

**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Senior Researcher**  
**'Innovation and participatory research in Khorezm, Uzbekistan'**  
**(salary scale TVL-13)**

**ZEF (Center for Development Research), Bonn, Germany**  
**Department of Political and Cultural Change**

**Applications before 15 February 2008**

**Description:**

The senior researcher will train, facilitate and supervise interdisciplinary research teams working on the development, introduction and trial of social and technical innovations for sustainable agricultural practices in the Khorezm region, Uzbekistan, using participatory research methods and with strong user and interest group involvement. The senior researcher will conduct research on the innovation process, for academic publication, and facilitate the overall learning process in the project for employing such methods and processes in the Uzbekistan/Central Asian context. The work is part of ZEF's long-term interdisciplinary research project on sustainable land and water use in the Khorezm province, Aral sea region (full project title *Economic and Ecological Restructuring of Land and Water Use in the Khorezm Region (Uzbekistan): A Pilot Project in Development Research*) <http://www.khorezm.uni-bonn.de/>).

**Tasks:**

- Train, facilitate and supervise interdisciplinary research teams in the project organised around certain innovations
- Conduct research on the process and methods of innovation (oriented research).
- Provide input to the project for and guide the learning process on the use of participatory research and innovation methods in the Uzbekistan/Central Asian context
- Provide guidance and supervision to PhD and MSc students in the project doing fieldwork on innovation related topics
- Actively participate in project activities.

**Start and duration:**

From 1 April 2008, for three years (subject to final approval of project funding)

**Duty station:**

- Uzbekistan (Urgench) for 8-9 months per year (partly negotiable) and Bonn, Germany

**Requirements:**

- Postgraduate University Degree (PhD preferred)
- a publication record of former work in Central Asia or on relevant topics such as communication and innovation studies, participatory technology development, social learning approaches is an advantage
- Research/Work experience in Uzbekistan and the Central Asian region preferred
- Work experience in and knowledge of interdisciplinary research settings (natural-social science interdisciplinarity)
- Experience with participatory approaches in development, as well as with setting up and conducting training programmes are a recommendation
- Excellent writing skills in English
- Uzbek and/or Russian language skills are a recommendation
- Good team member and network builder

In case of equal suitability female candidates will be preferred.

**More information:**

Background information available on request is the executive summary of the third phase of the project, of which this research is a component, and the text of the relevant work package.

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