

The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is committed to Employment Equity with the intention to promote representivity within the Institution. Preference will be given to applicants from the designated groups in accordance with our Employment Equity Plan.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

**SCIENTIFIC OFFICER (NATURAL SCIENCE)
(PEROMNES GRADE 6)
FIVE YEAR FIXED TERM APPOINTMENT
SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES
WESTVILLE CAMPUS**

REF NO. LS09/2017

The intention is to establish a South African office of the Working Group II Technical Support Unit of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (Durban Centre) in order to support South Africa's first IPCC Co-Chair during the sixth assessment cycle (AR6) (2015-2022).

The Scientific Officer will work closely with the Co-Chairs of WGII (based in South Africa and Germany) and the Working Group II TSU staff based at the Alfred Wegener Institute in Bremen, Germany. The Scientific Officer will provide the scientific, technical and organisational support required to execute the activities and produce the products of Working Group II in the sixth assessment (AR6) cycle, focusing on the Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability of Climate Change - with a specific focus on the ecosystem sciences and climate change. S/he will also be involved in liaising with the IPCC Secretariat and other Working Groups and in the planning, preparing, conducting, and reporting on IPCC Workshops, expert meetings, and communication and outreach events organized by WGII. The Scientific Officer will be expected to travel extensively throughout Africa, and more broadly, to liaise with colleagues across Africa, and to collect and collate data and grey literature.

The scientific officer will support the work of the South African Co-Chair and assist in managing the Durban office of the WGII TSU based at UKZN. S/he will be expected to identify and network with other African researchers working in the field of climate change. S/he will assist in building capacity on the continent and liaise with the national Department of Environmental Affairs in this regard, as well as produce peer-reviewed literature relevant to the Sixth Assessment Cycle. Particular emphasis is placed on working with staff and students at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and other South African universities in order to help build climate change related research capacity at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and within the country. S/he will also be required to liaise with the staff of the Climate Protection Branch and Policy Implementation Branch in eThekweni Municipality involved in assisting the Co-Chair with her municipal duties. Proficiency in written and spoken English at science level is essential and the fluency in French and Portuguese is highly desirable.

The incumbent will report to the Head of the Technical Support Unit.

Minimum Requirements:

- PhD in ecosystem sciences or related field
- 3 years relevant work experience in ecosystem and interdisciplinary research.
- Scientific publications in refereed journals with relevance to how ecosystem related factors influence adaptation planning and decision making (preferred).

- Experience in scientific report writing and editing

Enquiries and details regarding this post, as well as requests for a job profile may be directed to Professor Slotow, email: Slotow@ukzn.ac.za

The total remuneration package offered includes benefits.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 10 November 2017.

Applicants are required to complete the relevant application form which is available on the Vacancies website at www.ukzn.ac.za. Completed forms and Curriculum Vitae may be sent to Recruitment-aes@ukzn.ac.za.

Advert Reference Number MUST be clearly stated in the subject line.