

PhD position at KU Leuven (Belgium)

A PhD position (4-year period) on urban climate modeling in Africa, is available at the department of Earth and Environmental Sciences (KU Leuven, Belgium). KU Leuven has strong expertise in both African high-resolution climate modeling as well as on urban climate modeling and this project brings these topics together. Although Western cities have been the subject of research on the urban heat island, the situation for African cities is still largely unknown. This is unfortunate as these African cities are expanding very rapidly, driven both by population growth and migration from rural to urbanized areas. This project aims at improved understanding of spatial variability of present-day meteorological conditions in and around the cities by combining urban climate modeling with remote sensing. The project frames within a larger program where the knowledge gained will be applied to improve understanding of malaria in African cities.

Leuven is a medieval university town a charming place with many historical buildings. The University of Leuven is among the oldest universities in Western Europe, and today it is the largest university in Belgium. Situated at the heart of Europe, KU Leuven offers a vibrant and international setting, supported by fast connections to several European cities (twenty minutes by train to Brussels, two hours to Cologne, three hours to Amsterdam, and an hour and a half to Paris). The KU Leuven Arenberg Doctoral School (<https://set.kuleuven.be/phd>) supports training of the PhD students. Currently 60% of the doctoral students are international students. KU Leuven pursues an equal opportunities and diversity policy.

Requirements:

A Master degree (or about to finish) in a relevant discipline (geography, atmospheric sciences, meteorology, environmental sciences, physics, mathematics, etc.), excellent motivation and grades, good programming skills, interest in scientific computing and good written and oral communication skills in English.

You can apply at: <http://www.kuleuven.be/eapplyingforjobs/light/53805700>

Applicants apply via the online application including a motivation letter, their Curriculum Vitae, transcripts, and the names and e-mail of at least two references before 14 August 2016. Starting date is preferably 1 October 2016, but can be negotiated. Questions related to the job offer can be directed to Prof. Nicole van Lipzig (Nicole.vanlipzig@kuleuven.be) or Dr. Matthias Demuzere (Matthias.Demuzere@kuleuven.be).