

Postdoctoral Researcher (full time) in the Sociodemography Research Group (DEMOSOC), Department of Political and Social Sciences, Pompeu Fabra University

Job description

The postdoctoral researcher will work on the Human-Mosquito Interaction Project (H-MIP) funded by the European Research Council. The researcher will carry out laboratory work and analysis of human and mosquito DNA samples collected from research sites throughout Catalonia in order to better understand the human-mosquito networks through which mosquito-borne diseases pass. The laboratory work will be conducted at the Spanish National Research Council's Center for Advanced Studies of Blanes (CEAB-CSIC). We are looking for a researcher with a strong background in genetic analysis of multiple species and an interest in the socio-ecological questions involved in human-mosquito interaction.

The position is initially for 1 year but may be extended for longer depending on project needs. The annual salary range is 21.856 to 32.784 euros. The starting date is 8 August 2020.

Qualifications

We are looking for candidates with:

- Graduate degree in natural sciences with Ph.D. either complete or near completion at the time of application;
- Strong skills and experience in genetic analysis of multiple species;
- Strong abilities in quantitative analysis.
- Interest in human-mosquito interaction and the social aspects of mosquito-borne disease;
- Experience with planning and carrying out research;
- Ability to work as part of a large research team;
- Excellent academic writing skills and fluency in written and spoken English. Fluency in written and spoken Catalan and Spanish a plus;
- A great curiosity and enthusiasm for scientific research.

Procedure

Send a cover letter and CV to Dr. John Palmer by email at john.palmer@upf.edu by 26 June 2020.

Project Summary

The Human-Mosquito Interaction Project uses mobile phone positioning, DNA analysis of mosquito blood-meals, and citizen science, combined with traditional socio-demographic methods to trace the host-vector biting networks through which mosquito-borne diseases flow and illuminate the behavioural, socio-demographic, and environmental mechanisms that shape these networks. The results will make it possible to improve dynamic models of mosquito-borne disease and recommend targeted policy interventions for reducing disease risk in Europe and around the world. In doing this, the project addresses the critical need for greater social science perspective in mosquito-borne disease research, making it possible to better understand the socio-ecological context of a set of diseases that place enormous burdens on society and exacerbate social inequality. The project relies on an interdisciplinary team of researchers with expertise in socio-demography, ecology, entomology, molecular biology, network science, epidemiology, and related fields.