

# Post-doc position

## Operational models for mainstreaming ecosystem services implementation: towards a social-ecological integration

A postdoc-position on operational methods on ecosystem services with focus on social-ecological integration research is open at the Research Unit "Mountain Ecosystems" at IRSTEA (National Research Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture) Grenoble, France)

The project falls within the framework of EU FP7 OpenNESS project (<http://www.openness-project.eu/>), which main aim is "to translate the concepts of Natural Capital (NC) and Ecosystem Services (ES) into operational frameworks that provide tested, practical and tailored solutions for integrating ES into land, water and urban management and decision-making". The successful candidate will have completed a PhD degree in one of the environmental sciences, have experience in the handling of spatial data from databases, literature and models, have knowledge of existing concepts of ecosystem services, and be able to place results in the context of complex environments. Expertise on valuation methods is needed as well as knowledge on biophysical components and related models. The candidate will need to have a mixed background in between ecology and socio-economics. In particular, be able to work on cross cutting socioeconomic and biodiversity issues. It is expected that the candidate will extend knowledge about and contribute to the science-policy-public interface in the field of conservation with focus on sustainability science and ecosystem services. Knowledge on key regulatory frameworks that deal with ecosystem services implementation will be an advantage (e.g. GI, FP, RE, HD, BS, WFD, Natura 2000). The working language is English; appropriate skills in French will be an advantage.

In these conditions, the candidate must have demonstrated a keen interest in working within a diverse scientific community because of the many interactions that he/she will drive with different project teams within the framework of the OpenNess Project. The research group works in close interaction with international programs and an extended European and international consortium; therefore travel and exchange within Europe will be frequent. Former experience working with other groups and laboratories and a publication record will be appreciated.

IRSTEA is a public research institute that aims to produce results that directly feed into land and water management. The Research Unit "Mountain Ecosystems" focuses on the analysis of the dynamics and the management of mountain ecosystems. It aims at providing management tools incorporating both biodiversity conservation, as well as landscape ecology, economic and social functionality. Its research contributes to improve the knowledge of ecosystem functioning (plant communities, ecosystems, processes modelling, validation of ecological concepts and theories in mountain systems, spatial modelling, scenarios) and to develop operational methods and tools serving ecological management and engineering of mountain ecosystems.

Qualifications: Applicants must possess a PhD in environmental sciences, geography, applied ecology (or an equivalent qualification). Successful candidates should have a strong background working on cross cutting socioeconomic and biodiversity issues; be able to combine an understanding of biophysical processes and socio-cultural context to examine the options and constraints for policy development and spatial and environmental planning. Experience on quantitative evaluation Social-ecological system, Trade-offs; Value pluralism. Expertise on different methods/models: Biophysical analysis, GIS (Arc GIS); hands on R. Experience on Ecosystem Service Mapping Tools like ESTIMAP, InVest, CostingNature, BBN GIS or similar. Applicants should enjoy working in an interdisciplinary team and have excellent personal

communication skills and organising abilities. They should work independently and have a high motivation.

Position: The position is open until filled. It will be paid according to the IRSTEA clauses (e.g. monthly gross salary about € 2,500). The contract would ideally start **01 May 2014** and will initially be restricted to **18 months**. The duty station will be Grenoble, France with frequent travelling to Europe in particular to the UK.

Applicants should send a cover letter summarizing their research background, suitability and interest in the position, a CV including a publication list, and contact information for two referees (everything as one PDF document) ASAP by e-mail using the keyword "Post-doc position" to Dr. Sandra Luque (Sandra.luque@irstea.fr), Research Unit Mountain Ecosystems, IRSTEA de Grenoble, 2, rue de la Papeterie - BP 76, F-38402 Saint-Martin-d'Hères cedex (France), Tel : +44 (0) 1334464019