

Fund Orcadia

Applied Research focusing on Health and Environment Interaction Postdoctoral grant (Flemish universities)

Fund Orcadia launches a **career development grant** for talented researchers who have recently obtained a PhD or are about to complete a PhD in **pursuing their research career and strengthening their application for longer-term fellowships and funding**. Moreover, the aim of this call is also to support scientific research conducted at the interface of Health and Environment.

The Fund was created by Orcadia AM (www.orcadia.eu) – an asset management company focused on sustainable investment – and is managed by the King Baudouin Foundation with the help of an independent scientific jury and a management committee.

Subject of the call

The Fund is launching a call for projects of **Applied Research**. The topic of this call is:

Health and Environment Interaction

Possible topics are (non-exhaustive list):

- Air pollution and its impacts on health;
- Emerging infectious diseases linked to close interactions between humans and natural habitats and the animal world: deforestation, loss of biodiversity, intensive livestock farming, trade in animal species, ...;
- Impacts of climate change disasters on health (heat waves, droughts, floods, water contamination, forest fires, ...) and preventive measures;
- Impacts of natural disasters on migration and conflicts, with their negative consequences on physical and mental health;
- Psychological distress related to future environmental changes: eco-anxiety, solastalgia;
- Mental health benefits of contact with nature (environmental psychology), including the role of green spaces in cities, gardening therapies, connection with nature, biophilia, ...

Eligible applicants

The call is open to postdoctoral researchers:

- with a maximum of 3 years of active research activities (with an additional year per childbirth or adoption) following the date of PhD award or who are about to complete their PhD (defense within 6 months after deadline of the call);
- working full-time or part-time (at least 70%) in a Flemish university, academic institution or research centre ;
- having no guaranteed funding for their salary for the coming years but with the intention to apply for longer-term funding.



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The application should be formally supported by an established researcher in the field.

Selection criteria

Profile of the candidate and host institution

Candidate

- Track record (including most relevant publications and dissemination beyond academia) of the candidate
- Career potential of the candidate and motivation to develop his/her own research line
- Steps undertaken to find additional long-term support
- Expertise in applied research

Host institution

- Potential of the research team and/or collaborating teams: scientific environment, competence, experience, added value for the research team
- Located in Dutch-speaking regions of Belgium

Scientific quality of the research project

- Design of the overall research proposal of the candidate
 - o Relevance of research question
 - o Clarity of objectives
 - o Approaches and methods of applied research
 - o Feasibility of the proposed study
 - o Specific focus on the work packages planned with the financial support of Fund Orcadia (18 months)
- The scope of the research can be Belgian or international. In either case, relevance to a Belgian context is considered a plus.

Impact and dissemination plan

- Scientific impact
- Societal impact beyond academia and concrete measures taken during the project to impact the field (e.g. companies or care providers)
- Dissemination beyond academia (with a plan for communication)
- Concrete impact within Belgium is considered a plus

Involvement of stakeholders

- List of key stakeholders (e.g. public authorities, companies, care providers...) and clear description of how they will be involved in the research and how their expertise will be taken into account

Budget

- Adequacy of the budget. The budget should be used to increase the opportunities for the grantee to apply for long-term funding in the coming years (after accomplishment of the proposed research project). This should be demonstrated in the application.
- Potential co-funding should be detailed in the application



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Ethical questions and GDPR

- Description of how ethical issues, if any, and GDPR are taken into account. If the project has to be submitted to an Ethics Committee, researchers should obtain ethical approval before the project can start (but not before the introduction of the application).

Grant

- A total amount of € 100,000 is available for this call and can be used to (co-)finance an excellent research project from a highly talented researcher
- Overhead costs cannot exceed 15% of the total budget
- The grant will be paid to the university or research centre hosting the postdoc
- A Convention will be drawn up between the King Baudouin Foundation and the host institution

Duration

- 18 months supported by Fund Orcadia (whole duration can be longer and should be specified in the application)

Procedure

If you are interested, please submit **an online application** via the website of the King Baudouin Foundation www.kbs-frb.be. Applications should be submitted **in English** by July 13, 2022 midnight at the latest. Candidates will receive an acknowledgement of receipt.

Selection

Applications will be submitted to an independent scientific jury.

The jury will assess the projects and draw up recommendations for the Fund Steering Committee which will make the final decision.

The decision will be published at the end of September.

Contact

- For technical assistance during the application process:
Contact centre – Tel +32-(0)2 500 45 55 – proj@kbs-frb.be
- For information regarding the call:
Marie-Catherine Michaux (michaux.m@kbs-frb.be)



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King Baudouin Foundation

Working together for a better society

The King Baudouin Foundation's mission is to contribute to a better society.

The Foundation is an actor for change and innovation, serving the public interest and increasing social cohesion in Belgium and Europe. We seek to maximize our impact by strengthening the capacity of organizations and individuals. We also stimulate effective philanthropy by individuals and corporations.

The King Baudouin Foundation is a public benefit foundation. The Foundation was set up in 1976 on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of King Baudouin's reign.

With thanks to the Belgian National Lottery and to all donors for their valued support.



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