



PhD contract: Global Change analysis of the Iberian Peninsula: A 1950-2030 climate and land cover integrated lab

GRUMETS. Autonomous University of Barcelona. 2017-2020

The Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems Research Group ([GRUMETS](#)), mainly located at the [Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona](#) campus, searches for a **candidate to request a grant for one pre-doctoral contract** from the “Programa Estatal de Promoción del Talento y su Empleabilidad” under the current “Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica y Técnica de Excelencia del Ministerio de Economía y Competitividad”.

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 ACAPI (CGL2015-69888-P MINECO/FEDER), “Global Change analysis of the Iberian Peninsula: A 1950-2030 climate and land cover integrated lab”. ACAPI 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 and land cover 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. ACAPI 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 via the electronic office of the Ministerio (compulsory), the interested candidates send a motivation letter and CV (including undergraduate and postgraduate records) to the Principal Investigators, Dr. Xavier Pons and Dr. Miquel Ninyerola, to Xavier.pons@uab.cat. The subject of the mail must be “**ACAPI PhD 2016 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).

Applicants may be all those who are registered or have been admitted to a doctoral program, for the academic year 2016/2017. Compliance with this requirement can be credited till the date on which the correction period established in Article 12 is completed.

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).

In the case of applications with the same score, in order to break the tie, it shall be settled in favor of the request with the highest score in the assessment of criterion 1 above.

Scholarship Characteristics:

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

Duration: 48 months, full-time regime. Beginning date planned for December 2016 – January 2017

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

Application period: To be submitted online **from September, 13th until September, 27th, 2016** at <https://sede.micinn.gob.es/ayudaspredoctorales/>

Direct Link to the call (official document):

<http://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2016/09/08/pdfs/BOE-B-2016-40735.pdf>

Contact information:

General inquiries: Mr. Óscar González
(Oscar.Gonzalez.Guerrero@uab.cat)

Specific questions about research topics: Dr. Xavier Pons
(Xavier.Pons@uab.cat) or Dr. Miquel Ninyerola
(Miquel.Ninyerola@uab.cat).

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