Postdoctoral position in Natural Hazards

Uppsala University, Department of Earth Sciences

Postdoctoral position in Natural Hazards with a focus on Landslide Prediction

Are you interested in working with predicting landslides, with the support of competent and friendly colleagues in an international environment? Are you looking for an employer that invests in sustainable employeeship and offers safe, favourable working conditions? We welcome you to apply for a postdoctoral position at Uppsala University.

The Department of Earth Sciences is one of Europe's most comprehensive earth science departments, with approximately 300 employees. Our activities are interdisciplinary and combine natural science and technology with social science. We have research programs in air, water and landscape science; geophysics; natural resources and sustainable development; petrology, mineralogy and tectonics; paleobiology, and wind energy. By investigating the history of Earth, we understand how our planet has developed over time and how sustainable development benefits from this knowledge. For more information: Department of Earth Sciences

The successful candidate will join the research program Air, Water and Landscape Sciences (LUVAL). Read more at: LUVAL

Duties

We are offering an exciting postdoctoral position focused on the analysis, diagnosis, and prediction of landslides using cutting-edge theoretical and statistical frameworks. The successful candidate will work at the frontier of geohazard research, leveraging advanced methods such as the dragon-king theory, the endo-exo framework, log-periodic power law singularity (LPPLS) theory, tipping point dynamics, and other methods developed by Qinghua Lei and Didier Sornette and others. A unique aspect of this position is the opportunity to collaborate with the Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate (NVE), a key partner in the project, and to work with their extensive and high-quality database of ongoing monitored landslides across Norway. This rare access provides an exceptional empirical foundation to test and refine theoretical models. The position offers the freedom to explore new directions, develop original approaches, and contribute to shaping the future of natural hazard forecasting in close collaboration with Qinghua Lei and Didier Sornette and researchers at the NVE. The project is for two years. The duties for this position mainly consist of:

- performing cutting-edge research in the above mentioned area,
- delivering interim results and preparing progress reports,
- presenting results in leading international conferences and journals, and
- interacting with researchers at NVE.

Requirements

PhD degree in geoscience, physics, mathematics, or engineering or a foreign degree equivalent to a PhD degree in the above mentioned fields. The degree needs to be obtained by the time of the decision of employment. Priority will be given to applicants who have completed their degree no more than three years before the deadline for applications. Due to special circumstances, the degree may have been obtained earlier. The three-year period can be extended due to circumstances such as sick leave, parental leave, duties in labour unions, etc.

The successful candidate should have a solid base in mathematics and physics as well as experience in scientific programming and data analysis. We seek a highly motivated researcher with a strong background in quantitative modeling and a keen interest in interdisciplinary approaches to natural hazard prediction.

Additional qualifications

We also strongly encourage the postdoctoral candidate to bring their own ideas, methods, and perspectives to the project—creativity, enthusiasm, and research acumen will be highly valued.

The application

The application should include a cover letter of max 2 pages, shortly describing your personal motivation for applying for this postdoctoral position and how you see your role in contributing to the project, as well as your relevant skills, qualifications and research interests. The application should also include a CV (with a full publication list), PhD degree certificate, PhD thesis, and other relevant documents, as well as the contact details of 2-3 referees.

About the employment

The employment is a temporary position of 2 years according to central collective agreement. Full time position. Starting date 2026-04-01 or as agreed. Placement: Uppsala

For further information about the position, please contact: Qinghua Lei (qinghua.lei@geo.uu.se)

Please submit your application by 13 January, UFV-PA 2025/3982.

Are you considering moving to Sweden to work at Uppsala University? Find out more about what it´s like to work and live in Sweden.

Uppsala University is a broad research university with a strong international position. The ultimate goal is to conduct education and research of the highest quality and relevance to make a difference in society. Our most important asset is all of our 7,600 employees and 53,000 students who, with curiosity and commitment, make Uppsala University one of Sweden’s most exciting workplaces.

Read more about our benefits and what it is like to work at Uppsala University
https://uu.se/om-uu/jobba-hos-oss/

The position may be subject to security vetting. If security vetting is conducted, the applicant must pass the vetting process to be eligible for employment.

Please do not send offers of recruitment or advertising services.

Submit your application through Uppsala University's recruitment system.

Type of employment	Temporary position
Contract type	Full time
First day of employment	2026-04-01 or as agreed
Salary	Individual salary
Number of positions	1
Full-time equivalent	100%
City	Uppsala
County	Uppsala län
Country	Sweden
Reference number	UFV-PA 2025/3982
Union representative	Seko Universitetsklubben, seko@uadm.uu.se ST/TCO, tco@fackorg.uu.se Saco-rådet, saco@uadm.uu.se
Published	2025-12-19
Last application date	2026-01-13
Link to ad	http://uu.varbi.com/what:job/jobID:887229/