



UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY

UNU-MERIT

## UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Positions of Research Fellow (in the range of L-2 to L-4)

- Organizational Unit:** United Nations University-Maastricht Economic and Social Research and training centre on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT), Maastricht, The Netherlands
- Reference Number:** 2007/UNU-MERIT/001
- Closing Date:** 31 july 2007
- Position:** UNU-MERIT, a research and training centre of the United Nations University located in Maastricht, The Netherlands is looking for a number of Research Fellows with a strong record of academic and policy-oriented publications in the area of innovation and development.
- Application Procedure:** Applicants should submit their applications with a CV; the names and contact details of three referees, and a short summary (2 pages) of their research interests, sent by email, fax, or mail to:
- human-resources@merit.unu.edu
- Fax: +31-43-3884499
- UNU-MERIT Human Resources  
Keizer Karelplein 19  
6211 TC Maastricht, The Netherlands
- UNU Objectives:** The UNU is an international community of scholars, engaged in research, postgraduate training, and dissemination of knowledge aimed at resolving the pressing global problems of human survival, development and welfare. in furthering the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

UNU-MERIT, one of the largest UNU Research and Training Centres, is located in Maastricht and was established through the integration in 2005/6 of the former UNU-Institute for New Technologies and the Maastricht Economic Research Institute on Innovation and Technology, MERIT of the University of Maastricht, the Netherlands. Currently 50 researchers and 45 PhD students are affiliated with UNU-MERIT ([www.merit.unu.edu](http://www.merit.unu.edu)). The focus of their research is on all facets of the interaction between science, technology and innovation and sustainable development. Research at UNU-MERIT is organized alongside five broad research areas ranging from macro-economic analyses on the impact of innovation and technology on growth and development to business studies on corporate social strategies and innovation. The overall research programme addresses how individuals, private and public organizations, institutions, and countries at all stages of development, can make better use of knowledge to create and enhance growth and development opportunities.

**Remuneration:** UNU-MERIT offers an attractive remuneration package including a competitive international salary, cost of living allowance, international benefits and allowances including subsidized health insurance and contributory pension, relocation and repatriation expenses for international recruits plus generous annual leave and sick leave entitlements.

#### Responsibilities:

Under the overall supervision of the Director and/or one of the five programme leaders, the newly appointed research fellows will:

1. Design and undertake research in the broad area of innovation and development, covering both theoretical, empirical and policy issues. In doing so enhance the academic standing of UNU-MERIT by publishing regularly in international journals, lecturing in the UNU-MERIT PhD programmes as well as in other training activities, assist in the organization of conferences and research meetings and seminars, write and edit books and other material for UNU-MERIT publications series (both Policy and Research Briefs).

2. Assist and where necessary develop new research projects in one of the five areas of innovation and development, raise external funds for such projects, identify and brief contributors to such research projects, co-ordinate and supervise their intellectual contributions, organize research progress meetings.
3. Invite visiting speakers, assist with dissemination activities, including debates and interactions with policy makers at the national and international level. Develop and maintain good links with national and international institutions and in particular sister UN organisations in the relevant areas of research. Promote the visibility of UNU-MERIT in relevant public debates.
4. Interact positively with colleagues; be involved, as required, in the supervision of PhD students, and other academic activities in the area of speciality within the Institute's work programme.
5. Perform other tasks as assigned by the Director and/or the programme leaders.

**Qualifications:**

**Education:** PhD or equivalent in Development Economics, Economics, or a related discipline.

**Work Experience:** In respect to their own research, all applicants must submit a research proposal (maximum of 1,000 words) for their first two years at UNU-MERIT. They can indicate in which of the five research programmes they would be most interested to work; describe the particular research angle they would like, the research questions addressed, the methodology, data collection methods if relevant, and an evaluation of the policy relevance of the research. All interesting and relevant proposals in the five research streams will be seriously considered, but we are also interested in research proposals in other areas such as eco-innovations and sustainable development, bottom-of-the-pyramid innovations, micro-financing and CSR financial innovations and development. Other qualifications which will be looked at will be the record of academic publications in one of the research programme areas or in the topics listed above; experience in managing research programmes in academic and other research institutions and the ability to translate research findings into relevant policy advice. The selected researchers will be expected to work harmoniously in a multicultural environment.

**Languages:** Fluency in English is required. Knowledge of other official UN languages is an asset.

**Duration of appointment:**

Initial appointment on a two year fixed term contract, with the possibility of renewal.

Staff members of the UNU are international civil servants subject to the authority of the Rector and may be assigned to any of the activities or offices of the University. The Rector reserves the right to appoint a candidate to a level below that advertised.