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**UNU-IAS**  
Institute of Advanced Studies

JSPS-UNU Postdoctoral  
Fellowship Programme 2010

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# JSPS-UNU Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme 2010

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## Introduction

The JSPS-UNU Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme was launched in 2002 and is jointly organised by UNU and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). It is designed to provide promising, highly qualified, young researchers the opportunity to conduct advanced research relevant to the main thematic focus of UNU-IAS (Institute of Advanced Studies), located in Yokohama, or UNU-ISP, located in Tokyo, and in co-operation with their host researchers at Japanese universities and research institutions.

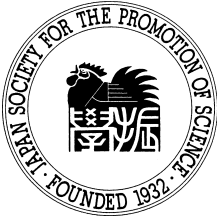
UNU acts as the nominating authority for the JSPS-UNU Programme, and UNU-IAS administers the programme on behalf of UNU in the nominating process. Candidates apply to UNU-IAS. In addition to the prescribed application form, an essential part of the application is a detailed research proposal outlining the intended work in Japan.

This fellowship is aimed at candidates who have completed their PhD in the past six years and also have professional and/or research experience.

Applicants also need to indicate a prospective host researcher at the time of submitting the application. (It is not necessary to obtain confirmation of acceptance from the prospective host researcher at this stage.) UNU will assist in securing acceptance from the host researchers for short-listed candidates. After the host researcher is secured for each short-listed candidate, UNU will make formal nominations to JSPS, which funds this programme. The final award decision will be made by JSPS and Awards Letters will be issued by JSPS to the fellowship awardees. An advisor for each fellowship awardee will be selected for the period of research in Japan from among the UNU (UNU-IAS or UNU-ISP) faculty members.

## Fields of Research

UNU conducts research on all fields of the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences. Yet, research proposals for JSPS-UNU Postdoctoral Fellowships should relate clearly to one of the current research areas of UNU-IAS and UNU-ISP, as well as aim to be policy relevant. Research proposals are invited in the following areas:



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## 1. Science and Technology for Sustainable Societies (UNU-IAS)

### General Objective of the Research

The solution to the twin challenges of global poverty and climate change could be found through science, technology and sustainable innovation. We must guide technological change and innovation to create a greener, cleaner and creative economy. Poverty can be tackled only if we invest in education, science and technology and innovation systems in developing societies. We have at our disposal right now the scientific knowledge, research skills and innovation capability to change the situation. What we lack is the will and the foresight to implement a new governance mechanism for scientific knowledge production and markets that are fair and accountable for the management and diffusion of technology and fair circulation of innovation on a global scale in an equitable manner. The international governance of science and technology – the parameters within which the international community integrates scientific information into decision making, facilitates innovation and ensures access to technology by those who need it most – are critical for addressing these and other critical sustainability challenges.

For 2010 research proposals are invited in the following themes:

- Science, technology and sustainable innovation
- Innovations systems for sustainable development
- Science and technology policy
- Access to Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development
- Globalization of science and research
- The role of science advice in the United Nations System
- Governance of science and technology

### Required qualifications:

- Ph.D. degree (no ABDs), preferably in a field related to applied social or environmental sciences.
- Demonstrated research skills in similar areas
- Fluency in English is essential and a working knowledge of other languages is desirable

## 2. Sustainable Urban Futures (UNU-IAS)

### General Objective of the Research

The Programme on Sustainable Urban Futures analyzes how cities in developing countries create the institutional capacity to implement effective environmental policies with social inclusion. In this context, local authorities and organizations have played important roles in the policy implementation to tackle climate change, even though the focus of media and literature is mostly on debates at the global or country level. The fellow will research the patterns of environmental governance and policy implementation in the case of one or more cities in developing countries. He/she is expected to understand the role of governmental and non-governmental organizations have played in climate change related policies and how those policies are linked to environmental and other local and national policies.



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Required qualifications:

- Ph.D. degree (no ABDs), preferably in a field related to applied social or environmental sciences, such as urban planning, development studies, public policy, management or economics.
- Demonstrated research skills in similar areas
- Ability to design and implement research involving field work
- Fluency in English is essential and a working knowledge of other languages is desirable

**3. Biodiplomacy Initiative (UNU-IAS)**

General Objective of the Research

The Biodiplomacy Initiative's work centres around policy related issues arising from the conservation and use of biological resources and associated knowledge and technologies, and its relation to human well-being. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is the key multilateral environmental agreement around which much of the Biodiplomacy Initiative's activities are focused. Other important international instruments that the Biodiplomacy Initiative works on in this context include the UNFCCC, ITPGRFA, UNFF, UNCLOS and UNPFII.

The selected fellow will undertake policy relevant research within their key areas of specialization including biological sciences, international law, economics, development studies, and related areas. S/he will work together with an interdisciplinary team, and is expected to have an understanding of interlinked concepts on biodiversity and human well-being and have the capacity to carry out research relevant to global, national and local scales. Researchers for post doctoral positions are invited to work on any of the areas mentioned below.

- Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing (ABS) and the International ABS Regime
- Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Payment for Environmental Services provided by Biodiversity
- Climate Change and Biodiversity, Indigenous issues
- Protection and Use of Traditional knowledge

Required qualifications:

- Ph.D. degree (no ABDs), preferably in a field related to applied social or environmental sciences, such as environmental management or economics.
- Demonstrated research skills in similar areas
- Ability to design and implement research on environmental policy issues
- Fluency in English is essential and a working knowledge of other languages is desirable

**4. International Cooperation and Development (UNU-ISP)**

General Objective of the Research

The International Cooperation and Development (ICD) Section conducts research and promotes international researcher networking on frontier issues of development, focusing especially on sustainable development of poorer countries. The ICD Section



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serves as the conceptual and functional interface between the two other sections of ISP (Peace and Security, and Global Change and Sustainability). ICD's current research work is characterized by its concern with management of resources, technology and institutions for sustainable development at the local, national and international levels. It focuses, on the one hand, on the development challenges faced by the Least Developed and other low income countries, such as poverty, income disparity, natural disasters, imbalances in demographic structure, production bottlenecks, health problems, and ineffective government. On the other hand, ICD research deals with structural issues affecting developing countries that call for trade and international development negotiations, including on the impact of globalization and climate change. The research outcome is disseminated not only through publication of books and journal articles but also through issuing of policy briefs and action-oriented workshops.

The ICD Section would welcome candidates who are carrying out research relating to the above-mentioned issues. Particularly welcome are those interested in model building geared to concrete policy issues and employing quantitative methods.

Required qualifications:

- Ph.D. degree in social sciences. Field research experience in developing countries is desired.
- Fluency in English is essential.
- Applications from Women and/or those originating from developing countries are encouraged.

## 5. Global Change and Sustainability (UNU-ISP)

General Objective of the Research

Drastic environmental changes such as climate change, urbanization and land degradation are the major root causes that challenge sustainability profoundly affecting human security, especially in the poorest countries. The Global Change and Sustainability program provides unique opportunities to assess these changes, analyze impacts, propose response strategies and evaluate their sustainability from a natural science perspective supported by transdisciplinary synergies provided by the two other parallel programs of the Institute that address (a) peace building and security and (b) international cooperation and development. Candidates with field experience seeking to link scientific results to policy formulation are especially encouraged to apply. Familiarity with either mathematical modeling, spatial analysis or statistical analyses will be an asset. The program invites research proposals on following broad thematic areas:

- Climate change impacts and adaptation (preferably focusing on water and/or food security)
- Local actions for eco-systems sustainability under global change
- Disaster (floods and landslides) and environmental risk assessment & management
- Ecological impacts of local and indigenous agriculture and resource management practices



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Required qualifications:

- Ph.D. degree in engineering or natural sciences
- Fluency in English is essential
- Applications from women and/or candidates originating from developing countries are encouraged.

**6. Peace and Security (UNU-ISP)**

General Objective of the Research

The Peace and Security section develops research on threats to the peace, such as violent conflicts, human rights abuses, proliferation of weapons, terrorism, but will gradually expand its analysis, within the globally changing geopolitical context, to integrate other aspects of human security - challenges of climate change, poverty and under-development, economic globalization and interdependence. The section places particular emphasis on how to address such new challenges in vulnerable post-conflict situations, looking at sustainable, long-term approaches to peacebuilding and human rights, aiming to prevent state's failure and communities falling back into violence.

The JSPS fellow will conduct research that fits within the themes above, the proposed research could have in-depth focus on a particular aspect of peace: disarmament, peacekeeping, human rights, protection of civilians, but should attempt to incorporate trans-disciplinary perspectives and integrate innovative methodologies.

Required qualifications:

- Ph.D. degree in social sciences generally, or international law/international relations in particular, though doctoral graduates from natural sciences, who would like to develop post-doc work in social sciences are also very welcomed;
- Fluency in English is essential, working knowledge of another language is desirable;
- Applications from women and candidates originating from developing countries are encouraged.

**Eligibility**

Citizens of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan, Japanese nationals that do not have citizenship or permanent residency of other countries are not eligible.

Holders of a doctoral degree when the Fellowship goes into effect, which must have been received on or after 2 April 2004, or be scheduled to receive a doctorate degree before the Fellowship goes into effect.

Applicants with at least 10 months research and/or professional experience are especially encouraged to apply.

Those who have previously been awarded a fellowship under the "JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for Foreign Researchers" are not eligible.



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## Duration of the Fellowship

Fellowships are awarded for a period of 12 to 24 months.

## Terms of Award

1. A round-trip air ticket (based on JSPS regulations)
2. A monthly maintenance allowance of JPY364,000
3. A settling-in allowance of JPY200,000, Overseas travel accident and sickness insurance coverage, etc.
4. Overseas travel accident and sickness insurance coverage, etc.

Note:

- The terms of the Awards indicated above are subject to change by JSPS.
- If the Fellow resides in Japan on the date his/her award letter is issued, the above-mentioned air ticket to Japan and settling-in allowance will not be provided.
- A research grant, "Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research", of up to JPY1,500,000 per year (total of JPY3,000,000 for two years. The amount varies depending on the areas/disciplines of research.) is available to cover cooperative research-related expenses. Application for these grants is made by the host researcher through his/her institution.

This award is provided by JSPS, and follows JSPS program guidelines. (Details will be available on JSPS' website by the end of January 2010)

## Eligible Host Institutions in Japan

Eligible host institutions in Japan are universities, inter-university research institutions, and other research institutions designated by JSPS. (Please refer to [http://www.jps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/list\\_host.html](http://www.jps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/list_host.html).)

For your reference, a list of prospective host researchers attached to UNU-IAS and their areas of specialisation is available on the UNU-IAS website ([http://www.ias.unu.edu/sub\\_page.aspx?catID=6&ddlID=478](http://www.ias.unu.edu/sub_page.aspx?catID=6&ddlID=478)).



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## Nomination of Candidates

1. UNU will act as a nominating authority of the Programme, and application should be submitted to UNU-IAS.

UNU-IAS nominates candidates to the JSPS based on the following criteria:

- (i) *The research objectives of the applicant and the quality of the research proposal;*
  - (ii) *the relevance of the research proposal to the ongoing or planned research activities of the applicant's indicated Research Programme at UNU-IAS or UNU-ISP;*
  - (iii) *the applicant's academic merit and the potential for successful research while in Japan.*
2. UNU will try to inform the successful candidates of the results of the nomination in April.
  3. JSPS takes about 2 months after receiving the nominations to process its award decision.

## Starting Date and Deadline for Applications

The JSPS-UNU Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme begins on 1 September and the selected fellows are required to be in Japan by this date.

**The deadline for applications for the 2010 Fellowships is 28 February 2010.**

The online application is available at [www.ias.unu.edu/fellowships](http://www.ias.unu.edu/fellowships) or can be obtained through e-mail: [fellowships@ias.unu.edu](mailto:fellowships@ias.unu.edu).

## Contacts:

### JSPS-UNU Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme

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