



The Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies e.V. (IASS) is financed by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the Federal State of Brandenburg. The IASS conducts research with the goal of understanding, advancing, and guiding processes of societal change towards sustainable development. In order to develop a common understanding of sustainability challenges and generate potential solutions the IASS collaborates with diverse actors from science, policymaking and public administration as well as business and civil society. It pursues a research approach that is transformative, transdisciplinary and co-creative. Further information about the IASS can be accessed under www.iass-potsdam.de/en

The IASS is looking for a Research Associate (f/m/d)

Reference Number: TDTEC-2021-01

The successful applicant will contribute to the group "Transdisciplinary Theory, Evaluation, and Culture" working closely with the project leader Dr. Stephen Williams under the guidance of scientific director Prof. Mark Lawrence.

The Transdisciplinary (TD) Theory, Evaluation, and Culture research group works along three dimensions. The research dimension is focused on theorizing TD, developing case studies of TD approaches, and developing a typology of TD approaches. The evaluation dimension leverages and extends existing IASS work on evaluation to investigate more deeply methods to assess the effectiveness of TD approaches. For the culture dimension, the group acts as a knowledge hub for TD approaches at IASS, helping to support a culture of rigorous approaches to TD.

The Research Associate will support research along all three dimensions with a focus on the theory and evaluation dimensions. Main tasks of the Research Associate are to support the development of multiple publications within the group, including leading publications on their primary expertise. In addition, the Research Associate will manage research collaboration with other research groups at IASS, as well as coordinating or supporting various activities within the group by, for example, preparing summary reports on publication status. The Research Associate will report to Research Group Leader.

Tasks:

- Collaborate with other IASS research groups and contribute to joint publications based on IASS cases, theorizing TD, and situating IASS in TD academic landscape
- Conduct literature reviews on topics of the research group (i.e. TD theory, evaluation, and TD culture)
- Review academic and grey literatures (i.e. reports, blog posts, internal IASS documents) on TD and summarize results
- Manage publication submission processes (i.e. checking references, coordinating reviews and revisions)
- Coordinate the different research projects within the group and prepare summary progress reports



Qualifications:

- Successfully completed PhD preferably in related fields such as transdisciplinary research, evaluation, sustainability transition, public engagement, or justice in transitions
- Understanding of concepts of transdisciplinary research and how it relates to sustainability transition and transformation.
- Independent scientific profile, proven through publications in peer-reviewed journals, preferably in the field of science evaluation, research management or transdisciplinary research practice

Requirements:

- Experience in conducting and publishing literature reviews
- Excellent organizational skills and experience in research project management
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English, communication skills in both English and German languages an advantage

What we offer:

- An exciting and varied workplace in an interdisciplinary, international team with plenty of scope for initiative.
- Excellent contact with a range of national, European, and international organizations, research institutes, and think tanks

This is a full-time temporary position. The IASS supports efforts to achieve an equitable work-life balance by offering a variety of flexible work arrangements. A part-time role is possible in principle, depending on the specific requirements of the position. The position will be remunerated in accordance with the TVöD Bund salary scale (E13). **This position is to be filled as soon as possible**, with a desired start date of 1 August or 1 September 2021 with the initial fixed-term **contract running through to 30 June 2022**. An extension of the position is intended once further institutional funding of the IASS is granted. The place of work is Potsdam.

The IASS seeks to promote gender equality and diversity. We therefore encourage applications from candidates of diverse backgrounds and genders. Applications submitted by severely disabled persons with equal qualification and aptitude will be given preferential consideration in accordance with the German Social Code (IX).

If you are interested in this position, we look forward to receiving your application, including a letter of motivation (in English) and the usual documents, together with two samples of your work (one German, one English). In your motivation letter, please describe your understanding of the value of transdisciplinary research as related to sustainability transition and transformation. Ensuring equal opportunities is integral to the Institute's recruitment processes. We expressly welcome applications submitted without a photograph or other references to your nationality, ethnicity, or marital status. Please submit your complete application, combined in a single PDF file no larger than 5 MB, **no later than 9 July 2021** via mail to Ivonne Triebel (Ivonne.Triebel@iass-potsdam.de) using the Ref. No. given above. Please specify in your application how you became aware of this vacancy.

For further information and details on this position please contact Ivonne Triebel (Tel.: +49 331 28822-468).



By submitting your application, you consent to the processing of your personal data for the purpose of the application process. Your data will be deleted after a max. of six months. If we are interested in storing your application data beyond this based on your application profile, we will inform you about this and obtain your consent. For more information, see https://www.iass-potsdam.de/sites/default/files/2019-10/GDPR_Job_Applications.pdf

Travel costs cannot be reimbursed. Given the current pandemic situation, virtual interviews are envisaged.