The Population Health Laboratory (#PopHealthLab) of the University of Fribourg leads research activities to inform public health surveillance and to empower citizens, health stakeholders, and policy makers to make data-informed and evidence-based decisions. Aligned with the Swiss School of Public Health (SSPH+), we are dedicated to advancing research in the life course epidemiology of population health and the study of health services activities within an evidence-based public health framework.

The #PopHealthLab is looking for a

postdoctoral researcher (80% to 100%)

to join our team and work on the “PREVENT TOO” project, funded by the SNF and carried out by a Swiss-Belgian team.

The project aims to better understand how health and social policies can reduce social and life course inequalities in prevention in middle and early old age. Two specific aims will examine (1) the impact of characteristics and change in health and social policies on social inequalities in preventive practices, and if this impact is modified by the history of preventive practices promotion and characteristics of the primary healthcare system of the country; (2) the influences of socio-economic conditions and family life trajectories on preventive practices trajectories, and if these life course influences are modified by the country's policies.

In Switzerland, the postdoctoral researcher will work under the supervision of Dr. Stéphane Cullati, PhD, senior lecturer at the University of Fribourg, and Prof Claudine Burton-Jeangros, University of Geneva. In Belgium, another postdoctoral researcher will work under the supervision of Prof Piet Bracke and Prof Sora Tomara, University of Ghent.

Duties and responsibilities:

- Advance the “PREVENT TOO” project under the supervision of the principal investigators.
- Manage data from multiple and large individual-level datasets (nationally representative repeated cross-sectional health surveys) and country-level datasets (policies, primary health care).
- Prepare first-authored manuscripts for peer-reviewed journals and contribute as co-author to additional manuscripts.
- Coordinate research meetings for the project, fostering collaboration with the Ghent postdoctoral researcher.
- Conduct regular research visits in Ghent to collaborative work with the Belgian team.
- Supervise master’s students in health sciences.
- Contribute to science activities of the #PopHealthLab.

Qualification and skills:

- PhD degree in epidemiology, social sciences, or health services research, or equivalent
- Interest in health inequalities, policy, prevention, and life course research
- Strong expertise in data analyses and in management of large datasets
- Experience of quantitative methods
- Fluency in English

Start and duration of employment:
The position is available from 1st April 2024, with a negotiable start date, for 2 years, renewable for 1 or 2 years.

Additional information:
The salary is in line with the University of Fribourg standards for post-doctoral researchers. For further information on the position, please contact Dr. Stéphane Cullati (stephane.cullati@unifr.ch)

How to apply?
Submit a letter of motivation and curriculum vitae (both in one pdf document) to Stéphane Cullati (stephane.cullati@unifr.ch). Deadline for applications: 15 January 2023.