



1 Postdoc Position in Blue Carbon

What, where, and when

We are seeking 1 motivated Early Career⁽¹⁾ Postdoc candidate to work within our interdisciplinary team starting 1st July 2016. The position is limited to a duration of 3 years (until 31 August 2019), with the possibility of a 4-months extension. As an orientation, the salary is based on the Spanish official level “Titulado Superior” (100%) = *Postgraduate – full time*, representing a net stipend of ca. 1700€ per month (14 payments per year).

The main body of the works to be conducted by the Postdoc are part of the project “Andalusian blue carbon for climate change mitigation: quantification and valorisation mechanisms”, financed by the European Union LIFE Program; Sub-program: Climate Action; Priority Action: Climate Change Mitigation. The overall objective of the project is to quantify the stocks and fluxes of organic and inorganic carbon in Mediterranean seagrasses and salt marshes, along the Andalusian coasts. The project also aims at studying the changes in those stocks and fluxes following habitat degradation and at exploring the paths towards the monetization of this natural coastal resource.

The Postdoc will join the Group of Aquatic Macrophyte Ecology (GAME), of the Spanish Council for Scientific Research (CSIC), at the Centre for Advanced Studies of Blanes (CEAB; Access Cala St. Francesc 14, 17300 Blanes, Spain). S/he will (i) coordinate and participate in the field missions to Andalusian seagrass meadows and salt marshes, (ii) coordinate and conduct laboratory work to, among other things, determine the elemental and isotopic composition of seagrass and sediment samples using up-to-date techniques, and (iii) propose, coordinate and conduct initiatives to fulfil the dissemination plan of the project. A close link to the work of other team members will be common place. It is therefore expected that the candidate establishes a fluent interaction and collaboration with these members both in the field and in the lab.

Your profile / requirements

Academic background – Applicants must have defended their PhD within the last 5 years, with demonstrable above-average marks, in natural sciences (Biology, Chemistry, Marine or Environmental Sciences, Environmental Engineering, or similar). They need to have expertise, knowledge or interest in vegetation ecology, biogeochemistry, and palaeo-ecology. Having authored publications in scientific peer-review journals and/or oral presentations in international conferences will have an important weight as an evaluation criteria.

Field skills – The applicants must have a provable high experience as SCUBA divers, being *advanced diver* the minimum certification required, and *dive master* or above the desirable one. A minimum of 50 certified dives below 10m depth will be required. Provable skills in boat handling will be beneficial. One major mission on an oceanographic vessel is planned for 2017. Experience in coring and diving operations from large research vessels will be evaluated positively. Underwater photography experience will be evaluated positively as well.

(1) Within 5 years after defending the PhD.



Laboratory skills – Candidates are expected to be able to work in a safe and efficient way in the laboratory. Field works will generate a large amount of samples that need to be organised and processed systematically. The candidates are therefore expected to be able to establish clear protocols and time lines to ensure the results are available in due time.

Personal skills – Candidates should have a communicative and team-oriented personality but also with a high ability to work independently. A successful candidate also has high problem-solving skills. The willingness to do interdisciplinary research and travel for sampling missions, project meetings, and conferences is a prerequisite for applying. It is also a requirement to publish results in peer-reviewed international journals.

Very good to excellent English skills (oral and written) are also a prerequisite. Knowledge of the Spanish language is no requirement, but is beneficial. Those candidates that do not speak Spanish are expected to acquire sound Spanish skills within the first year of appointment. Those applicants without a Spanish Degree certificate, will need to have it recognised (made officially equivalent) by the Spanish authorities in order to be eligible for the position.

An international driving license (issued 2 years ago or before) is required.

Applications

To apply, please send (i) a cover letter describing your research interests and why would you like to join us in this project; (ii) a complete CV and, (iii) two reference letters of senior researchers addressing, at least, the following items:

- a) The length of time and capacity in which you have known the applicant.
- b) The applicant's motivation and intellectual capacity to conduct a Postdoc project.
- c) The ability of the applicant to work in an international team.
- d) The skills of the applicant in the marine environment in general, and in SCUBA diving, in particular.
- e) How is s/he at the personal level.
- f) If the applicant's first language is not English, whether you consider his/her command of written and spoken English adequate for conducting a Postdoc (expert-very good, good-competent, modest-limited, extremely limited).
- g) I final assessment recommending or not the candidate for the position.

Please ask the referees to send the letters to the email address below.

Please send (i) and (ii) by email as a *single pdf file* to the email address below.

(1) Within 5 years after defending the PhD.



MINISTERIO
DE ECONOMÍA
Y COMPETITIVIDAD



CENTRO DE ESTUDIOS AVANZADOS
DE BLANES (CEAB)

Time line

2016

- 15 April:** Deadline for applications.
18 April: Review process starts.
22 April: All applicants are notified of outcome. Selected applicants will be notified for interview.
25-29 April: Interviews (in person or via Skype).
2 May: The successful applicant will be notified.
1 July: The candidate joins the Group of Aquatic Macrophyte Ecology at the Centre for Advanced Studies of Blanes.

Contact

Please send applications and make informal enquiries to Dr. Miguel A. Mateo, Group of Aquatic Macrophyte Ecology, Centre for Advanced Studies of Blanes, Spanish Council for Scientific Research. Acceso Cala St. Francesc 13, 17300 Blanes, Spain.
Tel: +34 972 336101 | Email: mateo@ceab.csic.es

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