

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

Researcher recruitment by contractual means

The University of Brest is recruiting a 100% temporary contractual agent, on research credits, to carry out the functions of researcher.

**Location:** UBO – IUEM / UMR 6308 AMURE (Plouzané site), Brest, France

**Duration of the contract:** 3 years (annual contract renewable)

**Start date:** September 1, 2021

**Estimated salary:** 28200 to 31200€ annual gross salary depending on experience

**Context:**

The present international legal and institutional regime set by the UN convention for the Law of the Sea (Montego Bay convention) to govern the ocean has been described as an "unfinished agenda" regarding the status of high seas. In 2017, after a process lasting more than a decade, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) established an intergovernmental conference to negotiate an International Legally Binding Instrument (ILBI) on the conservation and sustainable use of Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ). At the end of the third round of negotiations in August 2019, ILBI negotiators seem to accept that some form of global governance structure - through a Conference of the Parties (COP) – will be needed to ensure a proper implementation of the instrument.

The Thermal Dome and the Sargasso Sea are two sites representative of the diversity and importance of the ecosystems of the high seas. They perfectly illustrate the fact that the ecological limits (interconnectivity of ecosystems) do not correspond to the legal delimitations established by the Montego Bay Convention. They are dynamic formations, which move, shrink, and expand with currents and winds. They are mainly located beyond national jurisdiction on the high seas, but may "encroach" permanently, regularly or from time to time on EEZs that are under the jurisdiction of States.

The University of Brest (UBO) is a partner of SARGADOM, a project supported by the French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM), in collaboration with MarViva, an NGO based in Costa-Rica, the Sargasso Sea Commission and the French Biodiversity Agency (OFB). The objective of the project is to develop and test methodologies to assess needs and means for conservation strategies in the high sea with the Thermal Dome (East Central Pacific) and the Sargasso Sea as research fields. The results will contribute to BBNJ negotiation and implementation by providing lessons learned on integrated socio-ecological assessment and hybrid governance for high sea conservation consistent with the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and its implementing agreements, as part of a strategy based on an ecosystem approach.

The strategy proposed by the project is based on a DPSIR (Driving Force-Pressure-State-Impact-Response) analysis in each site, and an analysis of the current governance of the two sites and potential improvements, which will lead to the development of proposals to improve the governance and to establish conservation and management measures in these sites. The

background and outcomes of the project will be used to develop material for capacity building. These results will help inform future agreements on BBNJ and other high seas areas wishing to designate Area-based Management Tools (ABMTs). The knowledge gained will also support the development of agreements and action plans for the Thermal Dome and the Sargasso Sea.

### **Professional environment:**

AMURE Joint Research Unit (UBO-IFREMER-CNRS) brings together more than 40 researchers and professors in economics, law and human sciences from the University of Brest (UBO), the French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (Ifremer) and the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS). The unit is attached to the European Institute for Marine Studies (IUEM) and to the Interdisciplinary School for the Blue Planet (ISblue). It is one of the main research centers in Europe working on public policies aimed at regulating the uses of ecosystems and their conservation for the sustainable development of maritime activities and marine and coastal areas.

### **Main missions:**

In the context of the SARGADOM project, she/he will be responsible for the methodological development of a DPSIR framework for the component 2 of the project “Socio-ecosystem integrated diagnosis”. Working in close collaboration with the different partners of the project, UBO, OFB, MarViva, the Sargasso Sea Commission, DUKE university, Global Fishing Watch, BIOS and Imperial College, she/he will be in charge of methodological development and coordination of implementation in the two study-sites. On both sites, a complete analysis and synthesis of the issues will be developed using the DPSIR approach. This will include defining the socio-ecosystem, identifying sustainability issues, characterizing the pressures and their impacts and the proposal of strategies to improve the sustainability of the socio-ecosystem. This integrated diagnosis will also include stakeholder engagement and consultation. The recruited person will also be in charge of ensuring the centralized production of six-monthly progress reports for the programme's contracting parties and for the production of lessons learned report from the implementation of DPSIR based integrated diagnosis in the two sites.

### **Required skills and experiences:**

#### *Education and experience:*

- PhD in a relevant field of study (environmental management, conservation science, environmental economics, ecological economics)
- 3 to 5 years work experience in a similar position

#### *Knowledge and technical skills:*

- Experience in DPSIR or similar methodology, implementation, and analysis
- Experience of interacting with marine management in international fora (conservation bodies, RFMOs, IMO, ...)
- Experience in interdisciplinary research between social and natural sciences
- Experience in coordination/involvement in international project
- Ability to organize, set up and manage a multi-partner and multidisciplinary project
- Work in consultation with various actors, sense of diplomacy
- Knowledge in high seas governance issues

*Transversal and relational skills:*

- Fluency in English and Spanish imperative (written and spoken), French will be appreciated
- Excellent communication ability to lead international workshops
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to effectively engage a wide variety of partners, consultants and stakeholders
- Ability to work in a team, as well as with little supervision
- Excellent research skills and the ability to synthesize complex and technical information
- Excellent writing skills and proven ability to communicate to a range of audiences including ability to communicate scientific concepts to policy and lay audiences
- Sense of initiative, autonomy and versatility

**TO APPLY**

Please send your CV and cover letter to the attention of Denis Bailly ([denis.bailly@univ-brest.fr](mailto:denis.bailly@univ-brest.fr)) and Joëlle Richard ([joelle.richard@univ-brest.fr](mailto:joelle.richard@univ-brest.fr)) with the subject of the email: Recruitment\_SARGADOM\_[NAME]

**Deadline for application: July 12, 2021**