Date : Nov 2, 2026 G.C

Vacancy Announcement for

Research Fellow in Economics and Financing of Food Systems Transformation Policy in Africa

Policy Studies Institute (PSI) – ANH-ARC

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1. Position Summary

Job Title: Research Fellow Postdoctoral Fellow on Food System Metrics & Data Analytics
Programme: African Regional Collaborative for Agriculture, Nutrition and Health (ANH-ARC), under the ANH Academy Science–Policy Platform
Thematic Area: Economics and Financing of Food Systems Transformation Policy
Work Package: Food System Metrics for Monitoring Progress
Host Institution: Policy Studies Institute
Reports To: Thematic Area Lead
Duty Station: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Duration: 6 Months, with possibility of extension
Contract type: Project-based, requiring **50%**FTE

2. Background

ANH-ARC represents a regional collaboration between the Policy Studies Institute (PSI), the University of Ghana, and Stellenbosch University, operating under the ANH Academy Science–Policy Platform. The initiative generates, synthesizes, and translates high-quality evidence to drive food systems transformation across Africa. The programme is structured around three core thematic areas: (1) Food Environments, Diet Quality, and Health; (2) Economics and Financing of Food Systems Transformation Policy; and (3) Science–Policy Interfaces and Food System Governance.

Theme 2, led by PSI, focuses on generating and translating economic and policy-relevant evidence to inform the design, financing, and implementation of food system policies, regulatory frameworks, and investments that expand access to affordable and nutritious foods, with a strong emphasis on gender equity and climate resilience. Theme 2 consists of three work packages: (1) Economic Drivers and Incentives in Agri-Food System Value Chains; (2) Financing Food Systems Policies and Interventions; and (3) Food System Metrics for Monitoring Progress.

Transforming African food systems requires robust measurement across affordability, accessibility, equity, environmental sustainability, and health outcomes. While global initiatives like the Food Systems Countdown help track progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), their impact is limited by weak, fragmented country-level data across many African nations. Current systems frequently fail to capture local realities, gender-differentiated outcomes, and the critical impacts of climate variability on food performance.

To bridge these gaps, the ANH-ARC, under its work package - 3 (Food System Metrics for Monitoring Progress) conducts research to produce a list of regional and country - specific food system indicators in

selected African countries that help to monitor and follow up the implementation and change in access to nutrition in Africa through building and operationalizing a multi-dimensional food system metrics framework and data platform. By integrating agriculture, nutrition, health, economics, and environmental factors into national statistical systems, the initiative synthesizes multi-source data, establishes governance protocols, and co-designs monitoring dashboards alongside regional stakeholders to empower evidence-based policymaking for sustainable, equitable diets.

To support this work package, PSI would like to recruit a Research Fellow based at PSI, who will dedicate 50% of his/her time to ANH-ARC activities.

3. Duties and Responsibilities

A. **Inception & Stakeholder Mapping:**
   - Conduct a rapid desk review identifying data gaps and synthesizing global food system metrics against country-specific data availability across the 5 target countries.
   - Develop mapping tools to identify key country-level food system stakeholders, initiatives, M&E frameworks, and national statistical data sources.
   - Organize consultative stakeholder workshops to refine technical scopes and tools.

B. **Indicator Identification & Contextualization:**
   - Benchmarking global dashboards (e.g., Food Systems Countdown/Dashboard) against country-specific needs to identify context-appropriate M&E indicators.
   - Prioritize and strengthen metrics covering diet quality, affordability, food environments, gender equity, and climate exposure.
   - Lead the design of composite indicators, index methodologies, prototype monitoring dashboards, and technical guidance documentation.

C. **Data Integration & Platform Development (Phase 3):**
   - Map administrative, survey, market, and remote-sensing data sources across target countries.
   - Execute data cleaning and harmonization protocols to build a unified cross-country dataset.
   - Co-design standardized protocols for routine data collection into national statistical office (NSO) platforms.
   - Support the establishment of an integrated regional data platform and develop the Food Systems Data Governance and Access Protocol.

D. **Dissemination & Engagement:**
   - Lead the scientific manuscripts, policy briefs, and technical guidelines.
   - Facilitate virtual and in-person stakeholder validation workshops.
   - Continuous communication with the research team, science managers, and work packages leads.
   - Perform additional research tasks as assigned by the project investigators and packages leads.
   - Attend the regular project virtual meeting.

4. Required Qualifications

- Education: PhD in food system, Public Health Nutrition, Agricultural/Food Economics, or related fields obtained within the last 1–5 years.
- Data & Technical Experience: Proven expertise in handling large-scale survey, administrative, and spatial/remote-sensing datasets; strong skills in data integration, harmonization, and composite index construction.
- Research Skills: Prior experience conducting food system related data, and publishing peer-reviewed scientific literature.
- Communication: Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English.
- Field & Team Management: Demonstrated experience organizing technical workshops and managing multi-country research activities.

5. Desirable Qualifications

- Practical knowledge of global food system tools (e.g., Food Systems Countdown Initiative, Food Systems Dashboard) and at least of the Country listed food system work.
- Experience working alongside National Statistical Offices and M&E systems in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Demonstrated integration of gender-differentiated and climate-resilience indicators into data models.

6. How to Apply

Interested and qualified candidates should submit the following:

1. A cover letter (maximum 2 pages) describing your relevant experience and suitability for the project.
2. Curriculum Vitae, including a list of publications.
3. Names and contact details of at least two references.

Interested individuals who fulfill the aforementioned requirements can apply for the job for 7Working days starting from the date of the post. Please submit your applications with copies of all supporting documents attached: via email at: "psihrmda @gmail.com" or Google form using the following link.

Google Form: https://forms.gle/kkm62qWz8vKwK8uf9 Or Scan the QR Code below