

# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

## FELLOWSHIPS IN ECOSYSTEM APPROACHES TO HEALTH

*EkoSanté* – The Latin American, Caribbean and Canadian Collaboration in ecohealth is launching its first wave of fellowships. Three fellowships are offered at this time; two are based in Canada and focus respectively on the development of an analytical framework for ecohealth case studies and on the Resilience and Sustainability of the Collaboration and the approach.

### EKOSANTÉ - A LATIN AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN AND CANADIAN COLLABORATION

*EkoSanté* is a collaboration arising from Communities of Practice in Ecosystem Approaches to Health (CoPEH) in Latin America and the Caribbean ([CoPEH-LAC](#)) and in Canada ([CoPEH-Canada](#)). *EkoSanté* was formalised in 2013 after receiving financial support from the International Development Research Center of Canada (IDRC).

Informed by experience with ecosystem approaches to health, the collaboration aims to improve strategies, methods and means for influencing and guiding intersectoral policies and practices that enhance ecosystem sustainability, social and gender equity and public health. A research and capacity building program is being developed and implemented over a four-year period. The program is comprised of training awards, intensive summer schools, professional development workshops, research fellowships and multi-stakeholder dialogue sessions. More information about the collaboration will be available soon at [www.ekosante.uqam.ca](http://www.ekosante.uqam.ca).

### FELLOWSHIPS

This call for applications provides information regarding each of the three fellowships in the first wave of fellowships being offered by the *EkoSanté* collaboration. All fellows will be expected to work closely with one another and with members of *EkoSanté*.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Languages: all fellows need to be fluent in spoken English and Spanish and in writing for one of these two languages. Knowledge of Portuguese and French are considered an advantage.
- Ecohealth: all fellows must demonstrate a familiarity with ecosystem approaches to health.
- For both Canada and Latin America : masters, PhD and postdoctoral trainees are eligible.
- For Latin America young scholars and researchers affiliated with a university (less than five years after the completion of master or doctoral degree) are also eligible.
- Applicants will be Permanent resident or citizens of Canada, or countries in LAC, or have a visa for studying in those countries. All applicants will also need to be living in Canada or in Latin America and the Caribbean.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE FELLOWSHIPS

### FELLOWSHIPS (2) FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK – CANADA AND LATIN AMERICA

One of the objectives of *EkoSanté* is to build on existing initiatives in each region to create and share knowledge on how to best research, communicate and act on the complexity inherent in problems overlapping health, ecosystems and society. In order to do so, we are working on developing an analytical framework that will be applied to “case studies” in ecosystem approaches to health. In order to build these case studies, we are building a database of past or on-going projects in ecosystem approaches to health in Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean. In collaboration with team members, the fellows will: help populate this database; work on a synthesis to identify clusters and themes of interest emerging from its content; articulate and construct “case study” characteristics arising out of data synthesis; and contribute to the refinement of the analytical framework. The bulk of the fellows’ work will focus on the synthesis and the construction of the case studies. Fellows will be expected to write reports on the progress of the work including one to be presented to the members of *EkoSanté* at a meeting that will be held in Montréal in August.

The Canadian *EkoSanté* fellowship is for 10 000 \$ CADs and will last one year.

The LAC *EkoSanté* fellowship is for 9 000 \$ CADs for two years.

### FELLOWSHIP FOCUSED ON WORKING ON THE RESILIENCE FRAMEWORK – CANADA

Regional outreach, both cross-national and within country, has been a strength of the founding partners of this collaboration. Both CoPEHs are experienced in working at various levels owing to their nodal structure; this initiative adds a new macro-level: spanning Canada and LAC. The collaboration aims at promoting the exchange of knowledge, the continuity and longevity of the CoPEHs and ecosystem approaches to health in the Americas.

By focusing on monitoring and evaluation of community of practice resilience and sustainability, this fellowship will especially focus on assessing the following goals of the *EkoSanté* collaboration:

- to build a strong, collaborative network made of connected denser components able to respond in a fluid manner to specific ecosystem challenges with health and social implications accompanying societal stakeholders;
- to engage in fruitful inter-disciplinary interchanges on conceptual and methodological aspects of relevance to ecosystems approaches to health and of interest to the involved researchers; and
- to foster enjoyment and pleasure through collaborative experiences, and minimise annoyance and frustration.

This fellow will make a substantial contribution to the development of a resilience and sustainability framework for communities of practice including key expected achievements, key actions as well as indicators to be documented, and the appropriate data collection procedures and tools necessary for the evaluation of the resilience and sustainability of *EkoSanté*.

This Canadian *EkoSanté* fellowship is for 10 000 \$ CADs and will last one year.

## TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION

The following is asked of applicants to this call. See the application form for more details. The application should be submitted either in Spanish or in English but the curriculum vitae and the support letters can be in English, French, Portuguese or Spanish.

- Applicant information
- Applicant curriculum vitae
- A letter of support from the supervisor (thesis supervisor or work supervisor).
- A letter of support from a member of *EkoSanté* (the list of members appears on the application form)<sup>1</sup>.
- A 2-page document presenting
  - the candidates experience in ecosystem approaches to health;
  - how the expertise / experience of the candidate is relevant for the fellowship;
  - how the fellowship is connected to actual or previous work of the candidate;
  - how the applicant sees her or his contributions to *EkoSanté*;
  - for the “Resilience and Sustainability fellowship”(only): a short paragraph on ideas on what should be included in the framework.

**The deadline to submit an application is May 31<sup>st</sup> 2014.**

**A first selection will be made based on the submitted application. Selected candidates will then be invited for an on-line interview.**

**The start-date is July 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 at the latest.**

**The application and all queries should be submitted at:** [ekosante.collaboration@gmail.com](mailto:ekosante.collaboration@gmail.com)

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

- I. Scholarly capacities, including productivity across the range of practice, policy and peer review outputs.
- II. Quality of the letters of support.
- III. Consistency between the applicant’s research interests and/or thesis/research programme and the selected fellowship foci i.e. the proposed analytical framework or the monitoring and evaluation of resilience and sustainability of communities of practice
- IV. Coherence, feasibility, readability, and originality.

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<sup>1</sup> If the supervisor is a member of *EkoSanté* only one letter is needed.