

Iran National Science Foundation (INSF) and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis International (IIASA) Postdoctoral Fellowship Program Call for Applications 2024

Within the framework of their Memorandum of Understanding, the Iran National Science Foundation (hereinafter referred to as INSF) and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (hereinafter referred to as IIASA) have launched the INSF-IIASA International Postdoctoral Fellowship Program, for highly qualified and early-career postdoctoral researchers to carry out interdisciplinary research in fields of mutual interest at both INSF and IIASA, which include but are not limited to environment, energy, ecology, natural resources, demography, and research methods in the field of systems analysis. The purpose is to strengthen research collaborations of the faculties of both Parties, INSF and IIASA, along with the development of the international and interdisciplinary research skills of the postdoctoral researchers.

The Program will support up to three (3) postdoctoral researchers per year that are accepted jointly by INSF and IIASA.

Duration

Each fellowship is to be awarded for 12 months and can be extended by another 12 months, if both INSF and IIASA agree to do so. In principle, a fellow (fellowship recipient) should split their time equally between INSF and IIASA. In addition, multiple interactions by the fellow with their IIASA supervisor(s) when the fellow is at INSF and vice versa are expected, including a mandatory kick-off virtual meeting, to ensure co-design of the research and to strengthen the collaboration between INSF and IIASA. The exact time to be spent at both Parties shall be discussed and decided between a fellow and the host supervisors at INSF and IIASA. The time spent at IIASA shall not exceed half the length of the fellowship. Recognizing the importance of three-way communication between the fellow, the INSF supervisor and the IIASA supervisor, it is important that the fellow maintains and facilitates the communication between the two institutions. Fellows will be encouraged to organize regular joint meetings with both supervisors.

Funding Provided by INSF

- Postdoctoral salary for a period of 12 months (based on INSF funding criteria)
- Cost of living in Austria for a period on 6 months
- Cost of an economy airfare (Tehran to Vienna, and Vienna to Tehran)
- Cost of short visit (up to 6 days) to Austria (for the Iranian supervisor)
- INSF would register the fellows with the Austrian authorities and lodge the registration with IIASA.

Eligibility and Evaluation Criteria

The fellowship is open to Iranian nationals who have received their doctoral degrees from Iranian universities/research institutes and who are highly qualified early-career researchers. They must have received their Ph.D. no more than five years prior to the start of the application. Applicants holding tenure or in tenure-track faculty positions are not eligible. Further information regarding INSF eligibility criteria can be found on this link: <https://insf.org/en/page/235/postdoctoral-projects>

A mid-term report shall be presented by a fellow in due course before completion of six months, as a basis for review. INSF and IIASA reserve the right to end the fellowship should this review not be satisfactory. A request for extension of the fellowship must be made by the candidate well before the end of 12 months. A review of the postdoctoral research will be conducted jointly by INSF and IIASA on completion of the fellowship.

Application

Candidates are required to develop and submit a research proposal that interfaces their own research interests with the research agenda of one of the various activities pursued at IIASA. Please browse the IIASA Program areas to identify the research group of your choice.

Each applicant must identify at least one faculty member from each of both institutions who will serve as their host supervisor. We suggest to look at the application form, frame the proposed according to the questions there, and then send an introductory e-mail. This is vital, not only to discuss research ideas and ascertain their relevance to IIASA but also to ensure more realistic research plans and expectations on the part of both IIASA and the

applicant. If in doubt we encourage you to contact the relevant program representatives (<https://iiasa.ac.at/early-career/contact-team-and-cdat-program-representatives>)

Please note that IIASA does not do lab-type research and therefore has no labs. Before applying please also have a look at our postdoctoral fellowship guidelines.

All application documents must be prepared in English and include the following:

- A research proposal and time plan (including tables/figures and references, and a plan for managing intellectual property);
- Concise Curriculum Vitae (max. 4 pages in total);
- Two recommendation letters (preferably, one from the applicant's doctoral supervisor);
- Two endorsement letters or emails by the potential supervisors from the two institutions, respectively; and
- Applications must be submitted at both IIASA and INSF. INSF receives applications through its Research and Technology Management System: <https://rtms.insf.org/>

Application Deadline

The call will open on 26 July 2024, all applications must be received by 27 September, 2024.

Important Deadlines

End of October, 2024 – Selected fellows will be notified

Contact persons & Queries

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| <p>For INSF General and Scientific Queries</p> <p>Ms. Somayeh Moradhaseli moradhaseli.s@insf.org; +98-21-82161120</p> | <p>For IIASA Scientific Queries</p> <p>Please get in touch with the relevant program representative to find out about mutual interest in your intended research and to identify the best research group for your topic: https://iiasa.ac.at/train-with-us/early-career-researchers/contact</p> |
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