CALL FOR 4 PhD GRANTS
IN SCIENCE, HISTORY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

General information

This call is a part of a collaborative project between Belgium and the Philippines named: LOCAL ADAPTATION, RESILIENCE & INTERPRETATION OF SOCIO-NATURAL HAZARDS AND ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES

This project aims at increasing the coping capacity of the country in this field at professional and popular levels taking into account local knowledge on so called natural disasters. The final objective is the valorisation of indigenous knowledge in order to implement policies for managing natural hazards both more efficiently and more relevantly.

Specifically, the project intends to implement, in three pilot regions, geographical research as well as ethnographic and historical workshops on local traditions in matters of disaster and wider relationships with the environment. These oral history and ethnography workshops will focus in particular on the issues of indigenous resilience and adaptation to disaster together with the interpretation of these events. The expected outcomes of those workshops consist in empowering local communities and providing data for scientific research. It is also expected to set up several sharing forums in order to allow for discussion and the clarification of the various local and non local approaches at stake.

Concerning these workshops, four co-supervised PhD theses will be prepared in anthropology (2), geography (1) and history (1). Stays in Belgium have been planned and also in Canada, where the Center CIERA (Quebec) will make for a specific input on the issues of “indigenous knowledge and indigenous resilience”.

These PhD theses will be the basis of an interuniversity research centre in Manila, in order to valorise indigenous knowledge in public policies of prevention of natural hazards.

In addition, to conduct workshops at community level and to strengthen the university capacities the project aims at delivering key relevant messages to authorities involved in the design and implementation of policies.
Grant amount:

Around 19300 Pesos a month during the work in Philippines
Around 95500 Pesos in Belgium during the Belgium Stay (paid in Euros).
+ field work and travel budget.

2 PhD in Anthropology

Framework: Belgian University Project “Local Adaptation, Resilience & Interpretation of socio-natural hazards and environment management in the Philippines” (Anthropology-History-Geography)

The multidisciplinary research team in charge of this project needs two PhD students in Anthropology (2014-2018). Anthropologist, sociologist or other social sciences at a Master level. The research aims to develop a fieldwork ethnographical approach of indigenous adaptation and resilience to natural hazards in the Batanes Island, Pinatubo area or Negros Island.

The PhD candidate will prepare his doctorate between The Philippines and Belgium. During his doctoral course, he will stay 6 months at Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium. Some visits at University Laval in Canada are also planned. In 2018, he should write and defend an original dissertation and should have published several peer review papers in English.

1 PhD in Sciences

Framework: Belgian University Project “Local Adaptation, Resilience & Interpretation of socio-natural hazards and environment management in the Philippines” (Anthropology-History-Geography)

The multidisciplinary research team in charge of this project needs a PhD student in Sciences (2014-2018). Geographer, Agronomist, Environmentalist, Geologist, Landscape ecologist or Civil engineer, open minded to social sciences. The research aims to scrutinize landslide memories both in the landscape and in the people mind in the Kalinga area. Remote sensing, GIS, cartography, parametric and non parametric methods in statistic, geomorphology, oral survey, interviews and ethnographic workshop will be used. Writing skills in English, autonomy and perseverance are required. The candidate will stay from September 2014 to August 2015 in the University of Liege in Belgium to
develop research skills in different topics, write the state of Art and design the fieldworks. In the second and third year, he will proceed to the fieldworks in Kalinga area and take part of different actions of the multidisciplinary research project. In 2018, he should write and defend an original dissertation and should have published several peer review papers in English.

1 PhD in History

Framework: Belgian University Project “Local Adaptation, Resilience & Interpretation of socio-natural hazards and environment management in the Philippines” (Anthropology-History-Geography)

The multidisciplinary research team in charge of this project needs a PhD student in History (2014-2018) in order to collect and to analyze data about natural disasters occurred in The Philippines, especially during the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century. All kinds of natural disaster will be included into the project such as violent rainfalls, typhoons, earthquakes, etc., but a specific attention will be paid to volcanic eruptions (Pinatubo, Kanlaon, Camiguin, Taal and Mount Parker volcanoes \textit{inter alia}) and to local knowledge about disasters.

This research will be based on archives, printed works from the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century and oral surveys. Written documentation could be in Spanish or in English. These documents are kept in several depositories (The National Archives of the Philippines (NAP) and The Manila Observatory Archives for example), but also abroad. A research stay in Europe and/or USA will be planned.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR APPLICATION

To Apply: Send before June 9 to Olivier.servais@uclouvain.be

A Complete Curriculum Vitae (with your email and personal cell-phone number)
A copy of your diploma or equivalent
A one page Letter of Motivation
A scientific paper you wrote in English (papers, memoirs, thesis).

After a first selection, interview in English will be organized on June 12 at U.P.-Diliman. The Selected persons will have a 2 days fieldtrip on June 14-15 with the project team.