

IRSS is looking for a developer for the International Disaster Database EM-DAT

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.

Job description: We are looking for someone to develop certain components of the EM-DAT database and project. Specifically, it concerns:

- Modernisation of the data entry interface
- Development of a system for automatized data collection and entry
- Development of a tool for data collection on a subnational level

In addition, the candidate is expected to provide overall management of the EM-DAT database and general support to the team. The candidate is expected to propose options, plan developments, provide regular updates and incorporate suggestions from the team.

Duration: Initially 6-month contract, renewable. The position is foreseen for 0.5 fte (50%)

Profile:

- Autonomy, creativity and a taste for problem solving are at the core of this position
- The candidate has a master's degree in computer sciences, data sciences, geography, bioengineering or in a relevant scientific field with a solid programming experience
- The candidate has demonstrable experience in software development
- Experience with geographic information systems (GIS) and spatial data processing is considered an asset
- Experience in SQL Relational database systems, such as MySQL, is required
- Experience or interest in the following technologies are an asset:
 - Javascript/NodeJS (Angular and/or React)
 - MongoDB
 - the Go programming language
- Experience in website development is considered an asset
- Excellent communication skills and the ability to interact with non-technical co-workers are fundamental in this position
- 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