



PhD scholarship: Spatiotemporal land cover and climate dynamics through Remote Sensing and GIS

GRUMETS. Autonomous University of Barcelona. 2014-2017

The Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems Research Group ([GRUMETS](#)), mainly located at the [Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona](#) campus, welcomes **one pre-doctoral candidate** interested in applying for a “Formación de Personal Investigador (FPI)” Program funded by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness.

Please note that this is not a general call grant, but GRUMETS obtained funds for a graduate student in a first phase, and in the current phase a specific person is sought to develop the research among the candidates opting.

The candidate must be a self-motivated predoctoral student with background in biogeography, remote sensing and GIS to undertake work in these areas, their theory, methods and applications. The applicant will investigate in the context of the project DinaCliVe (CGL2012-33927), “Spatiotemporal analysis of land cover and vegetation stress in the Iberian Peninsula in light of a half a century (1975-2025) of climate dynamics and its anomalies”.

[DinaCliVe](#) project aims at analyzing land cover and land use dynamics as well as vegetation stress, with a particular emphasis on droughts, and the role that climate variation may have had in such phenomena. Newly remote sensing data will be used to study, in the Iberian Peninsula framework, the spatial direction, velocity and acceleration of the tendencies in climatic changes, land cover and tree line dynamics. A global analysis using all data sets will try to discriminate the climatic signal on such phenomena when interpreted together with anthropogenic driving forces. DinaCliVe will enhance its academic and society outreach through an open-access of the cartography produced (data, metadata and quality indicators), and it will further develop an innovative Internet-based service of intelligent download and a proposal at the Open Geospatial Consortium of a new international standard, as an extension to the WCS 2.0, for the spatial quality indicators.

The selected candidate will be part of a large multidisciplinary, highly motivated and productive team, composed by researchers and technicians coming from a rich diversity of backgrounds (geographers, biologists, environmental scientists, physicists, mathematicians, geodesists, computer scientists, etc). So a high level of motivation, ability to solve challenging problems, and passion for research are expected. The candidate should have a good communication in English and writing skills.

It is suggested that, in addition to the official application (compulsory), the interested candidates send a motivation letter and CV to: Xavier.pons@uab.cat. The subject of the mail must be “**DinaCliVe PhD 2013 candidate**”.

Summary of Additional Important Information:

Candidate requirements:

Degree title obtained after January, 1st, 2010. Exceptionally between Jan., 1st, 2006 and December, 31st, 2009 (see call for Exceptional cases).

Orientation of the evaluation criteria:

In accordance with the mechanisms established by the Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness assessment regulation, the applications will be assessed by the Principal Investigator (IP) of the project (score from 1 to 100):

- a) Candidate's Academic Record (40/100).
- b) Candidate's suitability with regard to the research project (60/100).

Scholarship Characteristics:

Amount: The contract will be 16 422 gross Euros per year.

Duration: 48 months, full-time regime.

Funding to develop 4 months research stays to any International Research Centre available previous application.

Application period: To be submitted online **from August, 26th until September, 10th, 2013** at <https://sede.micinn.gob.es/ayudaspredoctorales/>

Direct Link to the call (official document):

<http://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2013/08/14/pdfs/BOE-A-2013-8984.pdf>

Contact information:

General inquiries: Ms. Cristina Cea (Cristina.Cea@uab.cat) and Dr. Alaitz Zabala (alaitz.zabala@uab.cat)

Specific questions about research topics: Professor Xavier Pons (Xavier.Pons@uab.cat).

Additional Important Information about the research group and its members: http://www.grumets.uab.cat/index_eng.htm