



UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG
**Postdoctoral Research Fellowship In Climate Finance/The Care-
Climate Nexus**

To support our work on climate change, and especially climate finance and care credits, we are seeking a recent PhD graduate to fill a postdoctoral research fellowship located in the Southern Centre for Inequality Studies. This fellowship will pursue research projects within the broad field of climate change, climate finance and the intersection between care and climate change. The University is especially looking to support research that takes an inter-disciplinary and trans-disciplinary approach.

The duration of the fellowship is two years, renewed annually based on performance and progress. The value of the fellowship is R 420 000 per annum plus medical aid and a small contribution towards research costs.

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The African Care and Climate Innovation Alliance (ACACIA) analyses longitudinal household data from surveillance sites in South Africa and Kenya to understand how climate change impacts care work through both direct and indirect pathways. This work provides a first-of-its-kind systematic assessment of care–climate relationships in East and Southern Africa, further supported by regional case studies gathered through an open call. The project also evaluates how climate and nature finance mechanisms—such as carbon credits, payments for ecosystem services, and adaptation funds—could be adapted to recognise care work. As part of this effort, ACACIA is exploring the feasibility of creating “care credits” that value and reward diverse forms of care that support climate resilience. Through collaborative workshops and working groups, the project documents community-based practices and assesses how funding could be redirected to support these care-centred climate resilience strategies.

KEYWORDS:

Climate change; climate finance; care-climate nexus; inequality; Fellowship; Johannesburg (South Africa); Postdoc

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

1. PhD degree obtained within the last 5 years from a SAQA registered institution.
2. A track record of publishing research findings.
3. Experience in research on climate change, climate finance, sustainability and/or inequality, or the intersection of these themes.

4. Have strong English proficiency.
5. Be based in Johannesburg for the full duration of the fellowship.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

Experience with the following would be advantageous:

1. Research in other African countries or other regions of the global South.
2. Experience with climate finance or sustainability finance.
3. Have worked with civil society, government and policymakers.

DUTIES AND EXPECTATIONS:

1. Undertake focused research leading to publications in high-quality international journals or similar publication channels.
2. Undertake innovation¹ activities where possible.

CONTACT AND APPLICATION PROCESS:

Send your CV, a proposal and two reference letters to Lindiwe Mdlalose (Lindiwe.mdlalose@wits.ac.za), with the subject line “Post Doc Fellowship Application: Climate Finance and Care-Climate Nexus” by **24 July 2026**.

PROPOSALS SHOULD BE BRIEF (5 PAGES) BUT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Research focus and background
- Research problem
- Research question/s
- Research aim
- Merit of the research and proposed contribution to the field
- Proposed research methodology
- Research plan

Wits supports equal opportunities.

¹ Our definition of innovation is broad and essentially includes producing impact from research findings.