PhD Student in Ecology and Evolution

Ref. No. SU FV-3464-21


Research and education at Stockholm University at the Department of Ecology, Environment and Plant Sciences (DEEP) is located in the Arrhenius Laboratories, situated at the University Campus at Frescati. Research carried spans across a broad range of biology subject areas including Ecology and Evolution, Ecotoxicology, Marine Biology, Plant Physiology and Plant Systematics. Presently around 140 people are working at DEEP using state-of-the art methodologies in an international research environment characterized by world-recognized researchers and a high level of professionalism.

Project description
The Department of Ecology, Environment and Plant Sciences invites applications for a four-year PhD position part of the project: “Water use, water quantity/quality and biodiversity across landscapes - synergies and trade-offs in an era of climate change and modernization.”

The project is a cross-disciplinary project linking biodiversity, water quality and water use by small-holder farmers in southwestern Ethiopia. More specifically we will focus on understanding patterns and processes related to: a) biodiversity in and around streams, b) water qualities and flows, c) smallholder livelihoods, water knowledge and water use practices, and d) critical trade-offs and promising synergies between the three topics. We hypothesize that biodiversity and water quality will be higher in watersheds dominated by forest and coffee agroforests compared to watersheds dominated by annual crop agriculture. The overall aim of this project is to quantify the relationships between several societal goals related to water across landscapes and identify synergies between these goals to guide policy development and dialogue.

The PhD student will be placed at Department of Ecology, Environment and Plant Sciences at Stockholm University, but will get co-supervision also from other departments and universities since the project is cross-disciplinary.

Qualification requirements
In order to meet the general entry requirements, the applicant must have completed a second-cycle degree, completed courses equivalent to at least 240 higher education credits, of which 60 credits must be in the second cycle, or have otherwise acquired equivalent knowledge in Sweden or elsewhere.

In order to meet the specific entry requirements, the general syllabus for doctoral studies in the field of Ecology and Evolution stipulates, that applicants must have completed at least 60 higher education credits in the second cycle, of which 15 credits must be from a course in one of the areas Ecology or Evolution, and 30 credits from a project in one of the areas Ecology or Evolution. Applicants may also have otherwise acquired equivalent knowledge in Sweden or elsewhere.

The student will be enrolled in the PhD programme entitled “Ecology and Evolution”, hence the qualification requirements above. However, since this project is cross-disciplinary we encourage applicants with a variety of backgrounds and will define “ecology” in the broadest sense.

The qualification requirements must be met by the deadline for applications.

Selection
The criteria used in the selection for admittance to research training in Ecology and Evolution are knowledge of theory and applications in the research field, ability to communicate orally and in writing, knowledge of English, creativity, analytic competence, initiative, independence and collaboration ability. Since this PhD project is cross-
disciplinary, experiences in aquatic ecology, hydrology, human geography, development studies or natural resource management are merits. Also experiences of inventories of biodiversity, knowledge in GIS and the statistical program R and experiences from the countryside in developing countries are merits. Knowledge of local Ethiopian languages such as Amharic, Afan Oromo or Kaffinja is also a merit. Apparently, no candidate will have all of these merits. Hence, the most important is that the candidate is open to learn new things and interested in writing a cross-disciplinary thesis.

Admission Regulations for Doctoral Studies at Stockholm University are available at: [www.su.se/rules and regulations](http://www.su.se/rules and regulations).

**Terms of employment**

Only a person who will be or has already been admitted to a third-cycle programme may be appointed to a doctoral studentship.

The term of the initial contract may not exceed one year. The employment may be extended for a maximum of two years at a time. However, the total period of employment may not exceed the equivalent of four years of full-time study.

Doctoral students should primarily devote themselves to their own education, but may engage in teaching, research, and administration corresponding to a maximum of 20% of a full-time position.

Please note that admission decisions cannot be appealed.

Stockholm University strives to be a workplace free from discrimination and with equal opportunities for all.

**Contact**

For more information, please contact project leader Kristoffer Hylander, telephone: +46 8 16 48 99, kristoffer.hylander@su.se. Further information about the position can be obtained from the Subject Representative Tanja Slotte, telephone: +46 8 16 37 52, tanja.slotte@su.se.

**Union representatives**

Ingrid Lander (Saco-S), telephone: +46 708 16 26 64, saco@saco.su.se, Alejandra Pizarro Carrasco (Fackförbundet ST/Lärarförbundet), telephone: +46 8 16 34 89, alejandra@st.su.se, seko@seko.su.se (SEKO), and PhD student representative, doktorandombud@sus.su.se.

**Application**

Apply for the PhD student position at Stockholm University's recruitment system. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the application is complete in accordance with the instructions in the advertisement, and that it is submitted before the deadline. We recommend that you hand in your application, including necessary documents, in English.

Please include the following information with your application

- Your contact details and personal data
- Your highest university degree
- Your language skills
- Contact details for 2-3 reference persons

and, in addition, please include the following documents

- Cover letter (2-3 pages), containing
  - Your expectations from, and intentions with the education
  - Why you are interested in the specific project
  - What makes you suitable for the specific project
- CV – degrees and other completed courses, work experience and a list of degree projects/theses
- Degree certificates and grades confirming that you meet the general and specific entry requirements (no more than 6 files)
- Degree projects/theses (no more than 6 files).

The instructions for applicants are available at: [How to apply for a position](http://www.su.se/rules and regulations).

**You are welcome to apply!**
Stockholm University contributes to the development of sustainable democratic society through knowledge, enlightenment and the pursuit of truth.

Closing date: 05/11/2021

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