

Forest Science and Technology Centre of Catalonia (CTFC) is a research centre affiliated with the Generalitat de Catalunya (the Catalan government), and it reports to the Ministry responsible for forest issues.

CTFC is a CERCA centre and a government accredited TECNIO agent (developer of public technology).

It was granted a 'Human Resources Excellence in Research' award by the European Commission, recognizing CTFC as a European research institution that fosters an attractive and motivating work environment.

PhD CONTRACT ON WILDFIRES AND FOREST RESILIENCE

Reference: 23-10-00001

We are seeking a PhD candidate to work on understanding the factors determining the resilience of Mediterranean forests to forest fires in the context of the project VULNIFOR (PID2022-142108OB-I00) funded by the Spanish ministry of Science and Innovation.

This PhD position at the CTFC is part of the Multifunctional Forest Management program, and the selected candidate will incorporate to the Adaptive Management and Forest Dynamics research group (ADAPTAFOR), which comprises both researchers from CTFC and the University of Lleida. The group is composed by a highly qualified multidisciplinary team, including researchers in forestry, environmental sciences, biologists, and geographers, working together to address the issues with a variety of approaches. It offers an excellent opportunity to develop a scientific career in applied forest research in a stimulating work environment.

The Forest Science and Technology Centre of Catalonia (CTFC), located in Solsona (Pre-Pyrenees, 120 km from Barcelona), Spain, employs app. 150 staff, produces >100 scientific articles annually and has a turnover of app. 6 Mil. €/year. Further institutional information is available at: www.ctfc.cat/en. CTFC's research activity is organised around three programs: 1) Multifunctional Forest Management; 2) Landscape Dynamics and Biodiversity; 3) Governance, health and bioeconomy.

TERMS OF THE APPOINTMENT

1. The contract will commence on the first day of the month following the publication of the final concession resolution of the VULNIFOR project.
2. It is a full-time position with a duration of 4 years.
3. Annual gross salary will be determined in accordance with the conditions of the Ministry's call for applications and the CTFC salary scales.
4. The candidate will be based at CTFC in Solsona or at UdL (Lleida), with remote working options according to the institution norms (max. 20 h/week).
5. Working day: full time, 37.5 hours per week.
6. 23+6 days of holidays per year. Good family-work balance conditions.
7. Travelling abroad to collaborate with European or American researchers is planned.

KEY RESPONSABILITIES

Key responsibilities will include:

1. Compilation and processing of a fire database in the Mediterranean area

2. Compilation and processing remote sensing imagery for the determination of landscape-scale resilience indicators.
3. Conduct baseline studies and field campaigns to document the structural and compositional response of Mediterranean forests to wildfires.
4. Contribute to the development of a land-use change geodatabase for Spanish Mediterranean forests.
5. Perform the statistical analyses to assess the drivers of resilience of Mediterranean forests to forest fires.
6. Drafting of scientific manuscripts with the main results obtained and their interpretation.
7. Contribution to other institutional activities.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

1. Degree in forestry, environmental sciences, or related fields.
2. Master's degree.
3. Proven fluency in spoken and written English.
4. Proficiency in using GIS for the acquisition, processing, and analyses of remote sensing information.
5. Skills in using R for data management and statistical analyses.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

1. Proven experience in field-based research and statistical analyses.
2. Demonstrated experience in writing scientific manuscripts.
3. Communications in international conferences.
4. Additional fluency in Spanish or French.

SOFT COMPETENCES

1. Team player.
2. Critical thinking and attention to detail.
3. Capacity to work under pressure.
4. Ability to plan and organize.
5. Result oriented.
6. Flexibility and adaptation.
7. Initiative and pro activity.
8. Availability to travel locally and internationally.

CONTACT

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CTFC guarantees an open, transparent, and merit-based recruitment process (OTM-R) to all registered candidacies avoiding thus any bias on gender, origin, age, ideology, or other circumstances that could be discriminatory. Integration policy: reservation of a place for staff with a certificate of recognized disability.

SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

The selection process is led by the Human Resources Area of CTFC. This process consists of:

1. **Admission of candidates:** applicants must submit a curriculum vitae and motivation letter addressed to borsa.treball@ctfc.cat, until **31st October 2023 at 14:00**, indicating the reference code of the offer.
2. **Pre-selection:** verification of compliance with the minimum requirements of the offer.
3. **Selection (beginning November 2023):** assessment of the preselected candidates by scoring based on objective criteria and interview.
4. **Final decision:** in case of finding the suitable person, the election will be formally communicated to him/her, and the identification of the chosen person will be published on CTFC job openings section.

Further information: borsa.treball@ctfc.cat