Postdoctoral Research Fellow: Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change

Local Indicators of Climate Change Impacts.
The Contribution of Local Knowledge to Climate Change Research (LICCI)

Duration of contract: September 2018- August 2022

Project description: We invite applications for a Postdoctoral Research fellowship on Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change. Applicants must have a PhD in anthropology, development studies, or other relevant social science, and a keen interest in understanding climate variability and change and its impacts. The selected fellow will work under Prof. V. Reyes-García supervision for the ERC-LICCI project. This research project aims to bring insights from indigenous and local knowledge to climate research by 1) providing data on local climate change impacts on natural and on human systems and 2) testing hypotheses on the global spatial, socioeconomic and demographic distribution of local climate change impacts indicators. The position will be located at ICTA-UAB.

Functions: The selected fellow will work on creating a database collecting climate change impacts reported by indigenous peoples and local communities. The information will be contrasted with biological information collected in the literature and with global climate models. The fellow will have a major role in the development of the project including developing methods, mentoring PhD students, analyzing data, and disseminating results. The fellow will assist or lead collection of qualitative and quantitative data and be responsible for the creation of a network of participants. The work might include trips to remote areas. The fellow will also be expected to (1) collaborate on the organization of workshops to train PhD students, and (2) participate in a policy conference to disseminate project’s results. The fellow will be encouraged to pursue his/her own ideas, within the topic of the project.

Profile: Applicants must have a PhD in anthropology, development studies, or other relevant social science, and demonstrated familiarity with working with indigenous peoples. Candidates should be fluent in written and spoken English (fluency in other languages is a plus). Candidates should have demonstrated skill in working with indigenous peoples and in the design and analysis of quantitative and qualitative data. The ideal candidate should also have an interest in citizen’s science and previous experience in communicating research results to policy makers. Candidates should 1) have published articles in peer-reviewed international journals or monographs with recognized academic publishers, 2) be able to travel internationally for long periods of time (i.e., months), 3) have a demonstrated ability to work across disciplines, both individually and as part of a team.

Contract terms: The fellow will be hired full time during four consecutive years. The annual gross salary is of 35,964,00€, and includes social security (i.e., health and pension benefits). Off-campus medical insurance and field expenses will be covered by the project.

To apply: Applicants should send a cover letter and at least one example of their previous work (e.g. published papers, thesis) and an updated CV to licci.erc@uab.cat by May 13th, 2018. The cover letter should include a personal statement explaining the applicant interest in the project and the name, position and e-mail contact of three potential referees. Candidates that do not fill the requirements will not be considered. Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed beginning June, and a final decision will be communicated by mid of June 2018. The selected fellow is expected to join between 15th September -15th October 2018.

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