

**FICHE NAVETTE: DOCTORANTS IDEX**

SECTOR: Higher Education Institution

LOCATION: France, Grenoble

RESEARCH FIELD: **RISK MODELLING, ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT**

RESEARCHER PROFILE:

□ *First stage researcher*

**INSTITUTION: Univ. Grenoble Alpes, University of Innovation**

One of the major research-intensive French universities, Univ. Grenoble Alpes\*\*1 enjoys an international reputation in many scientific fields, as confirmed by international rankings. It benefits from the implementation of major European instruments (ESRF, ILL, EMBL, IRAM, EMFL\*2). The vibrant ecosystem, grounded on a close interaction between research, education and companies, has earned Grenoble to be ranked as the 5th most innovative city in the world. Surrounded by mountains, the campus benefits from a natural environment and a high quality of life and work environment. With 7000 foreign students and the annual visit of more than 8000 researchers from all over the world, Univ. Grenoble Alpes is an internationally engaged university.

A personalized Welcome Center for international students, PhDs and researchers facilitates your arrival and installation.

In 2016, Univ. Grenoble Alpes was labeled "Initiative of Excellence". This label aims at the emergence of around ten French world class research universities. By joining Univ. Grenoble Alpes, you have the opportunity to conduct world-class research, and to contribute to the social and economic challenges of the 21st century ("sustainable planet and society", "health, well-being and technology", "understanding and supporting innovation: culture, technology, organizations" "Digital technology").

\* ESRF (European Synchrotron Radiation Facility), ILL (Institut Laue-Langevin), IRAM (International Institute for Radio Astronomy), EMBL (European Molecular Biology Laboratory), EMFL (European Magnetic Field Laboratory)

**Key figures:**

- + 50,000 students including 7,000 international students
- 3,700 PhD students, 45% international
- 5,500 faculty members
- 180 different nationalities
- 1st city in France where it feels good to study and 5th city where it feels good to work
- ISSO: International Students & Scholars Office affiliated to EURAXESS

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<sup>1</sup> Univ. Grenoble Alpes

**MANDATORY REFERENCES:**

**CDP TITLE: RISK@Univ. Grenoble Alpes**

**SUBJECT TITLE: Testimonies, perception and management of landslides hazards**

PRIMARY SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT (LABORATORY'S NAME): **LIP/PC2S** (Laboratoire Interuniversitaire de Psychologie), 1251 avenue centrale, 38400 Saint Martin d'Hères, France

SECONDARY SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT (LABORATORY'S NAME): **ISTerre** (Institut des Sciences de la Terre) 381 rue de la Piscine, BP53 38041 Grenoble CEDEX 9, <http://isterre.fr>

PRIMARY DOCTORAL SCHOOL (where the candidate will be registered): **SHPT** Sciences de l'Homme, du Politique et du Territoire

SECONDARY DOCTORAL SCHOOL: **TUE** Terre Univers Environnement

SUPERVISORS' NAME(S): **Rémi Kouabenan (LIP), Denis Jongmans (ISTerre), P. Schoeneich (Pacte)**

**SUBJECT DESCRIPTION:**

**Context and objectives**

Landslides are localized natural phenomena that can affect slopes in various geological conditions (Bièvre et al, 2011). The occurrence of these local events is usually reported by the population living in the area, rather than by the regional or national instrumental networks because sensors are too far apart to have an adequate detection capacity. Local population testimony, knowledge and perception are of great importance for the monitoring of areas subject to landslides and for detecting the precursory signs of movements. Indeed, the management of such phenomena with hardly foreseeable consequences requires, not only anticipation, but also the need to involve all the stakeholders (experts, decision-makers, and especially the local population most directly concerned). Such a perspective is all the more relevant given that there are sometimes, if not often, profound discrepancies between experts and laypersons as to the perception of risks and the strategies to be implemented to manage them, between decision-makers and the lay public, between leaders and subordinates, etc. (Fiorino, 1989, Kouabenan et al, 2006). According to Fiorino (1989), on the one hand we have a technicist model that values rationality, efficiency and expertise, and on the other hand, we have a liberal model that values rather subjective, experiential and socio-cultural elements.

In natural hazard prone areas, knowledge about risk perception of people is then of prime importance for defining and applying risk management strategies. This thesis aims to involve the local population (different stakeholders) of these sites to collect information on the observed phenomena but also on their management. It aims at collecting their testimonies on what they observe or have observed, on their beliefs and naive knowledge they have of such phenomena, but especially to identify the perception of the risks associated with these movements of land. We are also interested in their perception of the surveillance and / or prevention strategies deployed by experts and public authorities with regard to such phenomena. We will also collect management or coping strategies that they implement or propose to deal with such phenomena. Indeed, studies of risk perception showed a link between perception and behavior (Brewer et al., 2007, Slovic et al., 1981; Kouabenan et al., 2006). For example, Slovic et al. (1981) considered that if risk perception and assessment are wrong, "risk management efforts will likely be misdirected.

The main objective of this doctoral project is to associate local and lay knowledge of stakeholders with expert knowledge for better monitoring of the phenomenon, but also to develop a participatory approach for gathering information on the hazards and vulnerabilities. Such a perspective is all the more relevant given that there are sometimes, if not often, profound discrepancies between experts and laypersons as to the perception of risks and the strategies to be implemented to manage them, between decision-makers and the lay public, between leaders and subordinates, etc. (Kouabenan et al, 2006).

This information is also important for risk communication, management and decision-making about such risks. It can help to develop a participatory approach and a joint construction of a more relevant and better accepted management of risks, because better understood.

**Location:** The study will be performed in the Trièves area, which is located 40 km south of the city of Grenoble; it is a 300-km<sup>2</sup> plateau made of Quaternary clay deposits that are subject to numerous landslides. Presently, 15 % of the Trièves area is estimated to be sliding (Bièvre et al., 2011), affecting several villages and thousands of people. One of these landslides (Harmalière) is located down the village of Sinard, on the western bank of the man-made Lake Monteynard (Bièvre et al., 2016). After an initial major rupture in 1981, it was recently reactivated in June 2016, showing a northward regression of the headscarp toward the village of Sinard (650 people). Other villages affected by landslides will also be considered in the study.

**Methods:** The study will be conducted by interview, questionnaires and meetings with stakeholders.

### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Applicants: - must hold a Master's degree (or be about to earn one) or have a university degree equivalent to a European Master's (5-year duration),

The candidate should ideally have a Master's degree in occupational psychology, organizational psychology, social psychology or environmental psychology

### **REQUIRED SKILLS**

- Theoretical skills: Knowledge in risk psychology, risk perception, accident analysis, risk communication will be much appreciated.
- Methodological skills: Mastering the methods of investigation and social science research: interviews, questionnaires, observations, focus groups and meetings with stakeholders. But also mastering methods of construction and validation of measurement scales (exploratory and/or confirmatory factor analysis, Cronbach's alpha, statistical data analysis: descriptive, inferential analysis (regression, Student test, ANOVA, etc.).
- Language: A good level in French and English is an asset

### **PROCEDURE**

**Applicant** should forward their application to: Professeur Rémi Kouabenan at [Remi.Kouabenan@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](mailto:Remi.Kouabenan@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr) before **May 31, 2018** at 17:00 (CET)

This file must include:

- Their CV
- A cover letter / letter of motivation
- A summary of previous work done and/or publications in Master 1 and Master 2
- A record of the grades of Master 1 and Master 2
- A copy of their last diploma

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

Application deadline: **May 31, 2018** at 17:00 (CET)

Applications will be evaluated through a three-step process:

1. Eligibility check of applications in **June 7, 2018**
2. Selection: the applications will be evaluated by a Review Board in June 2018.
3. Results will be given by **July 12, 2018**.

TYPE of CONTRACT: temporary-3 years of doctoral contract



JOB STATUS: Full time

HOURS PER WEEK: 35

CONTRACT STARTING DATE: **October 1, 2018**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: **May 31, 2018**

SALARY: 1768.55 € gross per month