

## Position Announcement: Postdoctoral Researcher

---

We seek candidates for a Postdoctoral Researcher who will join investigators at Politecnico di Milano ([www.polimi.it/en](http://www.polimi.it/en)) in the project “*Safenet – Sustainable Fisheries in EU Mediterranean waters through network of MPAs*”, funded by the European Commission – Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. The Postdoc will be based at Dipartimento di Elettronica, Informazione e Bioingegneria ([www.deib.polimi.it/eng/home-page](http://www.deib.polimi.it/eng/home-page)), but will actively participate in the activities of the project, which involves research institutions from France (CNRS, Université Nice Sophia Antipolis), Italy (POLIMI, WWF Italia, CIBM, COISPA), and Spain (Universitat de Girona, Ecopath International Initiative).

The Safenet project ([www.criobe.pf/recherche/safenet/](http://www.criobe.pf/recherche/safenet/)) aims to identify coherent networks of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and other area-based fisheries management rules (such as temporary closures), whose emergent properties (namely the interactive effect of scaling-up MPAs) can help achieve fisheries maximum sustainable yield (MSY) and maximize over the long-term socio-economic benefits for the stakeholders in the north-western Mediterranean Sea (NWM). To meet this objective, the partnership will apply the ecosystem-based approach to the management at both large scale and small scale fisheries in NWM. Project findings will be therefore key to achieve 1) good environmental status (GES; representing the main goal of Marine Strategy Framework Directive, MSFD) and 2) environmental, economic and social sustainability of fisheries (as dictated by the Common Fisheries Policy, CFP).

The Postdoc will be involved in Work Package 5 (Bio-economic models) and will, in particular, contribute to 1) developing coupled physical-biological models describing the dispersal of early life-history stages in selected fish species, 2) assessing recruitment subsidy from marine protected areas, 3) assessing the bio-economic benefits of recruitment protection in small-scale and mixed fisheries. We seek a creative individual with expertise in a relevant ecological or oceanographic discipline (e.g., marine ecology, biophysical oceanography, spatial analysis and modeling) and the ability to effectively work in interdisciplinary teams. The work of the Postdoc will require proficiency in programming (Fortran, Matlab and/or R), experience with GIS tools and data visualization, ability to manage large datasets. We seek a person with experience and/or strong interest in both advancing scientific frontiers and addressing real-world challenges of fisheries sustainability. The position is for one up to two years, starting in spring 2017.

The successful candidate will have a PhD in a related field and preferably a 2 to 4-year experience in advanced technical work, including demonstrated ability to analyze systems and solve complex technical problems using spatial analytic methods, and experience in the analysis and interpretation of environmental data using statistical methods and/or modeling. Preference will be given to candidates proficient in issues related to oceanography, fisheries science, marine ecology, biological conservation, marine spatial planning, as well as scientific productivity demonstrated by publications in high-level peer-reviewed journals. Candidates must possess strong teamwork skills and ability to work successfully within an interdisciplinary group of researchers. Because of the international nature of the work, the ability to read and speak Italian, French and/or Spanish would be an additional asset.

Interested candidates should send a cover letter, research statement, *Curriculum Vitae*, and the names and contacts of three references to Paco Melià at [paco.melia@polimi.it](mailto:paco.melia@polimi.it) by February 17, 2017.