



Nansen-Tutu Centre for Marine Environmental Research
Department of Oceanography
University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa

Postdoctoral Research Fellowship on Ocean Observation and Modelling

Call for Applications

The Nansen-Tutu Centre (NTC) for Marine Environmental Research is a collaborative initiative between the Nansen Environmental Centre in Norway, the University of Cape Town (UCT), and their partners. Its vision is to serve Africa by advancing knowledge of the marine environment and climate system in the spirit of the Nobel Peace Laureates Fridtjof Nansen and Desmond Tutu. The centre aims to develop an operational prediction system and integrate observation data to improve the modelling of the South Atlantic Ocean, the Indian Ocean and the Southern Ocean, with a focus on ocean state, air-sea interaction, marine environment, resources, ecosystem and climate variability, through dedicated research and capacity building. It also aims to improve the capacity to observe, understand, and predict marine systems on timescales from days to decades in support of scientific and societal needs including fisheries, coastal management, maritime security, recreation and tourism. Additionally, it focuses on education through the establishment of joint post-graduate degrees and exchange of young researchers and students from different cultures and countries through the Nansen-Tutu Fellowship Program.

About the Postdoctoral Position

The NTC is seeking to appoint a dedicated Postdoctoral Research Fellow to focus on ocean observation and modelling, specifically studying the Agulhas and Benguela Current systems. The Fellow will investigate the dynamics of these currents and their influences on climate extremes and marine ecosystems. Responsibilities will include supporting the centre's operations, assisting honours students with GIS analysis, advising graduate (MSc and PhD) students, and generating peer-reviewed publications. The Fellow will be based in the Department of Oceanography and will be advised by Prof. Babatunde Abiodun, Prof. Isabelle Ansorge, and Dr Annette Samuelsen.

Key Requirements

- A PhD in oceanography or a closely related discipline (awarded within the last 5 years)
- Have not previously held comprehensive professional or permanent academic positions

- The prospective Postdoctoral Fellow has not previously held comprehensive professional or permanent academic positions
- Fieldwork experience (preferably, a total of 100 days or more at sea)
- Experience with numerical models like MPAS-Ocean, HYCOM, or CROCO
- Excellent ability in GIS software and tools
- Experience in working in FORTRAN, Ferret, R, Python, CDO, NCO or any other programming language
- Proven experience in tutoring/ lecturing at both undergraduate or postgraduate levels.
- Excellent communication and presentation skills.

Funding

The value of the Fellowship award is **R300 000 for 12 months with no additional benefits**. Postdoctoral Research Fellowships are exempt from taxation, meaning that Fellowships must be granted without fringe benefits. The Fellowship is offered for 12 months, renewable, up to a maximum of three years (funding dependent).

To apply:

Send an email application to **Cashifa Karriem (cashifa.karriem@uct.ac.za)** with the subject "Nansen Tutu Postdoctoral Fellowship" and **attach the following documents:**

1. Cover letter describing research experience, interests, and collaborative experience
2. Academic curriculum vitae with list of publications and conference presentations included
3. Certified transcripts of academic qualifications at the tertiary level
4. Contact details for 2 people willing to write reference letters

Closing date for applications: 15 July 2024

The University of Cape Town reserves the right to disqualify ineligible, incomplete and/or inappropriate application. The University of Cape Town reserves the right to change the conditions of award or to make no awards at all. The successful incumbent must be prepared to comply with the University's approved policies, procedures and practices for the postdoctoral sector.

For further information, please contact Prof. Babatunde Abiodun (babatunde.abiodun@uct.ac.za)