old for the post-doctoral fellowships.

### **THE POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PACKAGE:**

The scheme will provide full scholarship from the 2024 academic year and carries an attractive financial package per annum. The fellow may apply for additional funding in agreement with the Supervisor, for research costs, and conference support, on a competitive basis. The Fellowship is exclusive to DELTAS Africa SSACAB II and cannot be held concurrently with another job or supplementary funding.

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### **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:**

The Post-Doctoral fellowship application should provide:

- ❖ Proof of a PhD obtained within the last five years
- ❖ Comprehensive curriculum vitae, including relevant research and work experience
- ❖ Letter of motivation explaining the desire to pursue a Post-Doctoral fellowship in biostatistics
- ❖ Certified copies of degree certificates
- ❖ A proposal outlining the plan for the fellowship not exceeding 5 pages and outlining the proposed area of research. The research proposal must have a description of the research area, highlight the research objectives, research questions and research methodology, and a clear timeframe indicating particular research inputs and outputs.
- ❖ Proven ability to write and publish papers in accredited peer-reviewed journals.
- ❖ Names and contact details of two contactable referees

Enquiries and applications should be submitted to:

1. Prof Daniel Oberski: [d.i.oberski@uu.nl](mailto:d.i.oberski@uu.nl)
2. Prof Klipstein-Grobusch, K: [K.Klipstein-Grobusch@umcutrecht.nl](mailto:K.Klipstein-Grobusch@umcutrecht.nl)

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