

Bishkek, February 7<sup>th</sup> 2010

## **The National Centre of Competence in Research North-South (NCCR N-S) is advertising**

### **One full PhD scholarship (3 years)**

The successful applicant will be part of an international research team working on the project "Migration and Development: Role of Knowledge and Skills in the Migration Process" which is funded through the Swiss National Centre of Competence in North-South (NCCR N-S), with financial support from the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC).

The project takes a critical perspective on the recently surfaced new "optimistic" discourse on migration, highlighting migrants' potential as agents of global development. While usefully underscoring migrants' ability to create and spread knowledge and resources, this perspective risks portraying migrants as one homogenous group and ignoring individual or large-scale factors, like personal motivation or societal context, which can limit their contributions to overall development. Drawing on case studies that reflect the heterogeneity of migration in Kyrgyzstan this research project aims to achieve a more differentiated understanding of the dynamics of knowledge and skill flow in the migration process and its possible linkages with development.

Applicants should have a Master degree in any relevant social sciences discipline. The successful candidate is expected to complete her/his PhD at an academic institution based in Kyrgyzstan. Candidates should send:

- A letter of application and a full curriculum vitae including two names of possible referees
- Copy of diploma and transcripts
- A draft PhD research outline in English (about 4 pages) within the broader theme of the project on "*Migration, Knowledge and Development*", incl. core research question and its justification; links to ongoing theoretical debates; possible empirical field research; relevant literature
- A letter of confirmation from the affiliated research institution where the candidate pursues his/her PhD

The full scholarship includes fellowship, research costs, opportunities for international contacts and regional and international PhD training courses organised by the NCCR N-S.

**The best candidates will be invited for an interview to defend their proposals.**

**Closing date for applications: March 27<sup>th</sup> 2010**

**Interviews for selected candidates: Beginning of May 2010 in Bishkek**

**Beginning of scholarship: Earliest July 2010**

#### **Joint Areas of Case Studies:**

**East Africa  
Horn of Africa  
West Africa  
South-East Asia  
South Asia  
Central Asia  
Central America  
and Caribbean  
South America  
Switzerland**

The project is jointly initiated by the University of Zurich, the NCCR N-S and the NCCR N-S Regional Coordination office Central Asia. (<http://www.north-south.unibe.ch/>)

For a background paper and any further information on the research project please contact: [susan.thieme@geo.uzh.ch](mailto:susan.thieme@geo.uzh.ch). For administrative procedures you might also want to contact Mrs. Mira Arynova at our NCCR N-S office in Bishkek: [mira.arynova@ucentralasia.org](mailto:mira.arynova@ucentralasia.org)

Please send your applications until March 27<sup>th</sup> 2010 to [mira.arynova@ucentralasia.org](mailto:mira.arynova@ucentralasia.org)  
(Only complete applications will be accepted)