

We invite application for the position of

Senior Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

Soil Ecology and Ecotoxicology

The North-West University's Unit for Environmental Sciences and Management (UESM) invites suitable applications for a Senior Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in Soil Ecology and Ecotoxicology (SEE) research group. The appointment is initially for one year, renewable up to 5 years, depending on satisfactory performance. The UESM hosts a world-renowned group of researchers. You will work with an NRF B-rated researcher, Professor [Mark Maboeta](#), to further your academic career and boost your publication output.

If you are a junior researcher (less than 5 years post PhD, and under 45 years old) with a good record of publications and keen on pursuing collaborative publication on soil ecotoxicology with earthworms (and other soil organisms) as bioindicator and climate change, you are welcome to submit an application. If you need more inspiration on which topics to publish on, you are welcome to visit Mark's [Google Scholar profile](#), where some of his publications are listed. You may also [contact](#) him if you want other topics to be considered.

This is a full-time Post-Doctoral Fellowship (PDF) funded through the NWU Post-Doctoral programme. The fellowship carries a value of R 466 704 per annum (tax free), which is significantly higher than the usual postdoc salary in South Africa, once-off translocation costs (up to R20 000), and R40 000 per annum research funding. The Unit currently has a number of positions available, and the PDF should commence as soon as possible. The fellowship is available for five years. The PDF position is reviewed on an annual basis and continuation thereof is subject to performance evaluation. The PDF will be based in Potchefstroom and hosted by Mark Maboeta.

Key responsibilities:

- Perform research and analyses in soil ecotoxicology.
- Play an active role as an investigator in all aspects of the research project.
- Lead author of at least 4 papers per annum published in internationally accredited peer-reviewed journals.
- Assist in capacity development at the NWU through active interaction, co-supervision and collaboration with post-graduate students and interns.

Minimum criteria:

- A Ph.D. degree in Zoology/Ecology/Ecotoxicology or a related field. The PhD should have been obtained within 5 years before the award date.
- The candidate must have proven skills (through publication) in soil ecotoxicology utilising soil organisms as bioindicators. Applicants specialising in earthworm ecotoxicology are encouraged to apply.
- Strong written and oral communication skills with a minimum of 5 ISI-rated publications in the relevant discipline and presentations at various national and international conferences.
- Ability and willingness to conduct laboratory and fieldwork in the respective research field.
- Ability to work independently and participate within the team to reach certain goals.
- Valid driver's license.

Desirable criteria:

- Experience in conducting OECD and ISO-standardized soil ecotoxicological assessments.
- Experience in biostatistics and working with various statistical software packages.
- Student supervision and mentoring experience.

Applications and enquiries:

If you are interested in applying, please submit the following documentation:

1. A letter of motivation detailing your relevant experience and research interests, current research activities, and your interest in the project(s).
2. Latest academic transcript.
3. A Curriculum Vitae including a list of publications.
4. The names, contact details and relationship of at least three references (including doctoral supervisor).
5. Proof of completion of PhD.
6. Copy of identification document or passport.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The closing date for applications is **24 November 2024**.

To submit an application or for further enquiries, contact Prof. Mark Maboeta (mark.maboeta@nwu.ac.za) with the subject line: **Postdoc Position: SEE OR** in the case of enquiries, with the subject line: **EIER Postdoc Enquiry**.

The EIER sub-programme reserves the right not to appoint applicants to this position as advertised. Final appointments are dependent on approval by the supervisor and North-West University.

