

**Two-year engineer contract, “Study of the effects of ocean acidification on the functioning of natural planktonic communities in the Mediterranean Sea, using large-scale pelagic mesocosms”**

An engineer position is available for two years within the EU FP7 project “Mediterranean Sea Acidification in a changing climate” (“MedSea”).

Ocean acidification is the term used to describe the decrease in seawater pH due to ocean’s absorption of anthropogenic carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from the atmosphere. Ocean acidification is suspected to affect the functioning of planktonic communities with, for instance, potential modifications of their size structure and net production rates, of the C:N ratio of newly produced organic matter, of the bacterial abundance and mineralization rates and of the organic matter sedimentation rates to the deep-ocean. The response of these processes will be investigated on the whole planktonic assemblage in the framework of the MedSea project, using large pelagic mesocosms (52 m<sup>3</sup>) perturbation experiments that will be conducted over several weeks in both the Western and Eastern basins of the Mediterranean Sea.

**Responsibilities:** The applicant will be in charge of the preparation, organization and supervision of these large mesocosms (9 units) joint experiments in Corsica (Western Mediterranean, France; May-June 2012) and in Crete (Eastern Mediterranean, Greece; April-May 2013). Perturbations and sampling tests will be performed in the bay of Villefranche (France) in October 2011 on a limited number of mesocosms.

**Requirements:** A candidate with a background in carbonate chemistry and field work experience is sought. Good communication and coordination skills are also required as the experiments will bring together scientists from several European laboratories.

**Host laboratory:** The engineer will be based at the Laboratoire d’Océanographie de Villefranche (Villefranche-sur-mer, France).

**Duration of contract and salary:** This is a two-year position starting around 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011. The salary will be according to the rule of the French legislation (monthly gross salary of 1980 – 2120 € according to the candidate experience).

**Further information:**

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**How to apply**

The candidates should send to Frédéric Gazeau, a curriculum vitae, a short (less than one page) statement on why she/he finds this offer attractive, and the name and email addresses of three referees. The deadline for application is **1 April 2011**.