

HOSTING OFFER – MSCA POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP 2021 CALL

Offer title

Animal adaptation to human-induced rapid environmental changes

Name of the supervisor

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EU Research Framework Programme

Horizon Europe/Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action Postdoctoral fellowships [2021 call](#)

Research Groups/ongoing projects

Our research is largely focused on how animals adapt to rapid environmental changes. More specifically, we combine approaches from behavioral ecology, evolutionary ecology, molecular ecology, global change biology and genetics to pursue three largely interconnected lines of research: i) unraveling the role of animal behavior in evolution, ii) investigating how organisms successfully cope with human-induced rapid environmental changes, and iii) examining the cascading consequences of these rapid behavioral shifts for the functioning of entire biological communities. Our group combines the use of novel comparative phylogenetics methods with large-scale field experiments in the field. We are currently using lizards as our study organisms and have ongoing studies in the Caribbean and in the Mediterranean. Recently, we established a new study system in the Balearic Islands where we are studying the ecological and evolutionary consequences of a rapidly spreading predator invasion for populations of a

keystone island endemic species. In this context, we are also examining the ecological consequences of this invasion for the entire biological communities they live in.

<http://www.creaf.cat/unraveling-biological-invasions-consequences-rapidly-spreading-snake-invasion-mediterranean-endemic-lizard>

Hosting Description

An MSCA project in our lab would take advantage of high-quality, already collected data on the behavior, morphology, and ecology of wild lizard populations. We do our best to produce solid research. We have been fortunate to consistently publish our research on reputed international journals and have a solid network of international collaborations including researchers in the USA, Canada, and throughout Europe. In our lab, we are very aware that students often confront challenges associated with gender and race inequality or issues related to social class and sexual orientation. My ambition is to create an inclusive laboratory environment where all individuals can achieve their scientific goals irrespective of these issues. After all, our research largely deals with the importance of individual variation in behavior!

Ideally, your MSCA project proposal should be based on our common interests. This could be based on our ongoing projects but we are also open to new ideas! It is important to take into account the potential for knowledge transfer from the host group to the researcher and vice-versa. Thus, both the elaboration of the proposal and its implementation will be a team effort. During the course of the fellowship, you will receive training in leadership, student supervision, analytical approaches, communication skills, and preparation of grant proposals to help him/her become an independent researcher.

Organization

CREAF, <http://www.creaf.cat/msca-postdoctoral-fellowship-creaf>

Through excellence in science we aim to be a Mediterranean and world-class research institution that pushes the frontiers of knowledge while addressing some of the biggest and more complex environmental challenges society faces this century.

Founded in 1987, CREAF is a public research and innovation centre in ecology, territorial analysis and environmental impact. We aim to create new knowledge and innovative solutions on ecology management and land-atmosphere interaction that helps society to mitigate Global Change effects, creating adaptation plans and boosting the resilience of nature.

CREAF's expertise includes among other topics conservation ecology, land use policy, forest biomass and production measurements, powerful GIS technologies, remote sensing, fire ecology, and modelling ecosystem processes. It contributes to the development of methodological and conceptual tools designed to facilitate decision-making and improve environmental management.

Location

Cerdanyola del Vallès, near Barcelona, Spain

Offer Deadline

26th July 2021

Eligibility criteria

The applicant can be of any nationality. By the time of the 2021 MSCA-PF application deadline, applicants must:

- hold a doctoral degree
- do not have more than 8 years of full-time equivalent in research
- not have spent more than 12 months in Spain in the three years immediately prior to the call deadline.

How to apply

Researchers willing to apply should check that they fulfil the eligibility criteria. Please send to o.lapiedra@creaf.uab.cat and msca@creaf.uab.cat asap and at the latest by 26th July 2021:

- your CV
- a covering letter explaining why you wish to apply for an MSCA-PF at CREAM
- an outline for a research project that would strengthen and complement the presented research profile

Selected candidates will be informed by early August.

Please include "MSCA PF 2021_Oriol Lapiedra " in the subject line of your email.