

Year of CfP: 2008

Project No 0802-030

Project title: Challenging theories and frameworks on socio-ecological systems with empirical research results

Unit managing the project: GREEN (Renewable resources and environment management) (CIRAD)

Project leaders: Martine Antona (martine.antona@cirad.fr) and François Bousquet (francois.bousquet@cirad.fr)

Countries involved in the project: USA, Australia, Norway

Research units from the Foundation's scientific network involved: CBGP, B-AMR, LAMETA

Subthematic axes: IPB-1 (Integrative Plant Biology 1: *Genetics and genomics, plant breeding, ecophysiology*), IPB-2 (Integrative Plant Biology 2: *Plant pests and diseases, integrated crop protection, population ecology*), STDI-1 (Socio-Technical Dynamics of Innovation 1: *Agri-environmental innovations, agri-ecosystems, resources management*), STDI-3 (Socio-Technical Dynamics of Innovation 3: *Innovation processes, social management of innovations*)

Objectives:

For the last twenty years, the research units participating in this project have been developing research activities on socio-ecological systems aiming at understanding relationship between agriculture and biodiversity, policies and landscapes dynamics, watershed management, ecosystem management and health risk, etc. At the same time diverse schools of thought have developed theories and frameworks to analyze the dynamics and the management of socio-ecological systems.

The objective of this proposal is to assess the relevance and the complementarities of these theoretical frameworks by applying and testing them on the empirical research done in Montpellier for the last 20 years. This will enhance the value of the empirical research and will provide a clear view on the potential of the theoretical frameworks. The lessons from this project will also provide the basis for new conceptualization of socio-ecological systems dynamics and management.

Senior researchers will be hosted for short periods (about two months) with the aim of interacting with various research units. The researchers from Montpellier will select several case studies (on-going or concluded) which will be analyzed from the invited researcher's point of view. The same case studies will be presented to all invited researchers. Thus the relevance, strengths, weaknesses and complementarities of the theoretical frameworks proposed by the visiting fellows will be assessed. Each case study will be analyzed from different angle leading to progress in the understanding of the dynamics and management of the socio-ecological system under study.

Total Agropolis Fondation funding: € 280,800 (travel expenses for senior scientists, publication costs)

Funding categorie(s): Agropolis Fondation visiting fellowship, Agropolis Fondation small grants (support for the organisation of high-level scientific events e.g. conferences, seminars)

Project duration: 01 February 2009 - 30 September 2011

Keywords: theoretical frameworks – socio-ecological systems