



2 POST - DOCTORAL POSITION IN ECOAQUA PROJECT: AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT UNDER AN ECOSYSTEM APPROACH (Nº 621341) FUNDED BY THE 7 FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME FOR THE PERIOD 2014-2019

ECOQUA 2 POSTDOC PROFILES

The University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (ULPGC, www.ulpgc.es) is offering 2 post-doctoral scientists positions to develop and participate in the scientific activities of the new EU Project EcoAqua, either in the Aquaculture Research Group (GIA) or in the Biodiversity and Conservation Group (BIOCON). These contracts are in the frame of a recent funded ERA-Chair Project co-financed by the DG RTD of the European Commission to develop next generation of sustainable aquaculture under an ecosystem approach for European waters.

The ULPGC seeks to better exploit the wealth of intellectual capital created within Canary Islands Universities Center for International Excellence (CIE): Tricontinental Atlantic Campus (<http://www.ceicanarias.com/>), in the area of marine sciences. Through the EcoAqua Project, the ULPGC seeks to integrate outstanding researchers to consolidate and strengthen the S&T research capabilities of GIA & BIOCON research units, to achieve a deeper integration into the ERA and to align with the established Smart Specialisation Strategy (S3) in order to foster research excellence in sustainable aquaculture and marine conservation.

The selected researchers must be Ph.D. level candidates and have more than 5 years of experience in Marine Aquaculture, Breeding Programs and/or Marine Spatial Planning. The responsibilities of the 2 post-doctoral scientists should contemplate the following research topics that would participate to increase the sustainability of Aquaculture Development and Marine Conservation in European waters, especially for the Outermost Regions.

The Research lines to be developed would include the following responsibilities:

- Genetic improvement of productive, health and animal welfare traits (molecular biology, quantitative genetics and culturing techniques).
- Manage the life cycle of carefully selected new species that have economic importance, producing desktop study for new candidates for aquaculture, based on objective criteria.
- Develop new planning tools and adapt existing tools used for site selection, based on ecosystem assimilative capacity and spatial planning or further aquaculture development.
- Develop new management tools and adapt existing tools and measure used for environmental monitoring, production optimization and minimizing aquaculture influence.
- Develop techniques and procedures for quantification of environmental and ecological services provided by aquaculture farms and encourage voluntary farmer-based contributions to environmental management.



- Develop innovative training techniques and courses, and contribute to Virtual Training Platforms
- Manage and transfer knowledge including the dedicated transfer to identified users and translation of research results for stakeholder uptake through the establishment of a Thematic Aquaculture platform.
- Collect and collate evidence for informed communications on the benefits of the European Aquaculture sector for Society and the Environment.
- The climate change and ocean acidification impacts on the aquaculture production of consolidated and new marine species.

PREREQUISITES:

Candidate needs to prove fluency in English (Spanish is recommended, but not compulsory) and comply to the following conditions:

- PhD in Marine Sciences, Aquaculture, Molecular Biology, Geography, Biology, Environmental Sciences or related disciplines in the marine realm
- Extensive experience in at least one of the following topics is a must: Marine Spatial Planning, Molecular Biology, Genetic Selection, Marine Habitats Mapping, Marine Conservation, e-bioinformatics,...
- A proven track record of research and publications in the area(s) of Marine Aquaculture Selection and/or Marine Spatial Planning.
- Good knowledge of experimental design and statistical data analysis.
- Ability to develop research activities related to the topics studied in national and international scientific projects.
- Ability to multi-task and work independently and as part of international and multidisciplinary consortia
- Experience in completion of written reports and preparation of meeting summaries;
- Scientific journals reviewer.
- Strong organizational and communication skills and effective public speaking and presentation skills.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

The hired staff will participate in different tasks included in the workpackages of the EcoAqua project. They will participate in the workshops, summer schools and the international conferences and will support the ERA-Chair holder in the EcoAqua activities working under his direct supervision and responsibility.

The 2 Post-Doc scientists to be hired will demonstrate experience in Aquaculture Development under an Ecosystem Approach, including at least in one of the following topics:

- Applied Genetics
- GIS and other Web-based geo-referenced tools



- Scientific experience in preparing and submitting European projects
- Competence in software applications (e.g., Office Suite, Scientific databases, Statistical programs, quantitative genetics, molecular biology)

The post-doctoral scientists will preferably have the following capacities:

- Work in a highly competitive research environment
- Be highly self-motivated and enthusiast
- Demonstrate tact, diplomacy and initiative when working with others;
- Good communications abilities in written and spoken English

WORKING CONDITIONS:

The position is suitable for a full-time employment on annual basis until April 2019. Gross salary circa 2.460,26 €/ month.

First day of employment: 2015-03-01 or upon agreement.

The hired scientists will mainly work in the new Marine Technological and Scientific Park of the ULPGC located near Taliarte Harbour (Gran Canaria, Spain).

Further information about the Foundation Canary Scientific and Technological Park of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and the concerned research groups can be found on the website:

<http://pct.ulpgc.es>
<http://www.ulpgc.es>
<http://www.giaqua.org>
<http://www.bioges.ulpgc.es>

Equal Opportunities, equality and diversity are part of the ULPGC personnel policy – qualified women are especially invited to apply.

Your application must include:

- A cover letter describing how the applicant meets the selection criteria (max. one A4 page).
- A complete Curriculum Vitae (complete list of publications, including submitted and accepted manuscripts).
- A summary report of 5 pages outlining your research experience, motivation in the selected position and own scientific interests within the context of the announced research topic.
- Name and contact details of two referees.



All documents and information should be provided in English via email at Dr. Juan Manuel Afonso, juanmanuel.afonso@ulpgc.es

For the evaluation of the merits will be valued:

- 60% CV as the prerequisites
- 30% Summary report
- 10% letters of recommendation.

Closing Date: February 27th, 2015

Reference: ECO2DOC-1

Nr. of positions available: 1

Research Fields: Genetics in Aquaculture

EcoAqua Project is being developed at the Marine Science and Technology Park of University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, where different fish species are supported by breeding programs with the industry combining quantitative genetics with molecular biology technologies. So, the Postdoc expertise will match the selection of economic traits for the aquaculture industry and new technologies to be incorporated in the genetic schemes.

Career Stage: Experienced researcher or > 5 yrs

Research Profile: Recognised Researcher (R2)

Comment/web site for additional job details: <http://pct.ulpgc.es/bolsadetrabajo>

Contact information: juanmanuel.afonso@ulpgc.es

Nr. of positions available: 1

Reference: ECO2DOC-2

Research Fields: Spatial Data Infrastructure / Marine Spatial Planning

The ULPGC desires to build up a Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI), including the EcoAqua Biological Data Platform, offering services for seamless access to a wide spectrum of data including marine species data (occurrence records and nomenclature data), geospatial data, statistical data and semi-structured data from multiple data providers and information systems. These services shall be exploited via web based graphical user interfaces and other web based protocols.



The EcoAqua ECO2DOC-2 will be in charge of developing the SDI and the EcoAqua Biological Data Platform, as keystone components of the Environmental Geoportal of the ULPGC, mainly constructed around the Canary Island Economic Exclusive Zone using different data sources. This SDI will be part of a comprehensive and innovative data infrastructure for sustainable aquaculture and conservation of coastal ecosystems in Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories of the European Union.

Career Stage: Experienced researcher or > 5 yrs

Research Profile: Recognised Researcher (R2)

Comment/web site for additional job details: <http://pct.ulpgc.es/bolsadetrabajo>

Contact information: ricardo.haroun@ulpgc.es, juanmanuel.afonso@ulpgc.es