

Internship project (Master 2)

Elicited preferences on forest planning in France

Project description

The C4CHANGE project aims to identify new knowledge requirements for forest planning in the face of significant challenges. Climate change has prompted a re-evaluation of historically established models of action and stakeholder practices in this field. Consequently, this project aims to introduce an innovative, multidisciplinary scientific inquiry into the emerging research needs and potential solutions for forest planning in the context of these challenges. It encompasses five complementary tasks that leverage approaches from the human and social sciences. The internship will contribute to the third and fourth tasks, which will run in parallel.

Task 3 will involve identifying and assessing forest management scenarios and associated ecosystem service packages within the context of climate change, using a choice experiment methodology. Task 4 will employ a Living Lab approach to support the collective implementation of forest planning, offering recommendations, actions, and operational tools for stakeholder use.

Both tasks will be executed as follows:

- A preliminary multi-stakeholder workshop consisting of diverse forest planning stakeholders to identify decision determinants in forest planning and conduct a spatial analysis of territorial dynamics.
- The development of scenarios to be tested in a choice experiment, based on the outcomes of the initial focus group and existing literature.
- Two additional multi-stakeholder workshops to discuss and compare the results and spatially contextualize the scenarios selected from the choice experiment, in preparation for the final stage which will involve implementing a collective decision-making tool to choose the scenario best suited to the area.

Internship goals

Build a comprehensive literature review on decision-making determinants in forest planning and the provision of ecosystem services in various forest planning contexts.

Contribute to the design and conduction of a choice experiment to evaluate forest management scenarios and ecosystem service packages within the context of climate change.

Contribute to the analysis of the results of the choice experiment using econometric methods.

Collaborate with a multidisciplinary team, in particular for the preparation of the focus groups.

Contribute to the formulation of recommendations for adaptive forest planning strategies in the face of climate change.

Requirements

Educational background: Economics.

Competencies:

- Knowledge of fundamental concepts in (environmental) economics.
- Proficiency in statistical methods and econometrics.
- Knowledge of the environment, particularly forest ecosystems, is advantageous.
- Strong communication skills in both French and English.
- High interest in interdisciplinary research and excellent teamwork skills.

Duration

Six months.

Starting date

Between February 1st and April 1st, 2024.

Work location

Bureau for Economic Theory and Applications (BETA), Nancy, Campus AgroParisTech.

Supervision and environment

The work will be conducted in close collaboration with Jens Abildtrup (INRAE, UMR BETA) and Sandrine Brêteau-Amores (APESA – INRAE, UMR BETA) within the framework of the "New Competencies for Forest Planning Under Grand Challenges" (C4CHANGE) project. The internship will take place at BETA but will involve partnerships with colleagues in other human and social sciences from the Silva laboratory, who are also part of the project.

Conditions

Gratuity amount: €4.05 per hour or a monthly bonus distributed over the entire six-month internship period, amounting to €581.18.

The trainee will have access to site infrastructure and services, including office space, a desktop computer, software, and an on-site canteen.

The trainee will be encouraged to participate in the scientific activities of UMR BETA, such as seminars and conferences.

How to apply

To apply for this internship, please submit the following documents to jens.abildtrup@inrae.fr and sandrine.breteau-amores@inrae.fr :

- Your CV.
- A cover letter explaining your interest in the internship and how your qualifications align with the project's goals.

Application Deadline: April 30, 2024.

