The Institute of Geography and Sustainability invites applications for the position of
PhD student position in political ecology of forest transitions (R4D project on Vietnam)

Starting date: 01.09.2017 (or agreed upon date)
Duration: 1 year. This contract can be renewed for 2 additional years. Pending funding, possible extension to fourth year. Maximal duration 4 years
Workload: 100%
Workplace: Lausanne, Switzerland, UNIL Dorigny campus (with fieldwork in central Vietnam)

Your responsibilities
This PhD is part of an r4d project entitled “Assessing the ‘nature’ of a ‘forest transition’ in Vietnam: ecosystem services and social-ecological resilience in locally managed forest landscapes”, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.
The candidate would co-lead (with Professor Kull) the social science research work package of this project (involving research planning and coordination with Vietnam-based researchers) and prepare a PhD thesis on aspects of forest change in central Vietnam (deforestation/reforestation; acacia plantations) related to livelihoods, governance, and community aspirations.

Your qualifications
Required profile:
- Master’s degree in human geography or allied fields.
- Excellent reading, writing, and communication skills in English.
- Interest and experience in the social dimensions of environmental change or natural resource management issues in developing countries.

Highly desirable traits:
- Training in methodologies relevant to livelihoods, governance, or other social aspects of environmental management.
- Experience in field research, exposure to theoretical debates, cross-cultural team experience, independence and initiative.
- Qualitative and quantitative data management and analysis.
- Vietnamese language skills, or demonstrated aptitude to learn.
- French language skills.

Your application
Please send your full application in Word or PDF with :
- A detailed motivation letter
- Names of 2 references with phone and email (e.g. Masters thesis supervisor)
- CV
- Copy of University transcripts / diplomas
- Writing sample(s) (e.g. Masters thesis, publications)

Only applications through the Unil website will be taken into account.
https://www.unil.ch/central/fr/home/emplois.html

For additional information, please contact the future supervisor, Prof. Christian Kull (christian.kull@unil.ch).

Deadline for applications: 20.05.2017