



IHE Delft is the largest international graduate water education facility in the world and is based in Delft, the Netherlands. The mission of IHE Delft is to work in partnership to strengthen capacity in the water sector, to achieve global sustainable development. IHE Delft has a permanent staff of 220 of which more than 140 are academics from all over the world, while about 250 guest lecturers from academia and industry contribute to our educational programmes. Each year 750 professionals (including about 200 new MSc students

per year) from all over the world attend various water-related courses at IHE Delft. The Institute has an international staff & student community with English as the working language.

The **Water Science and Engineering Department** conducts research and provides post-graduate education and training to professionals in the fields of water resources assessment and control, hydraulic engineering, hydrology/hydrogeology, various fields related to aquatic ecosystems and limnology, irrigation and drainage, navigation and hydropower, port and coastal engineering, and floods, droughts and pollution. The department is organized into six scientific chair groups: 1) Hydrology and Water Resources, 2) Hydraulic Engineering – River Basin Development, 3) Land and Water Development for Food Security, 4) Coastal systems, Engineering and Port Development, 5) Aquatic Ecosystems, and 6) Flood Resilience, each headed by a professor. For the chair group Land and Water Development for Food Security we are looking for a:

Postdoc in ‘Adaptive investment pathways for nature-based water storage solutions in semi-arid Africa’

1.0 FTE/38 hours

Position Summary:

This postdoctoral position is based at IHE Delft Institute in Delft, The Netherlands. The appointment will be for a fixed duration of 2 years and be placed within the Land and Water Development chair group with strong collaboration with the Water Management chair group in IHE. The position will directly contribute to NWO-WOTRO funded research project ‘Nature based water infrastructures in Ethiopia and Kenya for #GlobalGoals (NaBWIG)’. This project seeks to help #endHunger and aims at improving the resilience of smallholders in Kenya and Ethiopia to cope with increased climate variability and water shortages through innovative and environmentally sound water storages solutions for conjunctive use of surface water, groundwater and soil moisture. Together with stakeholders the project will develop a portfolio of the potential storage solutions. The project formulates adaptive investment pathways, adopting an innovative stepwise approach, as opposed to the conventional large lump sum investments. The project contributes to developing new knowledge that will help in bridging the gap between the fundamental understanding of the biophysical characteristics of the shallow alluvial aquifers of sand rivers, and its application to serve farmers’ needs for sustainable and reliable fresh water for productive purposes, such as crops and livestock. To this end this project emphasizes the creation of new knowledge and tools through cooperation between disciplines and a range of partners in Kenya, Ethiopia and the Netherlands. The candidate will work closely with Dr. Poolad Karimi (IHE Delft project leader) in developing adaptive investment pathways and scenarios.

Responsibilities:

- Develop a portfolio of adaptive investment strategies for potential nature based water storage options for agriculture in Kenya and Ethiopia
- Lead development of a toolkit for decision makers on sustainable storage options
- Provide coordination and content support for NaBWIG project.
- Conduct original and applied research and publish in scientific journals.
- Co-supervise MSc and PhD students studying related topics.
- Work closely with partners from within and outside Netherlands

Requirements:

- PhD degree with focus on a topic related to the position's scope.
- Demonstrated knowledge of the concept of the dynamic adaptive pathways
- Demonstrated ability to communicate science both in the form of peer-reviewed articles in scientific journals but also in the form of project reports, policy briefs and outreach materials
- Experience in working with heterogeneous stakeholder groups (both within and outside Academia)
- Willingness to conduct short missions to the project sites.

Desirable:

- Prior experience in contributing to supervision of MSc students
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills (in English).
- Good existing professional networks.
- Experience in working in developing countries, especially in Africa.
- Willingness to work in an international environment.

Information and application

Additional information can be obtained from Dr. Poolad Karimi (T: +31 (0)15 2151 825 or E: p.karimi@un-ihe.org) or Deputy Head of Department, Dr. Ali Dastgheib (T: +31 (0)152151 777 or E: a.dastgheib@un-ihe.org).

Applications should be in English, and respond specifically to the requirements. The application, including curriculum vitae, motivation letter, statement of research interests and experiences and the names and contact details of two contactable referees, should be sent to IHE, attn. Human Resource Management (E: recruitment@un-ihe.org), PO Box 3015, 2601 DA Delft, The Netherlands, **stating vacancy-number 19-WSE-01 before 16 August 2019 (Closing date)**. (The application should be in one PDF file with your family name as the filename),

Reactions from staffing agencies and other 3rd parties are not appreciated.