



# CSIC

CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS



## Estación Experimental de Zonas Áridas

**Principal Investigator:** Michael O'Brien

**Institute:** Estación Experimental de Zonas Áridas, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (EEZA-CSIC), Department of functional and evolutionary ecology; Functional Ecology Group

### POSITION SUMMARY

A PhD position with the research group of [Michael O'Brien](#) at the [EEZA-CSIC](#). The institute consists of a diversity of ecologists that form an interactive support network for students to develop theoretical and conceptual understandings of ecology. The successful candidate will interact with a diversity of ecologists of scientists at the EEZA-CSIC in addition to a large international network of tropical forest ecologists that will strengthen the students research, scientific impact and provide future career opportunities. The position requires fieldwork in Sabah, Malaysia. The fieldwork is carried out a remote site with a well-trained Malaysian team of assistants to support the research. The successful candidate will examine regeneration process in aseasonal tropical forests in Sabah, Malaysia. The goal is to understand plant-soil feedbacks in tropical forests that mediate forest regeneration. A main focus will be on the role of mycorrhizal fungi for facilitating these feedbacks across a range of forest communities. The research will be a mix of fieldwork, molecular analysis in the lab at EEZA-CSIC and analysis of previously collected datasets. The candidate is expected to actively participate in all the processes involved in the elaboration and development of a doctoral thesis: design and preparation of experiments, collection and analysis of samples, statistical analysis, preparation of manuscripts, presentations at conferences and outreach activities.

### DURATION AND SALARY

4 years; Gross annual salary of 30411.84 €.

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Desire to pursue an academic career in ecology, conservation or related fields

Graduation in Biology or related fields

Master in environmental sciences, ecology or related fields (exceptions will be considered)

Comfort working in remote field setting

English proficiency as the position will include international collaboration

300 ECTS approved at the time of formalizing the contract

Pre-admission to a doctoral programme at the time of formalising the contract

### DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Basic familiarity with statistics in R

Previous work in field and lab settings

### REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS

CV (2-page maximum); Cover letter explaining research interests, background, and fit to this project (1-page maximum); Contact information for three references.

### REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

Review of applicants will begin immediately and will remain open until December or when a suitable candidate is selected. Interviews will likely start in September/October. Interested parties should contact Michael O'Brien ([mikey.j.obrien@gmail.com](mailto:mikey.j.obrien@gmail.com)) with the application materials and using the email header JAEPRE23-36.

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT

Gender inclusion will be practiced in the hiring process and will follow the practices outlined by CSIC at <https://www.csic.es/es/el-csic/ciencia-en-igualdad>.