
The Korea Research Foundation (NRF) and the International Institute for
Applied Systems Analysis International (IIASA)

Joint Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

Call for Applications 2025

The joint Postdoctoral Fellowship Program between The Korea Research Foundation (NRF) and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (hereinafter referred to as IIASA) offers highly qualified early-career postdoctoral researchers the opportunity to carry out independent research in fields of mutual interest at both NRF and IIASA, which include but are not limited to: applied systems analysis, demographic change, climate change impact and mitigation, food-energy-water nexus, pollution management, resource economics, urban systems and health.

Postdoctoral Fellows in this program have the opportunity to develop international and interdisciplinary research skills and become part of a vibrant, dynamic, diverse, and international scientific research community.

In addition, fellows in this program will gain first-hand experience in applying systems analysis to real-world problems and issues. Fellows will have access to a network of international collaborators, many of them with highly successful careers in their own specialized scientific areas, which can help in boosting future career prospects.

Duration

The fellowship will be awarded for 12 months with the possibility of extension for another 12 months following a successful review by the IIASA Research Program Director. Fellows are required to be present at IIASA for the duration of their fellowship.

Ideally candidates should start the fellowship between September and December.

Funding

The NRF Korea - IIASA Postdoctoral Fellowships program will support up to 2 (two) Korean researchers. NRF will support the Korean fellow with KRW 65 million (approximately €41,000) per year to cover travel, salary, and related costs. IIASA will provide the necessary working conditions for the fellow as a researcher at the institute.

Eligibility

The call is open to Korean researchers who have obtained a doctoral degree or its equivalent in the fields of study relevant to IIASA's research fields.

Candidates should have held their PhD for less than five years at the application deadline

For those candidates just finishing the doctoral degree, they must have completed all their Ph.D. requirements, including that of defending the thesis, before the beginning date of the fellowship.

Applicants must:

Be affiliated with a university (including research institutes) or research organization defined under Article 2 of the Promotion of Academic Research Act and be eligible to apply under the name of the institution head.

Hold a doctoral degree earned at a Korean university within the last 5 years (after January 1, 2020).

If employed, resign before the fellowship start date to avoid overlapping salary support.

Selection process

A selection panel, comprising members from both Parties, will oversee the recruitment and selection process.

The IIASA selection criteria include quality and novelty of the research, candidate's merits and cross-cutting potential.

NRF selection criteria include the research plan (necessity of the research, appropriateness of the research topic, research objectives and contents), the candidate's research capability, and the expected impact.

Application

Applications must be submitted to both IIASA (via an [online application system](#)).

More information and about the fellowship can be found here:

<https://iiasa.ac.at/opportunities/korea-research-foundation-postdoctoral-fellowship>)

and NRF Korea via IRIS through [this link](#).

Application Deadline

All applications must be received by 14 November 2025.

Preferred commencement of fellowship

1 January and 31 March 2026, in consultation with IIASA

Submission and Queries

For NRF Korea General and Scientific Queries

Dr. One Keun Choi
Head, International Talent Exchange Programs
National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF)
25, Heolleung-ro, Seocho-gu, Seoul 06792, Korea
Tel: +82 2 3460 5631 | Fax: +82 2 3460 5729
Email: onekeun@nrf.re.kr

For IIASA General Queries

General questions should be directed to pdocinfo@iiasa.ac.at

For IIASA Scientific Queries

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>
