

## **BESTTuna PhD position 3a**

### **PhD position on fisher level decision making in response to retail and brand strategies for sustainable tuna.**

#### **We are looking for**

Applications are being invited for a PhD student to conduct research through the BESTTuna programme; attached to the Business Economics Group (BEC) and the Environmental Policy Group (ENP) at Wageningen University, and in partnership with the University of the Philippines Mindanao (UPM). You will conduct research on potential effects of brand and retail strategies as well as third party certification enhancing sustainability on decision making at the fishers level. Empirical analysis will be done to study entry and exit behaviour of tuna fishers in response to changing conditions. Decision models will be developed to analyse effects of the new incentive mechanisms on fisher's decisions to adapt fishing practices. Both small scale fishery households and large scale fishing companies will be studied. The post will be based in Wageningen but expected to spend extended periods of time in the Western Pacific based at the University of the Philippines in Mindanao (UPM).

BESTTuna is a major research programme funded by the Interdisciplinary Research and Education Fund (INREF) that supports cooperative research between research groups at Wageningen University (The Netherlands), Bogor University (Indonesia), the University of the Philippines, the University of the South Pacific (Fiji) and the WWF-Coral Triangle Initiative. The objective of BESTTuna is to study the design of effective and equitable state and market-based governance arrangements to achieve sustainable trans-boundary tuna management in the Coral Triangle and Western Pacific. As an interdisciplinary programme emphasis is given to social, political, economic and ecological dimensions.

#### **We ask**

- A Masters degree in economics, decision science or any other related field
- Sufficient mathematical and modelling skills
- Knowledge of fisheries management is an advantage
- Capacity to carry out independent fieldwork in an international setting
- A collaborative and team oriented attitude, with an open mind for other scientific approaches
- A strong ambition to upgrade your knowledge and academic skills
- Candidates with a scientific publication record are preferred.
- The position is open for citizens of Pacific nations only.

#### **We require**

Wageningen University has the following admission criteria for PhD students: English proficiency of 6.5 for IELTS, with a minimum of 6.0 for each academic module. You also need an acceptance of the candidate by the supervisors and the equivalent of a Dutch MSc degree. For further information on the specific application criteria see:

<http://www.wageningenuniversity.nl/UK/informationfor/PhD+programmes/Application/>

### **We offer**

The 4-years PhD study will be developed according to a Sandwich formula, with maximum 28 months of field work in the Western Pacific, and minimum 20 months data analysis, writing and training in Wageningen, the Netherlands.

The candidate will be employed by the University of the Philippines in Mindanao for the duration of the study. For the months spent in the Netherlands an allowance is available in accordance with the Dutch fellowship program to cover additional costs of living and accommodation of €190 per month. Furthermore the PhD candidate will receive a settling in allowance, a book allowance and a health- and third party insurance during the months spent in Wageningen and international travel costs and the costs for visa for the Netherlands will be paid for.

### **To apply**

Send your application, a covering letter with your motivation and a CV, before the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2012 to Simon Bush by email ([simon.bush@wur.nl](mailto:simon.bush@wur.nl)). **Please indicate the number of the BESTTuna PhD position you are applying for clearly in your cover letter.**

### **Additional information**

See [www.besttuna.wur.nl](http://www.besttuna.wur.nl) or contact Simon Bush ([simon.bush@wur.nl](mailto:simon.bush@wur.nl)), Paul Berentsen ([paul.berentsen@wur.nl](mailto:paul.berentsen@wur.nl)) or Larry Digal ([larryd927@yahoo.com](mailto:larryd927@yahoo.com)) .