Economics of Climate Adaptation: Student Assistant, GIS

Description and context:

Storms, floods, droughts and other extreme weather events can threaten urban and rural areas, regions and entire nations. Losses from natural catastrophes are rising, as population and wealth increase in the world’s most exposed regions and our climate continues to change. The Economics of Climate Adaptation (ECA) methodology represents a unique approach towards the flexible identification of cost-effective climate change adaptation measures (CCAMs) for a variety of projects and sectors thus ensuring a fully integrated process from risk assessment to the feasibility of concrete CCAMs.

MCII seeks to hire a short-term student assistant (April to September 2020) who will assist in the implementation of multiple ECA case studies. The studies are being conducted in several countries with differing geographical reach while targeting context specific climate hazards. The results and knowledge gained are intended to be shared in order to support the (further) development of developing countries’ long-term adaptation strategies while taking several aspects of cost-benefit analyses, vulnerability assessments, as well as impact assessments into account.

Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII): MCII was initiated as a non-profit think tank by representatives of insurers, research institutes and NGOs in April 2005 in response to the growing realization that insurance solutions can play a role in adaptation to climate change, as suggested in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol. This initiative is hosted at the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS). As a leading think tank on climate change and insurance, MCII is focused on developing solutions for the risks posed by climate change for the poorest and most vulnerable people in developing countries.

www.climate-insurance.org

Tasks:

- Conducting background research/desk study on flood and drought risk and adaptation Vietnam, Honduras and Ethiopia;
- Supporting the identification, review and synthesis of existing risk reduction, risk transfer & adaptation solutions in several countries;
- Supporting the definition of assets (e.g. buildings, bridges) and the collection of economic asset values (e.g. for different building types) in the case study areas;
- Supporting the GIS-based analysis for ecosystems, urban and rural areas;
- Support the drafting of graphics, maps, reports, and scientific publications;
- Support the preparation, organization and documentation of project workshops and events;
- In addition, the selected candidate is expected to support any other duties as may be assigned or required in the ECA project team.
Desired profile:

- Demonstrated experience with GIS (ArcGIS, QGIS or other) and spatial analysis tools
- Understanding of economic valuation techniques is an asset
- First experience with climate risk transfer is an asset
- First experience with the Climate Risk Assessment and the Economics of Climate Adaptation (ECA) methodology is an asset
- Spanish, Amarhic or Vietnamese knowledge are an asset.

Contract modalities:

- Start date: preferably 20 April 2020 or earlier; End date: 30 September 2020
- 20 hrs per week
- Remuneration: 980 EUR/month depending on qualification

Application documents:

- A letter of motivation (1 page) outlining qualifications and how personal profile relates to the post advertised
- CV
- P.11 form (https://unu.edu/about/unu-services/hr/applying-for-a-position#files)

This is a locally recruited post and no relocation allowances apply. The duty station will be Bonn (Germany). The successful candidate will be employed under a local contract and will not hold international civil servant status nor is he/she/they a “staff member” as defined in the United Nations Staff Rules and Regulations.

MCII is committed to diversity and inclusion within its workforce, and encourages all candidates, irrespective of gender, nationality, religious and ethnic backgrounds, including persons living with disabilities to apply and become part of the organisation.

MCII has a zero-tolerance policy on conduct that is incompatible with the aims and objectives of the United Nations and UNU, including sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, abuse of authority and discrimination.

Please send your application documents mentioning the Job-ID SA-200409 in the subject line to Mr. Alvaro Rojas-Ferreira (rojas-ferreira@ehs.unu.edu) by the 9th of April. Please note that only complete applications can be considered.