

Two-year post-doctoral scholarship
Behavioral Economics and Environmental Economics

The Center for Environmental Economics – Montpellier (CEE-M) is a joint research unit involving researchers from several French research institutions (CNRS, INRAE, Institut Agro, University of Montpellier). It is one of the leading centers in environmental economics and experimental economics in France. Adopting an interdisciplinary perspective, it aims to address two scientific challenges: the transition to an environmentally-friendly society; the promotion of an innovative and multifunctional agriculture. CEE-M members have developed research expertise on environmental public policies and behavioral economics. Research works rely on several methodologies: modeling, data analysis, experiments. It hosts the Experimental Economics Laboratory of Montpellier (LEEM). CEE-M is internationally well connected, and CEE-M members engage in integrative interdisciplinary research with natural and social scientists (ecology, phytopathology, psychology, among others).

The **Biodiversity Economics** research group of the **German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv)** aims at improving the scientific basis for sustainability in human-nature relationships, studying the sustainable use of renewable natural resources (e.g. marine fisheries, rangelands, forests) and conservation of biodiversity from regional to global. Members study how economic incentives shape behavior towards nature, what sustainability – understood as justice in human-nature relationships – means, and how economic policy instruments could contribute to that end. The methodological expertise comprises quantitative ecological-economic modeling, dynamic optimization, statistics, economic experiments, conceptual modeling, game theory and capital theory. The research group is internationally well connected. Members engage in integrative interdisciplinary research with natural and social scientists and researchers from the humanities. Former doctoral researchers of the group have now professorships at leading universities in North America and Europe; work for the government, or in the private sector.

CEE-M offers the following position starting **no later than October 1, 2021**:

Post-Doctoral Researcher
“Resource Economics”
(limited for the two years of ANR funding)

Background:

Renewable natural resources are of vital importance for the future of human well-being, but they are under constant threat of overuse. Especially for mobile common pool resources, resource users have strategic incentives to extract more than the socially efficient amount. Two prominent and still unresolved cases in Europe are overfishing and overuse of groundwater resources. New, scientifically sound policy approaches are needed, as these resources face changing and increasing risks: On the one hand, climate change will alter volatility in the regeneration of the resource as well as potential tipping points in its dynamics of movement. On the other hand, patterns of resource use shape risks and thus lead to ‘endogenous risks’.

To tackle these challenges, an international team of behavioral and resource economists from France (Center for Environmental Economics - Montpellier, Aix-Marseille School of Economics) and Germany (iDiv, Leipzig University) have started the new collaborative project CRaMoRes, *Changing risks and mobile common pool resources: Economic analysis of resource-user behavior and policy instruments for sustainability*, funded by ANR and DFG under the French-German funding program in Humanities and Social Sciences.

The post-doctoral research will thus take place as part of a vibrant international research group with regular meetings both in Leipzig and Montpellier. The recruited candidate will be expected to spend extended periods of time in Leipzig and Montpellier.

Job description:

- contributing to the further development of a resource-economic model that describes individual resource-users' behavior under risk, including risk aversion and state-dependent risk preferences, and builds on dynamic game theory to study how changes in climate forcing and endogenous risks affect the strategic incentives for resource (over-) use of mobile common pool resources.
- contributing to the design and analysis of public policies aimed at addressing the inefficiencies related to the management of mobile common pool resources under changing risks
- applying the model to the case of European fisheries and/or European aquifers.
- presentation and discussion of methods and results with national and international project partners.
- writing and publishing of scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals.
- presentation of results at national and international conferences.

Requirements:

- excellent PhD degree in Economics or a related field of research
- strong and documented interest in Behavioral Economics and Resource Economics
- quantitative skills (statistics, econometrics, modelling)
- knowledge of theoretical and/or experimental economic approaches (a mix of both approaches will be a plus)
- excellent English communication skills (speaking and writing)
- innovative, able to work on his or her own initiative
- team-oriented and strong organizational skills

Applications are accepted **until March 15, 2021**.

Applications should include:

- cover letter (in English) describing motivation for the project, research interests & relevant experience
- complete curriculum vitae including names and contact details of at least two scientific references
- two letters of reference (to be sent separately by the scientific references)
- digital copy of PhD certificate or statement about official date of PhD defense
- pdf of a job market paper

Applications are accepted until March 15, 2021: Candidates must send their **application package** merged into a single PDF document bearing the applicant's name and the reference code "CRaMoRes-Postdoc" by e-mail at nicolas.querou@umontpellier.fr

For queries on the application process and for research project related questions, please contact Nicolas Quérou (nicolas.querou@umontpellier.fr) or Martin Quaas (martin.quaas@idiv.de).

Applying via email is questionable under data protection law. The sender assumes full responsibility.

Severely disabled persons are encouraged to apply and will be given preference in the case of equal suitability.