



POSTDOCTORAL POSITION ADVERTISEMENT

ECOLOGIES OF CHANGE IN COASTAL SOCIAL-ECOSYSTEMS TAMIL NADU, INDIA

A postdoctoral position is available from the 1st April 2019 in the department of Ecology, French Institute of Pondicherry, Pondicherry, India. This PostDoc position will address the resilience of coastal social-ecological systems to a range of socio-economic and biophysical drivers that occur along the Tamil Nadu coast, as introduced in Muthusankar et al. (2018)¹. The work is part of the international research project “Coastal transformations and fishing community wellbeing - synthesized perspectives from India and Europe, FISHERCOAST” funded by the EU-India Platform for Social Sciences and Humanities (EqUIP) program. This is a ground-breaking interdisciplinary project involving research in social sciences, ecology and remote sensing.

Tasks

- Characterize land use and land cover change of coastal social-ecological systems (jointly with the GeoSMIT department of IFP and a 2nd post-doc student), and their impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem service in relation with regional planning policies
- Select appropriate modelling tools for biodiversity and ecosystem service evaluation at various scales and levels
- Conduct stakeholder participatory modelling workshops in two case study regions (Pichavaram mangroves and Kalivelli wetlands)
- Conduct scenario simulations of alternative land planning policies under climate change and evaluate their impacts on biodiversity, ecosystem service and social-ecological dynamics
- Publication of results in international journals and oral communication at international conferences
- Organization of local public conferences and workshops to discuss the main outcomes of the study with local stakeholders and government bodies

Requirements

- Indian nationality
- **PhD degree** and publication record in Environmental Science, Geography, Ecology
- Expertise in Landscape Ecology, Conservation Ecology and Biology, Environmental Planning, Political Ecology
- Expertise in modelling tools for biodiversity and ecosystem service evaluation at plot and landscape levels - Basic proficiency in GIS software (ArcGIS, QGIS, etc.)
- Interest and experience in stakeholder involvement, interdisciplinary and international cooperation
- Excellent communication skills in English (verbal and written), capacity for teamwork

Job description

- Location: Department of Ecology, French Institute of Pondicherry, Pondicherry
- Full time position, 24 months, 1-year + 1-year fellowship contract
- 60 000 INR/Month

Address and Timeline for applications

Candidates should apply **before 18 February 2019** by email at raphael.mathevet@ifpindia.org and balachandran.n@ifpindia.org by sending a single PDF file consisting of: (1) a CV including a list of peer-reviewed publications and conference communications; (2) a motivation letter of 2 pages maximum summing up the research work carried out by the candidate during and after his PhD, and his/her motivations; (3) contact information of 3 persons of reference. **Interview: 13-14 March 2019** - A slide presentation will be requested. Skype interview may be possible for candidates based outside India. **Start of the contract: April-June 2019.**

¹ [Muthusankar, G., Proisy, C., et al. \(2018\). When socio-economic plans exacerbate vulnerability to physical coastal processes on the southeast coast of India. *Journal of Coastal Research*, 85, 1446 – 1450](#)