

**Vacancy Announcement**  
**Research Fellow (post-doctoral position)**  
***CapAdapt* Project (ANR)**

**About IDDRI**

At the interface between research and decision-making, the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) is an independent policy research institute based at Sciences Po (Institute for Political Studies) in Paris. Its activity focuses on sustainable development issues that require international coordination (for more information on the programme, see [www.iddri.org](http://www.iddri.org)).

IDDRI has three objectives: informing policy decisions; identifying emerging issues; and providing a platform for dialogue between various stakeholders, including research institutes, public agencies, private sectors and NGOs. IDDRI is also involved in research activities.

IDDRI currently has about 40 staff including an interdisciplinary team of 20 social scientists (economists, political scientists, lawyers, etc.).

**The *CapAdapt* Project**

Preconceived ideas on adaptation to climate change are numerous. Their persistence is essentially due to a relative lack of comprehensive knowledge, including on influential factors, underlying processes (political, social, economic...), the role of environmental conditions, relevant spatial and temporal scales, levers and barriers. In order to promote a holistic, systemic and contextualised understanding of adaptation and vulnerability to climate change, the *CapAdapt* project focuses on adaptive capacity with the ambition of elaborating new scientific bases for the development of integrated analyses. The project is based upon fieldwork in 2 low-lying coastal areas (Bangladesh in the Indian Ocean, Kiribati in the Pacific).

An operational objective of the project is to show how a better understanding of adaptive capacity (driving factors and processes) may inform crucial current developments on adaptation to climate change: (i) its implementation, (ii) the improvement of the international adaptation funds' disbursement criteria, and (iii) future environmental migration-related policies.

*CapAdapt* is funded by the French National Research Agency (ANR) through its "Young Researchers" call dedicated to the promotion of young and promising teams working on innovative issues. The project started in October 2011 and will conclude in September 2014.

**Position advertised**

IDDRI is seeking an outstanding candidate for a position of Research Fellow within the context of the *CapAdapt* project. The successful candidate will be responsible for:

- **Conducting a wide bibliographical survey** on vulnerability, adaptive capacity, climate change impacts and low-lying coastal areas (especially in Bangladesh and Kiribati), and **making bibliographical syntheses**;
- **Conducting fieldwork both in Bangladesh and in Kiribati** for analysing the influential factors of

adaptive capacity at the national and local levels (specific sites will be identified). Fieldwork will include observations and interviews with stakeholders (decision-makers, populations, international cooperation agencies...);

- **Analysing field results**, in cooperation with the research team;
- In general, **supporting the project's endeavours**, liaising with the research team and disseminating the project's results (i.e. writing policy briefs and contributing to workshops with local stakeholders).
- **Contributing to develop international partnerships** on vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.

The successful candidate will work in close cooperation with IDDRI's team, under the direct supervision of the project coordinator, Dr. Alexandre Magnan. The frequency and duration of the candidate's missions to Bangladesh and Kiribati shall be discussed and agreed upon in the first few weeks of the assignment.

## Requirements

The successful candidate must:

- Hold a PhD in social sciences (preferably anthropology, human geography, political science, or sociology);
- Have a good understanding of the climate change issue (processes and potential impacts) and of the vulnerability and adaptation concepts and methods;
- Have prior experience in field research (including semi-structured interviews with decision-makers and population, statistical data collection, etc.), preferably in tropical coastal areas;
- Have excellent communication skills, both written and verbal;
- Have a robust experience in developing countries contexts;
- Be able to work independently and as part of a team, sometimes in challenging conditions;
- Be fluent in English (a working knowledge of French –and also Bengali and/or I-Kiribati– is of course a serious asset);
- Be enthusiastic about fieldwork as well as comfortable with theories and concepts, and committed to the advancement of the project.

## Location and type of contract

The position is an 18-month contract, principally based at IDDRI in the heart of Paris (Saint-Germain-des-Prés area). The position will be open until filled, ideally in early 2012 and no later than September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012. The salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications, according to IDDRI's rules and regulations. IDDRI is an equal opportunity employer.

## How to apply

Interested candidates should send their CV, cover letter and two references at their earliest convenience. Interviews will be conducted as applications arrive, and only short-listed candidates will receive a feedback on their application. Applications should be sent by email to: [alexandre.magnan@iddri.org](mailto:alexandre.magnan@iddri.org), and copied to [lisa.dacosta@iddri.org](mailto:lisa.dacosta@iddri.org).