



ISS Pretoria: Researcher, African Futures and Innovation

Are you passionate about shaping Africa's future? Do you want to use advanced forecasting and scenario modelling to help decision-makers build a more prosperous continent?

Join the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) African Futures and Innovation (AFI) programme, where researchers conduct long-term trend and scenario analysis to drive meaningful policy change and unlock Africa's potential.

What is the role?

The ISS is seeking a researcher to join our AFI programme. Using the International Futures (IFs) modelling platform developed by the Frederick S. Pardee Institute and various international datasets, you will analyse continental and country-specific trends. These will be used to draw up policy-relevant scenarios across key sectors, including agriculture, demographics, economics, education, energy, environment, health, governance and conflict. All work feeds into the AFI [website](#).

Based in Pretoria and reporting to the AFI programme head, you will work alongside leading African experts to translate complex forecasting data into actionable insights for policymakers. This position offers the opportunity to contribute to evidence-based solutions addressing Africa's most pressing challenges.

This [video](#) provides an overview of AFI and our impact.

Overview of what the job entails

- Updates on profiles for countries, regions and themes on the AFI website and participation in related projects
- Trend and scenario analysis using IFs and diverse data sources, and develop policy recommendations
- Maintain current understanding of regional and national environments relating to the future of Africa
- Communicate research results to ISS stakeholders through written products, verbal communication and media commentary at meetings, seminars and expert roundtables and offer technical assistance
- Network with stakeholders and donors to build ISS' profile, shape decision-making, and ensure engagement with research results
- Provide peer review of colleagues' work and monitor, evaluate and report on activities and impact
- Write blogs for the AFI website and contribute to research findings

- Identify new opportunities for funding and write concept notes and proposals

Requirements

- Hold a Master's degree in economics, statistics or a related field (PhD is advantageous)
- Demonstrate good research (preferably quantitative) and analytical skills
- Have excellent verbal and written skills in English; French language skills will be an advantage
- Demonstrate excellent interpersonal and networking skills, including the ability to work in a multi-cultural environment with a variety of stakeholders
- Be self-motivated, able to work independently, under pressure and to a deadline
- Show a willingness to learn
- Policy research experience in government, think tanks or other relevant professional environments will be an advantage

Contract details

The position is offered on a 24-month fixed-term contract, subject to a standard three-month probation period. Continued employment beyond probation will be based on satisfactory performance. A competitive salary package is offered.

How to apply

Email your application to pretoriajobs@issafrica.org. Applicants must provide a cover letter, detailed CV (including a list of/links to all publications) and three contactable referees. Only applicants who are South African citizens or foreign nationals with valid South African work permits residing in South Africa will be considered.

If you do not hear from us within two weeks of submitting your application, please consider your application unsuccessful.