



PUBLIC CALL

Postdoctoral researcher in analysis of social metabolism (energy and nutrient balances) of farm systems and its impact on the ecological functioning of cultural landscapes in historical perspective

Research Centre:

Consortium Institut d'Estudis Regionals i Metropolitans de Barcelona (IERMB)

Campus Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Bellaterra, Cerdanyola del Vallès, Barcelona Province, Catalonia, Spain)

Sector/activity

The IERMB is a research consortium that studies economic, social, environmental and territorial issues within urban, metropolitan and regional areas as a partnership between Catalan universities, the autonomous government and institutions for economic development (more information <http://www.iermb.uab.es/index.asp?ididioma=3>).

Contact person:

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Position: Manager

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AIM OF THE CALL

The IERMB is interested in incorporating a postdoctoral researcher to develop studies in the area of environmental sustainability and the energy-landscape interactions within the framework of the international research project on Environmental History called 'Sustainable Farm Systems: Long-Term Socio-Ecological Metabolism in Western Agriculture' (SFS, funded from Canada by the SSHRC-895-2011-1020).

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POSTDOC CONTRACT

Part time contract for a temporary service (expected duration: 2 years) of 30 hours per week, from Monday to Friday (from 8 to 14 hours).

The gross annual earnings are 23,170.81 euros (14 payments).

PROFILE OF THE POST

Task

The necessary activities to carry out applied and theoretical research in social metabolism and landscape ecology, according to the lines of work established by the Director of the Department of Sustainability at the IERMB under the Collaboration Agreement established with the University of Barcelona on behalf of the international project SFS.

Responsibilities

- To give support the internal advance and external projection of research in the area of environmental sustainability at the IERMB, related to energy-landscape interaction within the framework of the international project 'Sustainable Farm Systems' (SFS).
- To carry out the research, analysis, and publishing of the lines of work related to the research project mentioned.
- To represent the IERMB before any audience related to this research field in accordance with the criteria of the Director of the Department of Sustainability.

Functions

- Deepening the integrated analysis on how the energy flows driven by farm systems and changes in land use affect ecological processes taking place in the landscape (Energy-Landscape Integrated Analysis).
- Perform calculations in social metabolism and landscape metrics in various agro-ecosystems of Catalonia, other parts of Spain or abroad.
- Build databases and perform statistical analysis.
- Participate in the writing and publication of research articles and conference presentations.
- Ensure compliance with the norms established and temporary, technical and economic criteria established by the IERMB and the promoters of the research project SFS.
- Prepare reports and statistics and participate in preparing the reports of the Institute IERMB.
- Respond to requests for information of the studies on environmental sustainability by entities, governments, researchers and other interested persons.

REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION CRITERIA OF CANDIDATES

- PhD on Environmental Sciences, Ecological Economics, Geography, Agronomy, Ecology or the like.
- Knowledge in some, several or all of the following areas: accounting of energy and material flows of social metabolism, agroecology, landscape ecology, land use change and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).
- Knowledge in working with databases and statistical analysis.
- Ability to work in interdisciplinary teams.
- Capacity to write and talk in English.

Also will be assessed:

- Experience in some, several or all of the following areas: accounting of energy and material flows of social metabolism, agroecology, landscape ecology, land use change and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).
- Experience in working with databases and statistical analysis.
- Authoring publications in international journals and conference attendance.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Interested applicants should email an standard form (attached) with personal information and motivation letter, and a CV (in free format), at the following address: iermb@uab.cat. The deadline for applications is **May 15, 2015 at 14 hours**.

Bellaterra (Cerdanyola del Vallès), 23 April 2015