Ref. No. SU FV-1144-17

**PhD student in Sustainability Science**

**at** [**the Stockholm Resilience Centre**](http://www.stockholmresilience.su.se/)**. Closing date: 2 May 2017.**

The mission of the Stockholm Resilience Centre (SRC) is to advance research for biosphere stewardship and innovation. Research at the SRC applies a social-ecological systems perspective and resilience thinking to generate knowledge and understanding to enable social-ecological transformations towards sustainable futures. Research is advanced through transdisciplinary collaboration with international leading researchers, research environments worldwide, and environmental actors.

The SRC aims to foster new generations of researchers and academic leaders through our Resilience Research School. The school equips students with a theoretical and practical foundation in Sustainability Science with a focus on resilience in social-ecological systems. Students are encouraged to develop new approaches that integrate methods and concepts from the social, natural and applied sciences. Emphasis is placed on developing student ability to define a problem, develop research methods, and communicate research findings within international scientific and science-policy discussions.

**Project description**We are seeking a self-motivated and ambitious PhD student to study novel food webs and their capability to sustainably produce ecosystem goods and services. Novel food webs that are compositionally unlike any foodwebs found today are increasingly likely due to a novel combination of multiple drivers. A failure in anticipating the consequences of novel food webs will likely lead to ecological surprises that hamper the provision of ecosystem services to humanity. Hence, there is an urgent need to widen our perspective on how food webs may look like in the future, especially when it comes to the projection of future scenarios for ecosystem-based management.

The student will be part of the EU BONUS project “Blue Growth boundaries in novel Baltic food webs” (BLUEWEBS) that will start 1 April 2017. As part of the BLUEWEBS team the student will analyse long-term time series data from the Baltic Sea to compare foodweb dynamics, their novelty and the potential for ecosystem service provision along the environmental gradient of the Baltic Sea, as well as with other marine ecosystems. Taking profit of the inter-disciplinary nature of Stockholm Resilience Centre, the student will collaborate with other experts in climatic, social and ecological areas to explore novel ecosystems and their socio-ecological coupling and ecosystem service provisioning potential. The position requires ecological knowledge and mathematical skills. The student should also be prepared to work interdiscplinary using a social-ecological systems thinking approach.

**Qualification requirements**To be admitted as a PhD student at the Stockholm Resilience Centre one must be eligible to be admitted to a PhD Programme in Natural Science at Stockholm University. In order to meet *the general entry requirements*, the applicant must have completed a second-cycle degree, completed courses equivalent to at least 240 higher education credits, of which 60 credits must be in the second cycle, or have otherwise acquired equivalent knowledge in Sweden or elsewhere.

*Specific entry requirements* for admission to postgraduate studies in Sustainability Science are that the applicant has a total of at least 30 credits, or equivalent, at advanced level in Natural Science, Civil or Environmental Engineering, Physical Geography, Sustainability Science or Environmental Studies as well as a thesis of at least 30 credits at advanced level in any of these areas.

Only a person who will be or has already been admitted to a third-cycle programme may be appointed to a doctoral studentship. The primary assessment criteria in appointing a doctoral student should be the capacity to benefit from the training.

**Selection**The selection among the eligible candidates will be based on all/some of the following:

* Academic/working experience with aquatic food webs.
* Analytical ability as demonstrated by a scientific report, paper or degree project thesis.
* Programming skills (e.g., R, Python) for handling and analysing large volumes of environmental data.
* Creativity, the desire to do research, self-motivation and willingness to collaborate with professionals in other disciplines.
* The applicant’s personal references.

Admission Regulations for Doctoral Studies at Stockholm University are available at: [www.su.se/rules](http://www.su.se/rules/book-2/education-at-phd-level-research/admission-regulations-for-doctoral-studies-at-stockholm-university-1.270190).

**Terms of employment**The term of the initial contract may not exceed one year. The employment may be extended for a maximum of two years at a time. However, the total period of employment may not exceed the equivalent of four years of full-time study.

Doctoral students should primarily devote themselves to their own education, but may engage in teaching, research, and administration corresponding to a maximum of 20 % of a full-time position.

Please note that admission decisions cannot be appealed.

Stockholm University strives to be a workplace free from discrimination and with equal opportunities for all.

**Contact**For information about the position and the project, please contact Associate Professor Thorsten Blenckner, thorsten.blenckner@su.se, phone: +46 86747669. For more information about the Resilience Research School or sustainability science at the Stockholm Resilience Centre, please contact Head of Subject, Prof. Garry Peterson, telephone: +46 73 707 85 92, garry.peterson@su.se. For more information on the PhD research, please contact the supervisor Fernando Jaramillo, telephone: +46 704 529773, fernando.jaramillo@natgeo.su.se.

**Union representatives**Anqi Lindblom-Ahlm (Saco-S) and Lisbeth Häggberg (Fackförbundet ST and Lärarförbundet), telephone +46 (0)8 16 20 00 (operator), seko@seko.su.se (SEKO), and PhD student representative: doktorandombud@sus.su.se.

**Application**Apply for the position at Stockholm University's recruitment system by clicking the "Apply" button. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the application is complete in accordance with the instructions in the job advertisement, and that it is submitted before the deadline.

Please include the following information with your application

* Your contact details and personal data
* Your highest degree
* Your language skills
* Contact details for 2–3 references

and, in addition, please include the following documents

* Cover letter
* CV – degrees and other completed courses, work experience and a list of degree projects/theses
* Research proposal (no more than 3 pages) describing:
– why you are interested in the field/project described in the advertisement
– why and how you wish to complete the project
– what makes you suitable for the project in question
* Degree certificates and grades confirming that you meet the general and specific entry requirements (no more than 6 files)
* Letters of recommendation (no more than 3 files)
* Degree projects/theses (no more than 3 files).

The instructions for applicants are available at: [Instructions – Applicants](http://www.su.se/english/about/vacancies/instructions-applicants).

**You are welcome to apply!**