

IRSS is looking for a researcher on local level disaster impact

Context: The Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) has been active for over 40 years in the fields of international disaster and conflict health studies, with activities linking relief, rehabilitation and development. The Centre promotes research, training and technical expertise on humanitarian emergencies, particularly in public health and epidemiology. The centre is part of the Institute for Health and Society (IRSS) within UCLouvain.

The International Disaster Database EM-DAT was created by CRED in 1988, and consists of a systematic compilation of disaster impact data on a global level. The data goes back until 1900, and is updated on a daily basis. It contains data on the human impact (e.g. number of deaths, number of injured, number of affected), economic impact, and characteristics of the disaster. The disaster footprints of all natural disasters since 2000 are geolocated. The database is part of the EM-DAT project, funded by USAID.

Job description: We are looking for someone to undertake one of the activities of the EM-DAT project, namely on setting up disaster impact data collection on a subnational level. We aim to carry out a pilot for this in four countries in Asia. Specifically, it includes the following tasks:

- Identify and engage with relevant stakeholders in Asian countries that are severely affected by disasters;
- Train these stakeholders on methods and tools they can use to collect and enter disaster impact data on a subnational level;
- Support the stakeholders in implementing a pilot of collection and entry of subnational disaster impact data;
- Undertake an evaluation of the effectiveness of the pilot.

In addition, the candidate is expected to contribute to other activities related to the EM-DAT project.

Duration: Initially 6-month contract, renewable. The position is foreseen for 1.0 fte (100%).

Profile:

- The candidate has a relevant master's degree, e.g. public health, geography and proven skills in data management
- Work experience in Asia is considered an asset
- The candidate has very good communication and organisational skills
- The candidate has a pro-active attitude and is expected to work on the aforementioned tasks autonomously, while providing updates to the team on a weekly basis
- Good knowledge in written and spoken English is required. French is desirable but not mandatory

Application: Please send the CV and letter of motivation to Dr. Joris van Loenhout (joris.vanloenhout@uclouvain.be)

Salary: Salary according to official University regulations.

Deadline: Open until 1 June 2021.

For any further information, please contact Joris van Loenhout at the following e-mail address: joris.vanloenhout@uclouvain.be