



UNIVERSITETET I BERGEN

**University of  
Bergen**  
Department of Global  
Public Health and  
Primary Care

**Jobbnorge ID:** 222123

**Deadline:** 3/20/2022

**Website:** <https://www.uib.no/om/84775/ledige-stillinger-ved-uib>

**Scope:** Fulltime

**Duration:** Fixed Term

## PhD-position (4 years)

### UiB - Knowledge that shapes society

Through robust and close interaction with the world around us - globally, nationally and locally - we shall be instrumental in building a society based on knowledge, skills and attitudes.

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Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oYaThmlq6Kg>

### PhD position

At the Faculty of Medicine, Department of Global Public Health and Primary Care, Centre for International Health, a PhD-position (100 %) is available for a period of four (4) years or max 4 months after completed the PhD-degree, if this is achieved within a shorter time than four years. The positions include 25 % required duties such as teaching, exam work or supervision, depending on the demands at the department.

The position is part of the project "[Reporting in context: An interdisciplinary initiative to strengthen maternal health services and surveillance in Ethiopia and Tanzania](#)" (MATRISET) funded by the Research Council of Norway.

### About the project/work tasks:

The PhD project is a sub-component of the MATRISET project, which is an interdisciplinary initiative that explores institutional reporting routines, legal frameworks and accountability processes in maternal death surveillance in Ethiopia and Tanzania.

The Maternal Death Surveillance and Response System (MDSR) is a major surveillance tool developed by WHO to reduce persistently high global maternal mortality rates. In overburdened health systems substantial underreporting and misclassification of maternal deaths have been documented. This has implications for the knowledge base generated and the relevance of policy initiatives to address weaknesses in maternal health services. The primary objective of the MATRISET project is to improve the quality of maternal mortality reporting and thus strengthen the knowledge base for actions to reduce maternal deaths.

The announced PhD project will focus on maternal deaths that are not registered and reviewed in the MDSR system. It will seek to trace these missing deaths on health facility level and identify the underlying cause of death through verbal autopsies with family members of the deceased women. Central research questions will be:

- To explore health workers' perceptions of their tasks related to maternal death reporting
- To detect unreported deaths occurring in maternity ward and in the maternal referral chain
- To detect maternal deaths occurring in other wards and classified as a non-maternal death
- To identify the causes behind the maternal deaths detected

The project will use a combination of epidemiological and qualitative research methods and will be implemented in close collaboration with senior MATRISET researchers. The study will take place in selected district hospitals and health centres that register deaths in the MDSR system on a routine basis. Empirical data collection and analysis will be followed by a wider analysis of challenges in reporting practices and of measures to improve maternal mortality surveillance systems.

The candidate will be part of a well-established interdisciplinary research group at the Centre for International Health, UiB, and will have a central role in the MATRISET-network with partners from Tanzania, Ethiopia, Norway and the UK. The candidate will be based at the University of Bergen with fieldwork in Tanzania or Ethiopia, and possibilities for longer research visits to other academic institutions in the network and beyond.

### About the work tasks:

- Conduct long-term fieldwork in Ethiopia or Tanzania
- Analyze, interpret and write up of study findings
- Present study findings in academic conferences and health systems- and policy relevant fora, and disseminate results to national and local stake holders
- Work in interdisciplinary cross-country teams with scholars from the medical and health sciences, social sciences and law

- Complete the organized research training at the Faculty of Medicine, UiB
- Complete required duties (25%)
- Submit a PhD thesis including 3 research articles within the period

## Qualifications and personal qualities:

The applicant:

- Must hold a master's degree or equivalent in medicine, public health or other health sciences
- Must be able to work independently and in a structured manner, and have the ability to cooperate with others
- Must be fluent in oral and written English

Added advantage:

- Experience from relevant research projects
- Experience from fieldwork or clinical work in low income settings
- Clinical experience from obstetrics/maternal health care
- Research methodological training in epidemiology and/or mixed methods research

Applicant whose education is from another country than Norway, need to attach a certified translation of the diploma and transcript of grades to English or a Scandinavian language, if the original is not in any of these languages. It is required that the applicant enclose a review from NOKUT whether the education in question (bachelor and master's degree) is of a scope and level that corresponds to the level of a Norwegian master's degree. Please see [www.nokut.no/en](http://www.nokut.no/en) for more information about NOKUT's general recognition. The review from NOKUT may take some time and the application should be sent to NOKUT as soon as you have decided to apply for the position. If no answer within the application deadline, you **must** enclose documentation from NOKUT that they have received your application.

Language qualifications: <http://www.uib.no/en/med/115526/english-language-requirements-phd-admission>

## About the PhD position:

### Organized research training (PhD program):

The candidate must take part in the University of Bergen approved PhD programme leading to the degree within a time limit of 3 years. You must have admission to the organized research training (PhD program) at the Faculty in order to qualify for the position.

Application for admission to the PhD programme, including a project plan outline for the training plan must be submitted no later than three months after the date of commencement.

### The PhD-position:

PhD-positions are fixed term positions. You cannot be employed in a PhD-position for more than one fixed term period at the same institution or have had similar employment at an institution in the region.

## We can offer:

- An interesting inter-disciplinary research environment in the MATRISET- and global health research group activities
- Salary at pay grade 54 (code 1017/pay framework 20.10) NKR 491 200 before taxes, in the state scales. Further increases in salary will be based on seniority in the position. For applicants with at least one year of employment in a position as a General Practitioner or Dentist, salary level 56 NKR 507 600. Medical specialist starts on wage level 59 NKR 534 400
- Enrolment in the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund
- Good [welfare benefits](#)

## Your application must include:

- A motivation letter where the applicant demonstrates the relevance of own academic background and research training, and indicates how to plan/operationalize a PhD project based on the research objectives listed above (about 3 pages)
- Certified copies of diplomas and transcripts of grades. Applicant whose education is from another country than Norway, need to also attach a certified translation of the diploma and transcript of grades to English or a Scandinavian language, if the original is not in any of these languages. It is required that the applicant enclose a review from NOKUT whether the education in question (bachelor and master degree) is of a scope and level that corresponds to the level of a Norwegian master's degree. Please see [www.nokut.no/en](http://www.nokut.no/en) for more information about NOKUT's general recognition. This may take some time and we recommend you to apply as soon as you know you will apply for this position. If no answer within the application deadline, you **must** enclose documentation from NOKUT that they have received your application
- Documentation of language skills (English) <http://www.uib.no/en/med/115526/english-language-requirements-phd-admission>
- Complete list of publications and scientific work you want to be evaluated
- Any publication in your name
- Two referees (name and contact information)

## General information:

Detailed information about the position can be obtained by contacting: professor Karen Marie Moland: e-mail: [karen.moland@uib.no](mailto:karen.moland@uib.no); phone: +4792628226

The state labour force shall reflect the diversity of Norwegian society to the greatest extent possible. People with immigrant backgrounds and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply for the position.

The University of Bergen applies the principle of public access to information when recruiting staff for academic positions.

Information about applicants may be made public even if the applicant has asked not to be named on the list of persons who have applied. The applicant must be notified if the request to be omitted is not met.

The successful applicant must comply with the guidelines that apply to the position at all times.

For further information about the recruitment process, click [here](#).

## **Life as a PhD candidate at UiB**

Marion Claireaux tells about life and work as a PhD candidate at UiB.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nrt6VxMeJ4&index=2&list=PLf8ZIYfAO0qjhROTj6SthDbSScg0ISO6G>

## **About The University of Bergen**

The University of Bergen (UiB) is an internationally recognised research university with more than 14,000 students and close to 3,500 employees at six faculties. The university is located in the heart of Bergen.

Our main contribution to society is excellent basic research and education across a wide range of disciplines.

## **Additional information**

### **Place of service:**

Det medisinske fakultet 5020 Bergen (Bergen Municipality)