



JOB OFFER - EQUALSEA LAB

European Research Council Consolidator Grant

The ERC Consolidator Grant project EQUALSEA - Sustainability transformations towards ocean equity is being developed at [CRETUS, Santiago de Compostela](#). The EqualSea Lab, under the Direction of Prof. Sebastian Villasante, is working directly with international organizations, government agencies, and other stakeholders to build an unprecedented collection of data about transformative changes towards ocean equity. The work consists in working with a network of global collaborators to investigate why, where and how tipping points and transformative changes occur. The Lab uses project outputs to develop decision-support tools such as web-based applications, policy briefs, and training sessions as well as making cutting-edge contributions to the academic literature..

As part of a wider aim across the Tipping Points (PTP) community to develop research on what constitutes potential 'positive' tipping points (PTPs), the Global South PTP Hub will lead an activity to document examples of positive tipping points in social-ecological systems. The database of positive tipping point examples, opportunities and indicators will initially start with a focus on identifying examples from the Global South, focussing initially on Africa and Latin America, but with the intention to expand more broadly over time. The initiative will be developed by the [EqualSea Lab](#) (Program Lead; Prof. Sebastian Villasante), the [University of the Witwatersrand](#) (Global South Positive Tipping Point hub Lead; Prof. Laura Pereira) and the [University of Exeter](#) (Dr. Tom Powell).

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER IN POSITIVE TIPPING POINTS IN SOCIAL-ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

Understanding Positive Tipping Points (PTP) in different geographic, economic and cultural contexts will be a core activity for the next iteration of the Global Tipping Points community, and is an essential step in applying PTP research to drive impactful change. In the Global South, the ecological capital of many countries provide services underpinning billions of livelihoods, as well as playing critical roles in meeting both the Paris agreement (UNFCCC) and the Kunming-Montreal agreement (UNCBD).

As part of a wider aim across the TP community to build a database of positive tipping point examples, opportunities and indicators, the Global South PTP Hub will lead an activity documenting examples of positive tipping points in social-ecological systems. We aim to capture key elements of PTPs in social-ecological systems from local human-ecosystem interactions and governance to other enablers including climate and nature finance, policy for climate, nature and sustainable development etc. Through this approach we aim to develop understanding of the enabling conditions for scaling out, scaling up and scaling deep to drive

positive transformation of social-ecological systems, with an initial focus across Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America.

This database will serve as a public-facing repository of case-studies and narratives for use by researchers, grassroots communities, NGOs, policy makers and other actors aiming to trigger rapid systemic change. The database will be designed as a public-facing resource hosted on the Global Tipping Points website, with narrative summaries describing each case-study, and additional layers providing deeper analysis and a repository of relevant literature etc. Building the database will enable wider synthesis and generate insights for application by policy makers, grassroots initiatives, NGOs and other decision makers.

PhD in the social, sustainability or social-ecological sciences or similar disciplines is required. A proven track-record of strong analytical skills are required to manage multiple sources of data and evidence of critical thinking is important. Knowledge of other languages besides English will be valued. Candidates from Africa and Latin America are strongly encouraged to apply. Some travel is likely to be required as part of the project. The contract is full-time with an initial duration of 24 months.

Key features for all job applications

Start ideally in end of March-April 2024 or according to availability

- The leader team is based at [CRETUS](#) located at [Santiago de Compostela](#) (Spain), but the candidate will be able to work remotely. They will be co-mentored by Profs. Villasante and Pereira
- 3-month trial period
- Full-time represents 37.5 weekly working hours, with flexible organization
- Fluent English required
- We search for applicants with a high motivation and commitment, autonomy, and ability for team work
- The job offers will be published on the [EURAXESS](#) and [USC job bank](#) by early May 2024

HOW TO APPLY

Please send your expression of interest and your CV to sebastian.villasante@usc.es and laura.pereira@wits.ac.za before April 31st 2024, and include a description of your motivation, expectations and the added value you will represent for the project.