



BASQUE CENTRE  
FOR CLIMATE CHANGE  
Klima Aldaketa Ikergai

## **The economics of soil biodiversity and ecosystem services**

### **Postdoctoral Fellow, Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3)**

The [Basque Centre for Climate Change \(BC3\)](#), offers a two year postdoctoral fellowship as part of the EU project [EcoFINDERS](#) (**E**cological **F**unction and Biodiversity **I**ndicators in **E**uropean **S**oils). The postdoc will contribute to a large interdisciplinary team but will focus on the economic analysis associated with the conservation of soil biodiversity and impacts on ecosystem services. It is expected that the successful candidate will join BC3 in November 2012.

BC3 is looking for a postdoctoral researcher with a PhD in natural resource economics, agricultural or environmental economics and strong skills in quantitative economic analysis. The successful applicant will work on developing integrated ecological-economic models to demonstrating the value of soil biodiversity and associated ecosystem services for human wellbeing especially in risky and rapidly changing agricultural environments. Given the role of soil biodiversity for buffering climate change impacts, BC3 is strengthening this area of applied economics research. The postdoctoral researcher will collaborate closely with the [Danish Centre for Environment and Energy](#) (DCE) at Aarhus University, Denmark.

A premise of EcoFINDERS is that society values soil ecosystem services to the extent that they fulfill needs or confer satisfaction to humans. The Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3) provides an important input to the economics of soil biodiversity research within EcoFINDERS. BC3 contributes to the EcoFINDERS objectives by addressing the theoretical and empirical question of how to value soil services while at the same time acknowledging the natural insurance value of soil biodiversity. This research will help to develop successful EU policy frameworks and soil conservation initiatives.

The postdoctoral researcher will be based at the BC3 in Bilbao and will need to spend some time at DCE, Denmark, to contribute to the collaborative work within EcoFINDERS.

#### **Specifically the Postdoctoral Fellow would:**

- Develop theoretical bioeconomic models on the value of soil biodiversity.
- Assist with ongoing activities in the economics workpackage.
- Publish high-impact, peer-reviewed research in international scientific journals.
- Contribute to a dynamic research team at BC3 on the economics of biodiversity and ecosystem services

#### **Experience/skills required:**

- The applicant must have a PhD in environmental/ecological/natural resource/agricultural economics as well as a strong bio-economic modeling background.



BASQUE CENTRE  
FOR CLIMATE CHANGE  
Klima Aldaketa Ikergai

- The applicant should also have excellent interpersonal as well communication skills (both written and oral) in English.
- The applicants should demonstrate evidence of a track record in peer-reviewed publications as well as ability to initiate and complete research characterized by originality, creativity and innovation.

**Other experience/skills valued:** Expertise in the economics of ecosystem services, biodiversity economics, soil science, environmental valuation, statistics/econometric modeling.

**Location:** Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3), Bilbao, Spain. It is also envisaged that the successful candidate will spend some periods of time at the Danish Centre for Environment and Energy (DCE) at Aarhus University, Denmark

**Tenure:** The position will be for a period of two years with a possibility for extending it for two more years as BC3 Research Fellow upon a positive assessment of the performance of the work carried out by the candidate during the postdoctoral fellowship.

**Salary:** The position will carry competitive salaries according to the academic and professional profile of the applicant and excellent conditions of work.

Those interested should send their application (CV, one page motivation letter and provide the full contact details of three potential referees) to [hr@bc3research.org](mailto:hr@bc3research.org) noting in the subject of the message "postdoctoral position on soil biodiversity and ecosystem services"). Informal enquiries can be made to Prof. Unai Pascual ([unai.pascual@bc3research.org](mailto:unai.pascual@bc3research.org)) or Prof. Mette Termansen ([mter@dmu.dk](mailto:mter@dmu.dk))

**Applications close:** 8<sup>th</sup> October 2012 (CET 17:00)