

Postdoctoral Research Fellowship – 2024 / 2025: Entrepreneurship in the context of extreme poverty and conflict

April 2024

Overview

Stellenbosch Business School (SBS) is a triple-accredited African business school focused on responsible leadership development. We are part of Stellenbosch University, which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2018 and is a top-ranked research university in Africa. Our international standing is further underpinned by partnerships with some 80 business schools across all continents, students from more than 40 different countries and 30 000+ alumni residing on all the continents globally.

Entrepreneurship, and Conflict and Collaboration, are focus areas at SBS. For example, SBS hosts the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor South Africa (GEM SA) and has a Small Business Academy (SBA), providing business education to small-business owners in low-income communities. SBS also has a Centre on Conflict and Collaboration (CCC), a hub for research and reflection at the nexus of private sector development, conflict, and human security. CCC engages with private sector actors, human rights defenders, community advocates, civil society organisations, governments, international actors, and others to reduce destructive conflict and improve collaborative potential.

About the fellowship

This fellowship will be awarded tax-free under South African law. Due to this regime, postdoctoral fellows are not appointed as employees of SBS, and are therefore not eligible for employee benefits. Depending on the interests and qualifications of the fellow, as well as the needs of the institution, teaching and supervision opportunities within Stellenbosch University of up to 12 hours per week are considered consistent with the fellowship and may be separately compensated. The compensation package is designed to provide a basic but reasonable standard of living in South Africa. The successful fellow will have a working space and access to Stellenbosch University research resources, and collaboration and support from designated academic staff.

The fellowship is in the domain of entrepreneurship, specifically in the context of extreme poverty and conflict. The fellowship is intended to contribute to existing inter-disciplinary research on our understanding of entrepreneurs promoting peacebuilding in the informal economy. The incumbent will inter alia develop relevant research proposals, conduct research for publication in reputable peer-reviewed journals, and deliver relevant academic papers and presentations at conferences.

Requirements

It is unlikely that a candidate will have significant skills and experience across all relevant dimensions. The following factors will, therefore, be balanced in any candidate assessment:

- A relevant PhD awarded in the last five years from a recognised academic institution with research focussed on entrepreneurship and or small enterprise development in conflict or subsistence market places.



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- Experience in qualitative research methodology and data analysis, particularly demonstrated skill and experience in the analysis of entrepreneurship and/or conflict narratives, will be an advantage.
- A working knowledge of and/or experience with themes such as entrepreneurship, the informal economy, the political economy of conflict, entrepreneurship and human rights, entrepreneurship and conflict, or entrepreneurship and peacebuilding will be an advantage.
- Demonstrated ability to learn, adapt, and apply new skills and understanding will be a distinct advantage.
- Team leadership skills will be a distinct advantage.

Commencement date

Commencement of duties will be as agreed. The fellowship term is one year, renewable for a second year, dependent on performance.

Information required

Please send the following to [Ms Esmari Huysamen](mailto:esmarih@sun.ac.za) - esmarih@sun.ac.za, Research manager of the Stellenbosch Business School:

- Letter of application.
- Comprehensive curriculum vitae, including a list of publications, and the names and contact details of at least three (3) referees.
- A certified copy of your PhD OR a letter from the registrar at the university where you are registered for your PhD, confirming that you have satisfactorily fulfilled the university's requirements of the doctoral qualification.
- A copy of your ID OR passport photo page.
- Academic transcripts.
- A writing sample, such as a copy of your published work or a PhD chapter.
- Applicants should request their referees to forward confidential reports directly to the same address.

Informal inquiries are welcome prior to submitting a formal application. These inquiries may be directed to Ms Huysamen.

Closing date for applications

30 May 2024



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