



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
PostDoc / Research Associate (f/m/d)**

Reference Number: *SR-2022-01*

The successful applicant will contribute to the Research Group Systemic Risk, working closely with the Research Group Leader Dr. Pia-Johanna Schweizer under the guidance of Scientific Director Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Ortwin Renn.

The Research Group Systemic Risk analyses the complexity, uncertainty and ambiguity of risks characterised by interdependencies among technology, nature and society. The scientists address questions such as: What opportunities and risks are associated with global transformation processes such as the transition to a climate-friendly society? What chain reactions can systemic risks trigger in society, and how do they spread regionally, nationally and globally? What mechanisms of risk perception influence the development of systemic risk? Based on this analysis, they aim to identify common patterns and structural features of systemic risk. Their goal is to develop policy instruments and transdisciplinary governance mechanisms to implement research results towards sustainable development and to reduce the negative impacts of systemic risk.

Tasks:

- Develop and apply a mix of qualitative and quantitative methods for analysing:
 - multi-hazard, multi-risk issues and their societal impacts in close collaboration with scientists from various disciplines, engaged stakeholders, practitioners and concerned citizens;
 - how systemic risk propagates on different spatial and temporal scales.
- Report and present research findings at conferences and other events.
- Contribute to and lead scientific publications arising from the projects, including publications in peer-reviewed academic journals and policy briefs.
- Contribute towards acquiring third party funding.
- Regularly engage with the Research Group Lead to coordinate research and activities.
- Collaborate with an extensive network of research partners at the national, European and international level.
- Contribute to and facilitate the design and implementation of events such as workshops as a method for co-design and co-development of research results.



Qualifications:

- Relevant university degree at Masters / PhD level in Sustainability Science, Environmental Science, Complexity Science, Social Science (e.g., Sociology, Political Science, Psychology), or a related relevant field.
- Strong interest in and knowledge of risk analysis and risk governance.
- Experience with quantitative methods to assess compound hazards/risks interrelationships and dynamics.
- Experience in implementing research projects and contributing to their management and coordination.

Requirements:

- Ability to work independently in an interdisciplinary and international team and with a high degree of creativity and personal initiative.
- Communication skills for implementing research with multiple and diverse research partners and stakeholders.
- Experience with quantitative and qualitative methods of risk assessment.
- Experience in contributing and leading peer-reviewed research articles, scientific publications, and policy briefs.
- Outstanding oral and written communication skills in German and English. Proficiency in other EU languages is an advantage.

What we offer:

- The opportunity to work in a dynamic, multicultural, inter- and transdisciplinary research environment in the field of sustainability science in general, and risk science in particular.
- Excellent contact with a range of national, European, and international organisations, research institutes, and think tanks.

This is a full-time appointment. The IASS supports efforts to achieve an equitable work-life balance by offering a variety of flexible work arrangements. 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 the initial fixed-term contract running through to 31st December 2025. 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. In accordance with Section 8 of the Federal Act on Gender Equality (BGleIG), female applicants will be given preferential consideration when their level of qualification, competence and professional achievements equals that of male candidates. 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 (one page only, please) and the usual documents, together with two samples of your work. 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, 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.

Reviews of applications will continue until the position is filled.



For further information and details on this position please contact Dr. Pia-Johanna Schweizer (pia-johanna.schweizer@iass-potsdam.de, telephone +49 331 28822 457).

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. Virtual interviews can be arranged.