



*DOCTORAL INPhINIT FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAMME – INCOMING FRAME
INFORMATION CALL 2020*

PhD POSITION OFFER FORM

Position

Project Title/ Job Position title: **Environmental Justice Movements and the Commons:
a Virtuous Circle?**

1. Area of Knowledge: **(choose one option)**

- LIFE SCIENCES

2. Group of disciplines: **(choose one option)**

LIFE SCIENCES

Medicine, Public Health, Sport Sciences, Nutrition, Clinical Psychology, Health Management

Animal, Plant, Environmental Biology, Physiology, Ecology and Conservation

Human Biology, Microbiology, Molecular Biology, Genetics, Cellular Biology, Genomics and Proteomics, Biochemistry

Agriculture, Veterinary Science, Animal Production, Forestry

Biotechnology, Bioinformatics, Pharmacy, Food Technology

PHYSICAL SCIENCES, MATHEMATICS AND ENGINEERING

Theoretical and Applied Mathematics, Computer Sciences

Physics

Geology, Earth Sciences, Environmental and Atmosphere Sciences, Mines, Geological Engineering, Oceanography, Hydrology



Civil and Construction Engineering, Energy, Nuclear Energy and Renewable Energy Engineering
Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
Telecommunications, Electronics, Robotics, Biomedical Engineering, Automation Engineering, ICT
Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Metallurgy, Materials, Nanotechnology, Aeronautical, Naval and Aerospace Engineering

3. Research project/ Research Group description (max. 2.000 characters)

For decades local communities of water, forest and fisheries users around the world have demonstrated a notable capacity to mobilize against government-promoted projects, large extractive industries and other threats to their livelihoods; however, while some of those communities are well organized into autonomous management organizations (water user associations, fishing cooperatives, community forest associations) and successfully manage their resources, others have for long failed to do so. This illustrates two potential outcomes of the relationship between conflict and grassroots mobilization and community-based natural resource management (CBNRM). The goal of this study is to determine conditions under which social movements, through the mobilization processes they generate, can support communities' collective action for sustainable management of resources. This is not a trivial relationship. On one hand, socio-environmental conflicts are an endemic phenomenon of our societies, with more than 1,200 instances registered all over the world. Many of those conflicts have great potential to improve natural resource conditions, or just the opposite. On the other hand, despite the international consensus about the benefits of community stewardship for sustainable resource governance, the reality is that communities often face self-governance challenges related to cooperation and institutional failure.

CBNRM and social mobilization are two paradigmatic instances of collective action, the interaction of which has been barely explored so far. CBNRM research emerged to identify the conditions under which natural resource users can cooperatively manage their shared resources. Social movement research includes a number of strands concerned with different mobilization aspects and their impact on policy. This study will build on recent developments in the environmental justice (EJ) scholarship to facilitate the dialogue between CPR and SM theories.

4. Job position description (max. 2.000 characters)

This project will build on Social Movement and CBNRM research and the internationally renowned expertise environmental justice hosted at the Institute of Environmental Science

and Technology (UAB) ICTA to investigate the following questions, among potentially others: Are mobilization and management processes comparable across water, fisheries and forest resource contexts? Are social movements that involve the participation of natural resource management communities qualitatively different from those that do not? How do characteristics of social mobilization processes affect the management of natural resources by local communities? To address these questions the project shall: (1) conduct preliminary empirical research to explore how the involvement of local communities in environmental justice movements vary across environmental and governance contexts; (2) conduct empirical research to explore causal relationships between environmental movements' activities, the participation of communities in those activities, and CBNRM; (3) build a new and original model that integrates social mobilization and CBNRM factors to understand natural resource conservation; and (4) elaborate policy recommendations to better integrate of conflict resolution and resource management policy. Methodologically, the project will aim to integrate multiple methods, e.g., a large-n meta-analysis of environmental justice movements across different environmental (e.g., forest, mining, pollution, communication infrastructure building) conflicts; a comparative case study including some of those conflicts; and/or a series of economic/policy experiments with households from a selection of the communities involved.

Group Leader

1. Title: **Ramon y Cajal Fellow**
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4. Research project/ Research Group website (Url):
https://ictaweb.uab.cat/personal_detail.php?id=4066
5. Website description: **Institutional website**

Additional website (optional, max. 5 websites)

1. Url:
2. Website description: