

36 month doctoral position in France **Aix Marseille University**

- **JOB TITLE:** Research study on Governance systems in common-pool pastoral resource management and social ecological Heritage enhancement in pastoral Commons of North-Eastern Andalusian mountains

- **JOB PROFILE/TYPE :**
Contract : temporary doctoral position (36 months) starting on November 2021
Employer : Aix-Marseille Université
Gross salary 1768 €/month

- **KEYWORDS**
Pastoralists, Living Heritage, Community-based management enhancement, local governance

- **JOB LOCATION**
Aix Marseille University (France): Campus St-Charles
and
Granada, Castril and Santiago-Pontones (Andalusia, Spain)

- **ADVISORS**
 - Dr Hubert Mazurek
 - Dr Pablo Dominguez

- **PI of the project**
Dr Didier Genin

- **JOB DESCRIPTION**
This 36-months' doctoral fellow is funded by the new [Mediterranean Institute for Environmental Transition](#) (A*Midex), an interdisciplinary initiative aiming to tackle the challenges of the ongoing climate nexus, and will begin on XXX

Description of the position:

Context of the work

This call is part of a larger project entitled: "Indigenous and Community Conserved Area for social-ecological RESilience? (ICCA-RE)". It emerges from the fact that there is a strong and growing scientific and political awareness that rural commons or areas and territories

conserved by local communities (hereafter [ICCAs](#)) are a vital living heritage for conservation of the environment, the well-being of local populations, and global sustainability, as well as of universal cultural value.

Mission

ICCAs are declining rapidly around the world. This proposal has as mission to document the public recognition of ICCAs as living socio-ecological heritage at local, national and international levels, which could significantly contribute to protection of significant cultural landscapes and their natural and cultural values. That is to say, understand and document its current and historical value, and involve local communities in a participatory manner in communicating this value to key actors (i.e. public officials, decision-makers, political representatives, national and international agencies, etc.) as well as the general public (i.e. society as a whole). To address this, we will focus on Castril, Santiago and Pontones (hereafter CSP) pastoral commons (North-Eastern Andalusian Mountains, Spain) and their potential for Social Ecological Heritage enhancement. This is the largest mountain pastoral territory in South-Eastern Spain and one of the largest in Europe, where remains one of the last large-scale transhumant communities in Andalusia.

Activities

The main activity will be to contribute to the holistic understanding of the CSP system as a whole and to provide a number of key indicators to support its living rural heritage values and facilitate the protection of its environment, the economic potential of the area, its cultural identity and the rights of local populations.

The candidate will have to carry out fieldwork both alone and in a team with other people linked to the ICCA-RE project, particularly his/her fellow PhD Ecology student, but also his/her supervisors and the rest of the team and therefore will have to demonstrate a good team spirit as well as a great autonomy and ability to integrate into local society. Part of the work could be undertaken in public and private archives (collection of legal and historical data), as well as in urban or rural municipalities for interviews or participant observations. Nevertheless, most of the fieldwork will be carried out in remote mountainous regions.

Hence, the Doctorate Candidate will pay a particular attention to:

1) Global ethnography of nature-culture relationships in CSP.

- Bibliographic compilation of CSP present and historical society with especial focus on pastoralism.
- Ethnographical study of present and historical ritual, religious life and symbolic logics that organize relationships of CSP inhabitants with their bio-physical and cultural landscapes.
- Compilation of local ecological knowledge posed by pastoralists and their families in order to understand specificities following gender, age and territorial variants as well as possible differences between commons and long vs short distance transhumants.
- Assessment of the local governances at work in the three pastoral Commons, and their impacts on the dynamics of landscapes
- Understand the impact of external policy in pastoral landscapes of CSP.

2) CSP's socio-ecological heritage: between protection and commodification of a cultural landscape

- Recomposition of the geohistorical trajectory of CSP's territorial resources.
- Diagnosis of the emerging and potential spatialities of CSP (e.g. new recreational, nature and cultural tourism).
- Analysis of the processes of construction of heritage resources (objects, figures, stories) and identification of the heritage registers mobilized in the different contexts (tourism, biodiversity, landscape, know-how, culture).
- Analysis of the forms of reflexivity and self-criticism implemented by the actors of the on-going heritage-enhancement (e.g. local culture reification, commodification, folklorization), and possible new sustainable forms (e.g. strengthening the commons and their associated socio-ecological values).

3) Agro-economic characterization of pastoral commons.

Based on field surveys and interviews:

- Determine the main drivers for the pastoral way of life and production.
- Determine quantitatively the basis of the pastoral commons (marketing of the products, household incomes from the livestock production and incomes from complementary activities).
- Evaluate diversification of the house holdings' activities and readiness of families to provide new economical niches
- Develop support measures that provide sustainability of the pastoral commons.

4) Contribution to the collective holistic approach of the dynamics of the social ecological systems

- Modalities of interactions between human practices and ecosystem, and their consequences on ecological and social dynamics. For that, the methodology used will follow the diagnostic procedure for applying SES framework proposed by Hinkel et al. (2015), in closed interaction with the work of the other PhD candidate in environmental sciences, and Team members,
- undertaking possible trajectories, balancing both vulnerability, resilience and plasticity of the systems, following insights proposed by Gallopin (2006)¹

○ **QUALIFICATIONS/SKILLS/EDUCATION & RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS/DUTIES**

The doctorate will be hired for *36 months* with the following preferred skills:

- * Distinguished Skills in Ethnography with Master degree in Sociocultural Anthropology, Sociology, -human Geography or similar. Special interest for candidates with experience in evaluating pastoralism.
- * Aptitudes and interest for field work and collaborative research
- * Autonomy

¹ Gallopin G. 2006. Linkages between vulnerability, resilience, and adaptive capacity. *Global Env. Change*, 16:293-303; Hinkel J., Cox M., Schluter M., Bonder C., Falk T., 2015. A diagnostic procedure for applying the social ecological system framework in diverse cases. *Ecol.&Soc.*, 20(1):online

- * Proficiency in French, Spanish and English
- * Intellectual openness to other disciplines
- * Competency in image treatment appreciated

- **APPLICATION DEADLINE** (If applicable)
Applications must be submitted by July 7, 2021. For selected candidates, interviews will be held July 15, 2021.

- **REQUESTED DOCUMENTS OF APPLICATION AND CONTACT TO APPLY**

A motivation letter, a CV, available M1 and M2 grades (with mention and ranking in the student group; note that at least an ABmention in M2 is required) and a previous internship pdf report (e.g. the one from the last master's degree) should be sent to Didier Genin (didier.genin@univ-amu.fr) and Pablo Dominguez (eco.anthropologies3@gmail.com).