

PhD scholarship in Environmental Economics in the Levantine region with emphasis on marine governance and the valuation of marine goods and services

University of Aegean

Applications are invited for a PhD fellowship at the Department of Marine Sciences, University of Aegean, Greece, with duration of three (3) years starting from October 2007.

Job description:

The successful candidate will join forces with the socio-economic research community of the EU Integrated Project SESAME (*Southern European Seas: Assessing and Modelling Ecosystem Changes*). The project aims at assessing and predicting changes in the Mediterranean and Black Sea ecosystems as well as changes in the ability of these ecosystems to provide goods and services. SESAME will also study the effect of the ecosystem variability on key goods and services with high societal importance like tourism, fisheries, ecosystem stability through conservation of biodiversity and mitigation of climate change through carbon sequestration in water and sediments. The innovative character of SESAME is reflected in the close merging of economic and natural sciences to study the changes in the western and eastern Mediterranean and the Black Sea within the period from 50 years in the past to 50 years in the future.

In the framework of this three-year project, the PhD fellow will work in the Levantine region and support the researchers in: A) the quantitative and qualitative analysis of stakeholder perceptions/values; B) The design and administration of pre-tests and main survey for a joint CVM-CE application on valuation of biodiversity; and C) The econometric analysis of the produced data.

Qualifications:

Applicants should have a Master's degree or equivalent in economics, environmental science, mathematics or similar areas, and a good background on statistical methods and econometrics. Command of GIS related software is welcome. A very good knowledge of written and spoken English is required. Fieldwork is an essential part of the project and the PhD fellow is therefore expected to be able to travel to the Levantine region. Knowledge of Arabic is regarded as a desirable merit.

Additional information:

The successful candidate for the Levantine region will be based at the University of Aegean, Lesvos, Greece and will work under the supervision of Prof. M. Skourtos and Prof. A. Kontogianni. A Greek PhD study has a minimum of 3 years and a maximum of 5 years.

Application and financial compensation:

The scholarship amounts to €25,000 for the duration of three years. Applications should be addressed to **Prof. M. Skourtos** ([mskour@env.aegean.gr](mailto:miskour@env.aegean.gr)).

Deadline for applications is the **31th of August 2007**.

For more information the interested candidates are invited to visit the SESAME website (<http://www.sesame-ip.eu>) or contact Prof. M. Skourtos.