



2024 BRICS 'PARADIGM' Postdoctoral Fellowship

Duration: 2 years

Start: March 2024

Location: SAEON Egagasini node, Foreshore, Cape Town

Closing date: Friday 31st January 2024

The 'BRICS Predicted Ocean: Roadmap and Demonstration of model validation, intercomparisons and applications for sustainable management of the coastal ocean (PARADIGM)' project has representation in each of the five BRICS countries and focuses on two main themes: 1) developing a framework of standards and best practices, with common metrics and methodologies for validating global ocean forecast and reanalysis systems and 2) capacity development via training workshops and student supervision. This project is closely aligned with many of the UN Ocean Decade programs, including CoastPredict, ForeSea and Ocean to Climate Seamless Forecasting (OSF), among others. Additionally, it is an activity that will support the vision of SOMISANA (A Sustainable Ocean Modelling Initiative: a South African Approach), which is a SAEON initiative to establish a sustained and transformed critical mass of internationally recognized South African numerical ocean modelling experts who provide accurate information about the changing state of the ocean for enhanced impact (<https://somisana.ac.za/>). The successful candidate will form part of the SOMISANA team and will tackle the BRICS PARADIGM objectives that relate to global model validations and intercomparisons and potentially contribute to the development of optimized ocean forecast models for South Africa. They will additionally be involved with capacity development activities.

Requirements:

The postdoctoral fellowship will be open to any South African citizen who has completed a PhD degree that relates to physical oceanography (preferable) or atmospheric sciences by 31 January 2024 and who has received their official PhD certificate or a signed letter from the University Faculty by this date. The candidate should have excellent coding skill (preferably in python) and extensive experience in dealing with large datasets. Ideally the candidate should have experience with running numerical models, but experience in processing model output could suffice. A proven track record of peer-reviewed articles will be advantageous, as will an understanding of South Africa's ocean dynamics and operational oceanography needs.

The postdoctoral fellow will be hosted at the SAEON Egagasini node, Cape Town (Foreshore) and will report directly to the South African BRICS PARADIGM PI and SOMISANA lead, Dr Jennifer Veitch. They will work closely with the SOMISANA team and collaborate with both local and international PARADIGM project partners. The fellowship will commence on 1 March 2024 and conclude on 28 February 2026.

Application Procedure:

Applications must include a full CV, certified copies of ID and academic records including award of PhD, two referee letters and a letter of motivation describing the applicant's suitable skills and experience for this postdoc, achievement highlights to date, research interests and future goals (max. 2 pages). All application documents must be sent by email as pdf attachments to Dr Jennifer Veitch (ja.veitch@saeon.nrf.ac.za) and to Ms Londiwe Mabuza (lm.mabuza@saeon.nrf.ac.za) with "BRICS PARADIGM Postdoc Application" in the subject line by **5pm on Wednesday 31 January 2024**.

SAEON reserves the right not to fill this fellowship. If no response has been received by 15 February 2024, candidates may assume that their applications were unsuccessful.