VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Post-Doctoral Researcher
Pacific Water Research Centre, Faculty of Environment, SFU
Closing Date: 20 November 2019

Overview:
We are looking for an outstanding individual with a strong commitment to policy-relevant research and in-depth knowledge of quantitative analysis and data management. The Post-Doctoral Research (PDR) will play a leading role in a tri-national project on methodologies for costing of flood impacts in Canada, Mexico and the United States.

Pacific Water Research Centre:
The vision of the Faculty of Environment’s Pacific Water Research Centre (PWRC) is to promote and mobilize research that addresses water issues on multiple scales ranging from local communities to national to global. In pursuit of this vision, PWRC connects critical findings from science and social science research with local knowledge. By supporting cross-disciplinary exploration at the interface of water science, social values, and public policy, the Centre provides a forum for advancing evidence-based research and concrete societal change. This research approach creates space to test policy and technological innovation.

CEC Project: Costing Floods and Other Extreme Events:
The main objective of this project, approved and funded by the Council of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC), is to develop a standardized methodology for assessing the cost of extreme floods in North America, to address the great variation that exists in the methods used in each country to estimate the costs of flood damages. The project is implemented through collaboration among government agencies, community representatives, private sector partners, and domain experts. A secondary objective is to extend this methodology to a multi-hazard assessment (e.g., hurricanes, tornadoes, forest fires, landslides). Such an approach, applied across the three countries, will enable systematic investments by governmental agencies to enhance resilience to extreme events, reduce future economic impacts, and support real-time monitoring and disaster response.

Responsibilities:
PWRC will engage the PDR for a duration of 1 year starting 15 December 2019 to support the CEC project activities in all three countries as an expert in data analysis, providing support for organization of project activities and co-authoring key outputs of the project. The PDR will be based at the School of Resources and Environmental Management at Simon Fraser University (Burnaby, BC, Canada) on a full-time basis. Occasional travel to Mexico and the United States, as well as within Canada, may be required.

Working directly under the supervision of the Executive Director, PWRC, the PDR will be responsible for:
1. Liaising with project partner organizations in Canada, Mexico and the United States to review and accumulate data and information necessary for validation of proposed flood costing methodology;
2. Undertaking an analysis of data for each country and developing a report that summarizes the strengths and weaknesses of the selected methodology and the observed geographical and temporal trends in Canada, Mexico and the United States;
3. Serving as a co-author of a summary paper describing the analytical results and trends observed, with key findings/recommendations to be published in a peer-reviewed publication;
4. Supporting the formulation of a background papers for the second and third project workshops through literature review and engagement with key indigenous and other partner organizations;
5. Co-authoring a policy brief describing key findings of the project, including oversight of graphic design and language editing;
6. Supporting the design of case studies in Mexico, Canada and USA through engagement with organizational partners, development of data accumulation methodologies and co-authoring of a final case-study report; and,
7. Liaising with the CEC Secretariat and the Project Steering Committee on regular basis and providing monthly progress reports.

Qualifications and Requirements:
a. Ph.D. in one of the following or closely related fields: environmental science, environmental economics, environmental engineering, geography, hydrology. All the Ph.D. requirements must be fully completed by 15 December 2019.
b. A strong background in quantitative analysis and data management.
c. Demonstrated experience in both policy-relevant and peer-reviewed scientific publications. Prior experience in engaging with various policy audiences will be considered a plus.
d. Result-oriented and self-motivated person with the ability to prioritize work load and multi-task.
e. Excellent team player with strong interpersonal skills and ability to work in a multi-cultural and multi-ethnic environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity.
f. Demonstrated excellence in communications in oral and written English. Fluency in Spanish and/or French will be considered a plus.

Application Procedure:
Interested applicants should submit their applications by e-mail in the form of a single Adobe Acrobat PDF file to Dr. Zafar Adeel at: zadeel@sfu.ca. Applications must include the following: (a) a cover letter setting out how the applicant’s qualifications and experience match the requirements of the position; (b) curriculum vitae of the applicant; and, (c) full contact information of at least two professional referees. The applications must be received by 20 November 2019.

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted; unsuccessful applications can neither be acknowledged nor returned.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority. SFU is an equity employer and encourages applications from all qualified individuals including women, persons with disabilities, visible minorities, Indigenous Peoples, people of all sexual orientations and gender identities, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of the university.