

VACANCY NOTICE

Date of issue: July 21th 2010

Postdoc position on interannual climate prediction at the Climate Forecasting Unit (CFU)

REFERENCE NO: IC3-CFU-2010-03

LOCATION: IC3 headquarters in Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

ENVIRONMENT: IC3 is a climate research institute recently created by the Government of Catalonia. IC3's main scientific goal is to assess and understand climate variability and change at both global and regional scales to improve both predictions and projections. Linked to this goal, IC3 works on understanding and simulating how global change modulates variability and change in society and ecosystems. IC3's mandate is to become a leading international centre for climate research in Europe, with a regional focus on the Mediterranean area. IC3 will mainly develop top-quality research on basic and applied climate sciences, while informing society and stakeholders on future climate risks. Working languages of IC3 are English, Catalan and Spanish. For details, see www.ic3.cat.

There is growing interest in the implications of climate variability and change from a season to a few decades ahead. Reliable climate information is critical to ensure that adaptation measures to climate variability and change are well justified and efficient. The Climate Forecasting Unit (CFU), which is led by the ICREA Research Professor F. J. Doblas-Reyes, undertakes research on the development and assessment of dynamical and statistical methods for the prediction of global climate on time scales ranging from months to decades. More information about the activities of the unit is available from the following links:

<http://www.ic3.cat/research.html>

<http://ic3cfu.wikispot.org>

MAIN DUTIES: The successful applicant will investigate the predictability and actual forecast quality of interannual ensemble predictions carried out with the dynamical global climate model EC-Earth. The applicant will be involved in developments within the EC-EARTH consortium to carry out initialized interannual ensemble simulations. Outstanding opportunities exist for collaboration with other European research institutions.

QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS AND ABILITIES: A Ph.D. in Atmospheric Sciences, Physical Oceanography or related disciplines and experience in climate dynamics and climate modelling are required. Experience in working with complex dynamical models, code parallelization, climate predictions and dealing with different data formats is preferred. Good programming skills in Fortran90 and Linux are required; knowledge in python scripting and the use of the R language will also be considered. The candidate should be able to work as an active and collaborative team member to help in the delivery of shared objectives, to communicate clearly with a range of colleagues of varying levels of technical and scientific competence. The candidate is expected to be fluent in English. Fluency in other European languages will be also valued.

REMUNERATION: Annual gross salary within the range of 29.000 € (IC3 salary level S12) to 33.600 Euros (IC3 salary level S15). In principle, the successful applicant will be engaged at the lowest step of the grade of the post for which he/she has been selected. Exceptionally, recruitment may be at a higher level when this is justified by qualifications and experience. A deduction of 6.35% will be made for the Spanish health and social public insurance system. In order to calculate net salary figures, an additional tax deduction of around 15% (depending on the salary level) should be applied. A tax free food allowance of 1100 €/year should be added to the previous figures.

LENGTH OF CONTRACT: One year, renewable for two more years. There is a possibility of a further extension after a positive outcome in the external evaluation that will be carried on at the end of the contract.

STARTING DATE: The position starts preferably in November 2010 or as soon as possible after that date.

APPLICATIONS: The “application form” and “aptitude test” should be downloaded from IC3's website www.ic3.cat. Applicants should fill in the application form and the aptitude test and email both of them to jobs@ic3.cat indicating IC3-CFU-2010-03 on the "Subject".

CLOSING DATE: Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, though the evaluation of the first candidates will start in September 2010. Please, check the status of the offer on the corresponding link of the IC3 web-page.