Post-doctoral grant offer to contribute to a BiodivERsA project on impacts of translocations of flora and fauna for conservation and restoration projects in Europe (TRANSLOC)

The Biodiversity Landscape team of Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech, University of Liège is recruiting a post-doc fellow for a period of 36 months, full time, as a partner of the TRANSLOC project “Translocations of flora and fauna for conservation and restoration: ecological, evolutionary, and socio-economic impacts, at multiple scales” obtained in the call Biodiv Restore COFUND action “to support research on “Conservation and restoration of degraded ecosystems and their biodiversity, including a focus on aquatic systems”.

Beaver hut and dam introduced 20 years ago in Wallonia.
The main objective of the TRANSLOC project is to investigate and quantify how local conservation translocations impact ecological, evolutionary and sociological trajectories of restoration at multiple scales in the Western Palearctic. Mixing large databases and accurate case studies, this project will aim to i) document, quantify and analyse translocation efforts and efficacy, ii) investigate their congruence with future impacts of global change iii) assess their motivations and socio-economic cobenefits, iv) develop and apply generic and multidimensional criteria to assess their impact on socio-ecosystem in the short and long terms v) engage stakeholders and produce robust science-based policy recommendations for local to European-level action.

The project brings together ten partners from seven countries (FR, BE, ES, CH, MA, PT, SE) and is coordinated by MNHN (CESCO – Prof. F. Sarrazin) at Paris – France.

The Belgian contribution targets mainly the analysis of congruence of translocation efforts with global changes by analyzing a large dataset describing the distribution of translocation programs in Europe (location of release/sowing/transplantation sites), modeling species distribution (SDM) and we will assess if translocation initiatives implemented in the past decades are consistent with future scenarios of global changes. Other inputs are expected on other work packages and on the synthesis considering additional dimensions of success from the evolutionary, functional and social perspectives in order to embrace a comprehensive and systemic view of translocation success for the purpose of conservation and restoration.

QUALIFICATIONS/SKILLS/EDUCATION & RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS

The candidate must hold a PhD from less than 10 years. Candidates should have a demonstrated knowledge and publications in conservation biology, population dynamic analysis and species distribution modeling, a demonstrated experience of ecological and biological database management and species modelling approaches at different scales.
Frequent exchanges with the TRANSLOC partners are expected. Fieldwork to evaluate translocation projects could be also be considered in the frame of the project.

The candidate must not have spent more than 12 months in the last 3 years in the Belgium to be eligible for this fellowship status.

OFFER
We offer a post-doc research fellowship with full social security coverage for a maximum of 36 months, depending on the starting date. Net monthly salary will be around 2500 €, precise amount depending on country of origin. Annual package for travels and equipment will be allotted.

REQUESTED DOCUMENTS FOR APPLICATION
Applicants must email a CV, a statement of interest, a letter of recommendation and contact details for 2-3 references at Marc.Dufrene@ULiege.be for the 21/02/2022.

STARTING DATE
As soon as possible from 01/03/2022.

JOB LOCATION
Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech at Gembloux (Belgium) but frequent exchanges are expected with other TRANSLOC partners.