

Available position: researcher

Last application date: 2018/11 23:59
 Work place: CENAIM, ESPOL, San Pedro de Manglaralto, Province Santa Elena, Ecuador
 Contract: 2019/01/02 – 2020/12/31; 100 %
 Degree: Master of Science
 Vacancy Type: researcher

Project description

The research center Centro Nacional de Acuicultura e Investigaciones Marinas (CENAIM, www.cenaim.espol.edu.ec) is a dynamic research center of University Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral (ESPOL, www.espol.edu.ec). In January 2019, we will kick-off a new SENESCYT Inédita project named “Desarrollo de la bioeconomía de macroalgas: Estrategia sostenible para mitigar enfermedades emergentes del camarón”, in collaboration with two project partners from Ecuador (Cooperativa de Producción Pesquera Artesanal “Santa Rosa de Salinas” and Cooperativa de Producción Acuícola Acuacultivos Marinos), and two partners from Belgium (Ghent University and company Lambers-Seghers). The aim of this two-year project is to contribute in developing a seaweed bioeconomy in Ecuador as a sustainable strategy to mitigate emerging diseases in shrimp culture.

Job description and offer

We are currently looking for a highly motivated MSc to be hired on the project in Ecuador, and eager to start a doctorate with Prof. Dr. Olivier De Clerck and Prof. Dr. Sofie Van Den Hende as promoters. His/her major tasks are:

- (1) to coordinate and perform experiments in mariculture of seaweed and postharvest biomass processing resulting in:
 - a. scientific articles in English to submit to peer-reviewed scientific journals;
 - b. manuals in Spanish on mariculture of two local seaweed species in Ecuador and on postharvesting processes of seaweed;
 - c. a protocol in Spanish on the optimized culture of *Kappaphycus alvarezii* and two local seaweed species in Ecuador, with the aim of increasing the productivity of bioactive compounds for animal health in shrimp culture;
- (2) to transfer knowledge to the scientific, public and private sector, by:
 - a. oral presentations at (inter)national events;
 - b. organizing workshops / field visits / courses.

We offer a two-year appointment, which may be renewed, depending on future research grants, and a monthly salary of USD 2,000-2,200. The researcher will be directly contracted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The candidate must cover all costs for:

- registering his/her MSc diploma at SENESCYT;
- obtaining an Ecuadorian work permit in case the selected candidate has not an Ecuadorian identity card. Information can be found on: <https://www.cancilleria.gob.ec/residente-temporal-profesional-tecnico-tecnologo-o-artesano/>

Profile of the candidate

We are looking for a candidate fascinated by result-driven academic research and eager to obtain a PhD.

Selection requirements:

- You have a MSc degree in Marine Sciences, Aquaculture, Biology, Bioscience Engineering, or equivalent.
- You have all requirements to enroll for a doctorate of Ghent University.
- You have a very strong motivation to perform high quality scientific research, publish papers in high-level scientific journals.
- You have experience in and are passionate about marine aquaculture, seaweed culture and/or algal biotechnology.
- You are fluent in Spanish and English (verbally and written).
- You have a diving license and experience in diving.
- You have great communication, social, organization and planning skills and are a good team-player.
- You have a problem-solving attitude and the ability to work independently.

It is a plus if:

- You have obtained scientific publications in high-level journals as author or co-author.
- You are creative, can think out of the box, and have a pioneering spirit.
- You have experience in managing technical staff.

How to apply

Applications must contain the following documents in English and Spanish:

- (1) a motivation letter;
- (2) a CV including results from master’s degree and publications;
- (3) contact details of at least three referees (including the supervisor of your master thesis).

Please send your enquiries and/or applications via e-mail to Prof. Dr. Sofie Van Den Hende, CENAIM, ESPOL, at shende@espol.edu.ec before the 12th of November at 23:59.