Post-doctoral fellow in public health/spatial epidemiology (M/F)

Universal health coverage and access to healthcare of migrant populations in Thailand

French version: https://emploi-recrutement.ird.fr/offre-de-emploi/emploi-chercheur-en-sante-publique-epidemiologie-spatiale-h-f_605.aspx

◆ Employer

The IRD is a French public multidisciplinary research organization with nearly 80 years of experience in equitable partnerships with countries of the Global South and the French overseas territories. A key player in the international development agenda, it aligns its work with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), mobilizing science and innovation to address major global challenges. The Institute operates under the joint supervision of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.

◆ The unit you will be joining

The SESSTIM Joint Research Unit (UMR SESSTIM) of the IRD is a multidisciplinary public health research unit affiliated with Inserm (U1252) and Aix-Marseille University. Its researchers combine quantitative methods, community-based and participatory research, and social sciences, with research focusing on France and/or countries of the Global South. The unit brings together 37 permanent researchers across three teams and collaborates with numerous partner institutions in France and internationally.

◆ An attractive assignment

The SOMTAM project aims to strengthen access to healthcare for migrants in Thailand and in cross-border areas with Cambodia, Myanmar, and Laos, drawing on the M-FUND database. This health micro-insurance fund offers a unique opportunity to study health vulnerabilities and healthcare pathways within a mobile and marginalized population. The project follows an operational research approach, with a clear objective of producing recommendations that are useful for local stakeholders.

Under the supervision of the project's principal investigators and in close collaboration with the M-FUND team, your work will focus on analyzing the M-FUND operational database (>100,000 beneficiaries, including 30,000 active members; over 100,000 outpatient consultations and 20,000 hospitalizations).

Your responsibilities will include:

- Analysis of M-FUND beneficiaries' care pathways (Poipet–Sakaeo, Myawaddy–Mae Sot areas, etc.) using existing databases: individual trajectories (retention) and spatial analysis of access to care
- Retrospective epidemiological analysis of M-FUND health data on communicable diseases (HIV, TB, hepatitis) and non-communicable diseases (diabetes, hypertension, etc.), including extraction and recoding of free-text diagnostic data
- Contribution to a prospective cross-sectional study on health assessment at enrollment (participate to study design/protocol, qualitative and/or quantitative components)
- Support for capacity building of Thai teams, including skills transfer in epidemiology and data visualization
- Scientific dissemination: drafting two scientific articles, conference presentations, and participation in the development of a large-scale post-SOMTAM research project

◆ Your future team

The SOMTAM project is led by the Geo-epidemiology and Global Health group at SESSTIM, which includes one PU-PH biostatistician, one IRD research scientist (project co-PI), one postdoctoral researcher, two research engineers, and five PhD students. The SOMTAM project also involves an MPH intern (infectious disease specialist, April–October 2026). The other project co-PI is an infectious disease specialist and

epidemiologist affiliated with La Réunion Hospital and the PIMIT Research Unit, who will be involved closely.

Your profile and skills

Education: PhD in public health, epidemiology, health geography, or a related field.
You have developed the following skills:
- Expertise in epidemiological analyses, particularly longitudinal and spatial analyses (R software)
- Proficiency in large-scale data management tools and geographic information systems (R, QGIS, or equivalent)
- Excellent command of scientific English is essential (spoken and written; minimum CLES C1 certification); ability to communicate in French (CLES B1–B2) is important for interaction with laboratory members
- Ability to design and conduct an analysis plan in collaboration with multiple partners
- Strong interest in projects with high social impact in Southeast Asia

Additional skills:
- Experience in healthcare pathways in migration or cross-border contexts
- Experience with advanced statistical analysis methods and/or machine-learning
- Experience with mixed methods (quantitative and qualitative)
- Previous experience in Asia or with community health NGOs

Personal qualities:
- Autonomy and initiative
- Ability to work in international and multicultural environments

Joining IRD

Throughout your career, **IRD** supports the development of your skills. The Institute provides a range of tools, including a digital onboarding pathway, access to continuing professional training, career advancement opportunities, and mobility.

Depending on the position, IRD offers the possibility of **working remotely 1 to 3 days per week**.

By joining IRD, you will benefit from:
- **32 days of annual leave + 13 RTT days** (for a full-time position based on a 38.5-hour workweek)
- **Optional annual membership** in the Social Welfare Association, offering leisure, holiday, sports, and cultural benefits
- **Employer contribution of €15 per month** toward social protection

Gross salary* : 2793 euros/month.

* this corresponds approx. to a net salary of 2180 eur. The corresponding full employer cost is 3700 eur/month. This includes most social security fees (health, pension, and unemployment insurance) are already paid for).

How to apply : send to Emilie Mosnier (emilie.mosnier@gmail.com) and Jordi Landier (jordi.landier@ird.fr)

- **Resume**
- **Cover letter**
- **Liste of publications**
- **References**

Application deadline	Interviews	Selection	Job starting
31/01/2026	February 2026	1 March 2026	April-May 2026