

Scholarship for PhD studies at Institute of Environmental Sciences, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland

Topic: Nature conservation management/policy on the jurisdictional, institutional and ecological scales

Supervisor: Dr Małgorzata Grodzińska-Jurczak

Background information: nature conservation, human dimension, public participatory approach, nature governance, natural resource management

Understanding cross-scale interaction in the human-environmental system is seen as increasingly important. Taking into account natural, ecological, spacial, social, jurisdictional (intern-governmental, national, provincial, local) and institutional (constitution, laws, regulations, policy instruments) scales and interactions between and within them, seems to be one of the crucial aspects of environmental governance. However, the governance mechanisms or policy instruments often do not match the ecological levels of biodiversity conservation. The mismatch of institutional and ecological scales can directly and indirectly influence the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation.

The main question to be addressed in the project: What are challenges in the European nature conservation governance/management system in terms of various scales?

Information on the methods/description of work: social methodology: quantitative (questionnaires) qualitative (focus groups, interviews), desk research

Special requirements from the student: fluent in English, good at PR, basic knowledge of social sciences methodology

Place of potential foreign collaborator: (i) Department of Human Dimensions in Natural Resources, Colorado State University, USA, (ii) UFZ, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Department of Conservation Biology, Leipzig, Germany

The PhD opportunity includes stipend of 2200 PLN per month, research in Poland and half-year placement in academic centres outside Poland.

Candidates are suggested to contact Associate Professor Małgorzata Grodzinska-Jurczak m.grodzinska-jurczak@uj.edu.pl

Detailed information, containing profile of the applicant and the application instructions are available at: www.eko.uj.edu.pl/ecology

Application deadline: 10 June 2011

Start date: 3 October 2011

The position is offered within the project „*Launching interdisciplinary doctoral studies programme in ecology in English and increasing the didactic potential of the staff of the Institute of Environmental Sciences at the Jagiellonian University*” co-financed by the European Union under the European Social Fund.