

**Postdoctoral Research Fellowship
Department of Industrial Engineering
Stellenbosch University**

Closing Date for Applications: 25 April 2025

Starting Date: 15 May 2025

Duration: May 2025 – December 2026

Location: Stellenbosch, South Africa

Call for Applications

The Department of Industrial Engineering at Stellenbosch University invites applications for a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in the fields of co-design, energy transitions, and the water-energy-food (WEF) nexus.

The successful candidate will work under the supervision of Prof Imke de Kock and join a dynamic and collaborative research environment focused on systems thinking, stakeholder engagement, and sustainable transitions in the Global South.

Project Involvement

The postdoctoral fellow will be embedded in two interdisciplinary, high-impact research projects:

1. Netherlands (NWO) – South Africa Bilateral Project

- Lead and conduct research related to the WEF nexus
- Coordinate administrative tasks and reporting
- Lead the development and submission of two journal publications

2. Global Pilot Infrastructure Transitions Project

- Lead and conduct research on pilot-policy chains and technology transitions in informal contexts
- Support database design, case study analysis, and interpretation
- Drive journal publications and contribute to outputs including a public registry, policy brief, symposium, teaching engagements, and IO-led workshops

3. Departmental Responsibilities

- Co-supervise two final-year Industrial Engineering student projects
- Support departmental research and mentorship activities
- Take on additional departmental tasks, which will be communicated in due course by the host department

Minimum Requirements:

- A PhD in Industrial Engineering, awarded within the last five years
- Research experience in all of the following areas:
 - Co-design and/or participatory research methods
 - Sustainable or (just) energy transitions
 - Research experience in the field of WEF nexus approaches
- A strong track record of peer-reviewed publications (conferences and/or journals)
- Proven ability to design and facilitate research/data collection workshops with diverse stakeholders
- Excellent communication skills in English
- Ability to work independently and within interdisciplinary teams

Application Procedure:

To apply, please send the following documents in a single PDF to imkedk@sun.ac.za, using the subject line: Postdoc Application – [Your Surname]

1. A cover letter outlining your research interests and relevant experience
2. A detailed CV, including a list of peer-reviewed publications and workshop facilitation experience
3. A certified copy of your PhD certificate
4. Contact details of two academic referees

Stellenbosch University reserves the right not to make the appointment.

Enquiries: For more information, please contact Prof Imke de Kock at imkedk@sun.ac.za