



Norges miljø- og  
biovitenskapelige  
universitet

Global challenges regarding energy and climate change, the environment, health, food safety, technology and renewable solutions, use and conservation of land and natural resources, and development of the bio-economy, requires greater effort. NMBU is well equipped to conduct further research in these fields. NMBU's expertise spans entire value chains and includes both basic and applied research.

On 1 January 2014, the Norwegian School of Veterinary Science and the University of Life Sciences merged and became -NMBU, the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. NMBU has 1700 employees and 5200 students, and is currently located on two campuses - Ås, about 30 km south of Oslo, and Adamstuen in Oslo. In 2020, the new research- and education-building for veterinary science will be completed and all of NMBU will then be located at Campus Ås.

Further information about NMBU is available on [www.nmbu.no](http://www.nmbu.no)

# PhD in International Environment and Development Studies - Transformations to sustainability - Ref.no 18/01304

The Department of International Environment and Development Studies (Noragric), Faculty of Landscape and Society at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU) has a vacant three-year PhD position related to Transformations to sustainability. The selected candidate is expected to commence with the doctoral studies in September 2018.

The Faculty of Landscape and Society has 1300 students and 180 staff. It consists of five sub-units, carrying out research and education in the fields of urban and regional planning, property management and law, landscape architecture, international environment and development studies, and public health.

The faculty runs two PhD programmes:

- Society, Development and Planning
- International Environment and Development Studies

## About the department and PhD programme

Noragric is engaged in education, research, institutional collaboration and assignments. With a PhD programme, three Master's programmes and a Bachelor's programme, the Department has 45 scientific staff, 35 doctoral candidates and 450 students.

Research and researcher training pursue high quality, interdisciplinary knowledge in the fields of development, agriculture and food security, natural resources and the environment, governance and international relations, conflicts and human security.

For further information regarding thematic areas and ongoing research programmes, please visit: <http://www.nmbu.no/noragric/>.

## Theme of the PhD project

Transformations to sustainability

The Department invites applicants to submit project proposals that investigate critically ongoing efforts to produce social transformations toward sustainability (such as the 'green shift', 'sustainability transition', or the 'degrowth', but not limited to these).

Advocates of social transformations to sustainability often assume simplistic models of social change whereby new development pathways can be created by changing individual attitudes, behavior, and choices. This is often supposed to be driven by new global institutional regimes such as the Paris Climate Change Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, that outline versions of development that are universal, and uncontested. Nevertheless, social change toward sustainability has been demonstrated to rely on different, competing, visions of desirable futures and the pathways to achieving these. Achieving sustainability, therefore, implies deliberations, negotiations, and contestations, often mediated through different kinds of institutions. There is therefore an important opportunity to further develop social transformation as a theoretical framework by incorporating theories of social change and critical approaches from development studies.

We seek therefore innovative proposals that will investigate an ongoing empirical context of social transformation (systemic changes that include radical departures in technological, economic, political, and cultural structures and/or practices). We favour case studies that investigate ongoing transformations in post-socialist contexts (for example in Mongolia or Romania) but we are open for other cases from the global South or North.

## Main tasks

The PhD programme consists of mandatory and elective courses with oral and written examinations and a major research component. The applicant is advised to visit the website for detailed information regarding [PhD regulations](#) at NMBU and information about the [PhD programme at Noragric](#).

The successful candidate is expected to enter a plan for the progress of the work towards a PhD degree during the first months of the appointment, with a view to completing a doctorate within the PhD scholarship period.

### **Academic qualifications**

#### *Required Academic qualifications*

- a research-based master's degree (see [PhD regulations § 5.1](#)) with a GPA of B or above in a relevant field
- Proficiency in English as a working language is a prerequisite.

#### *Desired Academic qualifications*

- Research or work experience with development issues

### **Personal skills**

#### *Required personal skills*

- Structured
- Independent and responsive
- Motivated to manage a research project
- Enjoy interdisciplinary and collaborative work

### **NMBU offers:**

- An optimistic academic institution with focus on professional development, dissemination and competence.
- An interdisciplinary and inclusive environment that provides exciting research- and development opportunities.
- Daily contact with inspiring students and skilled colleagues.
- Various welfare schemes.
- Beautiful surroundings just outside Oslo.
- Participation in an active research group and a vibrant international PhD group
- Possibility of a place in a private kindergarten

### **Remuneration**

Employment as PhD candidate follows national guidelines. The selected candidate will be appointed as a doctoral research candidate for a period of three years. The salary starts at level 51 (NOK 443 900 per annum) and follows ordinary meriting regulations. The total additional funding available for running expenses for the PhD studies is NOK 96 000 NOK.

### **Further information**

For further information, please contact Researcher Andrei Marin

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### **Application**

To apply for this vacancy, please click on the '**Apply for this job**' button above. This will route you to the University's Web Recruitment System, where you will need to register an account (if you have not already) and log in before completing the online application form.

Applications should include (electronically) a letter of intent, a draft research proposal not exceeding 1000 words, curriculum vitae, full publication list, copies of degree certificates and transcripts of academic records (all certified), and a list of two persons who may act as references (with phone numbers and e-mail addresses). Publications should be included electronically within the application deadline. We may require further documentation, e.g. proof of English proficiency.

Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of their academic qualifications, the quality of the draft research proposal and previous research as well as other relevant experience. The shortlisted applicants will be called for an interview as a part of the evaluation. Applicants invited for an interview are expected to present original diplomas and certificates.

Applicants without a master degree and/or with incomplete applications will be excluded from the appointment process.

### **Application deadline: 9 April 2018**

A compulsory contribution of 2 % is made to the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund. A good working environment is characterized by diversity. We encourage qualified candidates to apply, irrespective of gender, physical ability or cultural background. The workplace will, if necessary be facilitated for persons with disabilities.

According to the Freedom of Information Act § 25 the list of applicants for this position may be made public irrespective of whether the applicant has requested that his/her name be withheld.

Jobbnoorge ID: 148993, Deadline: Closed