



## **International Institute of Social Studies (The Hague) of Erasmus University Rotterdam**

The International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) is a leading academic centre for development studies, and a University Institute of Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR). It is one of the oldest institutes in this field, having been established in 1952 by Dutch universities and the Netherlands Ministry of Education as a postgraduate institute for education, research and capacity building. The institute offers a 15.5-month MA in Development studies with various specializations, post-graduate Diploma courses and a PhD in Development Studies. Studies come from over 50-60 countries, and teaching and research programs are conducted in English.

The Staff Group *Rural Development, Environment and Population Studies* has a vacancy for an academic position in the field of:

### **Agriculture and Rural Development**

The Staff Group is engaged in teaching, research, advisory work and institutional capacity building on rural and human development, with a focus on agricultural and rural development, poverty, socio-economic security, population studies, and child and youth studies. Teaching and research by academic staff is marked by a commitment to the central role of equitable, broad-based and sustainable development. This is combined with an explicit engagement with a political economy framework of analysis of power relations and processes of global change that reinforce rather than reduce poverty and socio-economic insecurity. The group is also actively engaged in methodology teaching at both MA and PhD levels.

### **Profile**

We are looking for a candidate who will bring innovative research and teaching capacity to the Staff Group on a number of crucial issues relating to agriculture and rural development (ARD) in developing and/or transition countries, in a rapidly changing global context. The Staff Group 'Rural Development, Environment and Population Studies' has a long tradition in the critical political economy of agrarian change and development, with individual members having made important contributions to the literature on land, agrarian change, resource use, rural poverty, diversification and mobility, gender, agrarian conflicts and rural social movements. The more recently formed research cluster 'Resources, Livelihoods and Environment' focuses on the interactions between access and use of natural resources (as a broadly defined concept that includes, among others, water, land and forestry), livelihoods and environmental

change. The successful candidate would work within the Staff Group, contributing to research areas within the RELIVE cluster.

The candidate will be expected to participate in PhD supervision and to substantially invest in strengthening the Agriculture and Rural Development MA Specialization (while possibly contributing to the Environment and Sustainable Development Specialization, and/or the Poverty Specialization, in as much as rural themes/areas are covered). With agriculture and food again high on the development agenda, and new issues around agro-fuels and corporate land acquisition, the ISS would like to further develop and strengthen this area. Teaching areas could include in one or more of the following areas: the restructuring of the rural production process, rural institutional development, natural resource conflicts in particular regarding land, rural social movements (with special emphasis on the political and class dimensions of these processes), and the global process of food production, food *versus* bio-fuels, and agricultural trade flows. Given the available regional and disciplinary competences in this general area, we envisage a candidate with a background in social/political sciences rather than economics.

The successful candidate will be expected to be active in teaching, research, peer-reviewed publication, and capacity development. A research focus on Indonesia, Sub-Saharan Africa or Latin America and/or the ability to bring a gender dimension to agricultural and rural development would also be a welcome addition.

**Tasks and responsibilities involve the following:**

- Contribution to research-driven teaching the relevant teaching programs of the Staff Group and more generally within ISS/EUR
- Production of high quality research output at international standards
- Supervision of MA and PhD students
- Preparation (individually or jointly with other staff) of externally funded research grant proposals and project proposals for external advisory work/capacity building activities, in particular together with academic and civil society organizations in the Global South.
- Contribution to academic management both within the Staff Group and the ISS.

**Requirements:**

- A completed PhD in one of the social sciences (in exceptional cases a near-completed PhD)
- Evidence of publication capacity, including both a strong publication track record and clear research and publication plans
- Teaching experience, preferably at post-graduate level
- Proven evidence of the ability to attract external finance for research and other projects
- Ability to work in an inter-disciplinary team
- Experience with Field-based research methods/gender-based analysis is welcomed

While open to all regional specializations, we hope that the two appointments will include at least one regional specialization in Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America & Caribbean, and Indonesia.

**Appointment:**

ISS/EUR will offer an initial three year appointment, with the possibility of extension (and tenure), depending on the financial and staffing situation. While both appointments are envisaged at (Senior) Lecturer level, appointments at Associate Professor level can be considered, but only in the case of a more senior and exceptional candidate.

**Employment conditions:**

In accordance with those applied at the Erasmus University Rotterdam and indicated in the Collective Labour Agreement (CAO NU) of the Dutch universities. Salary being dependent on the candidate's experience ranges from € 3195 to € 4970 gross per month (CAO NU scale 11/12) under full-time contract. In addition, ISS pays an 8% holiday allowance and an end-of-year payment which is for 2010: 8.3 %.

**Applications:**

Applications, accompanied by a detailed Curriculum Vitae and the names of three Referees, should reach ISS before **30 May 2010**, addressed to the Personnel Office (Ms. Leonie de Wilde), International Institute of Social Studies, P.O. Box 29776, 2502LT, The Hague, The Netherlands, preferably send in electronic form directed to [personnel@iss.nl](mailto:personnel@iss.nl).

Women and candidates who originate from developing countries are encouraged to apply. Short-listed candidates will be requested to supply samples of published output and at that stage their referees will be contacted.

Interviews with shortlisted candidates will take place from **23-25 June 2010**. Additional information concerning this vacancy may be obtained from Professor M. Spoor ([spoor@iss.nl](mailto:spoor@iss.nl), tel.: +31704260559).

General information on the ISS may be found on our website: [www.iss.nl](http://www.iss.nl)