



PERSONA CIÈNCIA EMPRESA

UNIVERSITAT RAMON LLULL

Enric Julià Danés Doctoral Grant 2022

We are offering a fully funded **PhD scholarship** to work on **SDGs** and the **Leaving No One Behind (LNOB)** framework

The “Enric Julià Danés Doctoral Grant” sponsors a **three-year scholarship** to pursue a **PhD** at the **IQS School of Management** (Universitat Ramon Llull) in Barcelona, Spain under the “**Business and Territorial Competitiveness, Innovation and Sustainability**” doctoral programme. It includes an employment contract (annual stipend of 15.550 € approx. – full time), starting in September 2022 to work on the project focused on the operationalisation of the ‘leaving no one behind’ framework for the sustainable development goals (SDGs). It covers all tuition fees for the Doctoral Programme, during the three years, as well as some costs and stipends for relocation. It provides a unique opportunity to work with the IQS Sustainability, Economics and Ethics (SEE) research group. The thesis will be supervised by Dr Flavio Comim and also receive institutional support from the Independent Evaluation Office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the form of exchange of data and sharing of access to its Artificial Intelligence for Development Analytics tool AIDA containing thousands of UN evaluation reports.

What is the General project?

Leaving no one behind (LNOB) is the most comprehensive and transformative commitment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is based on the ethical principles of equality, non-discrimination and equity (UNDP, 2021). It originated from a widespread acknowledgement that the poorest and the most marginalized are being excluded from development. It builds on the lessons of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that relied on the use of statistical averages and national aggregates, hiding entrenched structural inequalities and the persistence of multiple forms of discrimination against the most vulnerable.

The LNOB research agenda is first and foremost a program for the **operationalization of all SDGs** taking into account the best interests of those marginalised and furthest left behind in the development process. It is about the use of disaggregated data by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location and any other characteristics relevant to exclude people from more equitable forms of development. It is also about the introduction of innovative measures and techniques that will allow us to identify how different societies are considering (or not) the interests of their most vulnerable citizens. It should also tackle ‘real-time monitoring’ (higher frequency data) that can address the needs of the most vulnerable when they are hit by diverse hazards.

The key issue to be faced by SDGs today is fast-track progress for those left furthest behind. This perspective mobilises right now the best efforts of the whole United Nations system as well as the core of international organisations such as the World Bank. Translating the principles of



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leaving no one behind (LNOB) into concrete action demands facing several operational and practical challenges. A good account of LNOB should start with grounding it on political philosophy principles, moving forward with the use of indicators, innovative tools and techniques for gathering and systematising information about the poor and the non-poor.

Key Responsibilities

The doctoral researcher will be working at the IQS School of Management. He or she is expected to carry out the concrete work for his PhD thesis at the same time that participates in the general project on SDGs and LNOB. He or she should also contribute to the teaching of classes ranging from one to three hours per week, whenever considered appropriate. He or she will also have the opportunity to discuss its preliminary research results and use of the AIDA tool and data with the Independent Evaluation Office of UNDP.

Eligibility and selection Process

We invite applications from students with a strong academic record from a wide range of fields related to SDGs (economics, sociology, anthropology, environmental studies, development studies, land economy, demography, psychology, political science, education, health, gender studies, etc). Prospective candidates are asked to submit a *proposal and work plan* with concrete and innovative suggestions about how to operationalise LNOB principles into SDG strategies according to their own fields of expertise. Those interested in applying should submit the following documentations before the deadline of **4 July 2022**:

1. Proposal and work plan (max. 2000 words)
2. Transcripts for all university degrees and courses (copies are accepted at the application stage)
3. Curriculum Vitae
4. Letter of motivation
5. Two letters of recommendation (at least one from an academic source)
6. English proficiency (demonstrated by TOEFL, IELTS scores or equivalent competencies)

Applications must be submitted digitally to the IQS General Secretariat secretaria@iqs.url.edu before the deadline. Please quote reference BEJ2022 on your application and in any correspondence. Recommendation letters should be sent directly to secretaria@iqs.url.edu with the name of the candidate before the deadline and the reference BEJ2022. If you have any questions about this grant you can contact Dr Flavio Comim on flavio.comim@iqs.url.edu.

Short-listed candidates will be interviewed online. The decision will be notified within a month from the closure of the application period around the last week of July 2022. The chosen candidate should confirm acceptance of the grant offer within a maximum period of one month. The candidate must formalise his/her enrolment in the IQS doctoral programme within an estimated time of three months from the date that the notification of the decision is received. We expect the successful candidate to start by September 2022 or as soon as possible thereafter. The candidate will be employed in compliance with Spanish legislation and



PERSONA CIÈNCIA EMPRESA
UNIVERSITAT RAMON LLULL

Enric Julià Danés Doctoral Grant 2022

regulations, receiving the benefits of the Spanish Social Security System, covering sickness, maternity/paternity leaves and injuries at work.

Universitat Ramon Llull, and also IQS, supports diversity, inclusion and equity in its selection processes and encourages applications from people from all nationalities and from all sections of society.

Dr. José Javier Molins Vara
IQS General Secretary