Post-Doc on environmental valuation and ecosystem services (Department of Economics and Management, University of Trento)

10th October 2022

Research description

This research is part of the MARBEFES (Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning leading to Ecosystem Services) project, a multidisciplinary project funded by the European Union under the HORIZON EUROPE Programme, "HORIZON-CL6-2021-BIODIV-01" theme. The overarching objective of MARBEFES is to improve the understanding and the management of marine biodiversity in European countries, in order to enhance policy, governance and secure benefits for current and future generations. The project brings together more than 20 different institutions and more than 100 leading experts including economist, statisticians, marine biologists, ecologists and geographers.

The primary task of this Post-Doctoral position will be the development and the application of modelling approaches to estimate the economic value of marine biodiversity and related ecosystem services and natural capital. It will also be possible to work on estimating the impact of different environmental policies targeted to the marine and coastal environment and/or the establishment of a system of natural capital accounting.

The experience in empirical methods and applied economics is essential, while experience in environmental valuation methods (e.g. travel cost, discrete choice experiments etc.) and natural capital accounting is a plus. Familiarity with (or interest in) software for the analysis of geographical information system (GIS) data and with the statistical software R (or alternative statistical software such as Stata or MATLAB) are also very welcomed. While the main duty of this post will be economic analysis and modelling, an interest in multidisciplinary research is also appreciated.

The Post-Doctoral scholar will also be expected to carry out literature reviews, collect relevant data, contribute to the drafting of project reports and papers. The postholder will play a leading role in generating a number of high-profile research publications, which will serve as a springboard for their career. The post holder will be supervised by Professor Carlo Fezzi (carlo.fezzi@unitn.it) and will collaborate with the other faculty involved in the project, in particular with Professor Sandra Notaro. The initial employment is for 24 months but extensions will be possible subject to satisfactory performance.