Master student (S1-MSc2), **Testing UN SEEA in ResNet Landscapes**
Start Date: Fall 2021
Salary: $18,000/year + possibility of additional scholarships
Duration: 2 years
Location: Department of Natural Resource Sciences, McGill's Macdonald Campus
Supervisors: Dr. Klara Winkler and Dr. Elena Bennett

Description
Natural resource accounting frameworks are an important tool for tracking the contribution of ecosystem goods and services to the economy at the national and sub-national levels. The best example may be the new international statistical standard *System of Environmental-Economic Accounting Ecosystem Accounting* (SEEA EA). Developed by United Nations in collaboration with numerous international and national organizations, the SEEA EA is aligned with the standard national economic accounting principles, the application of which results in the creation of data that can be compared to standard economic indicators of GDP, employment and trade for use in decisions on economic development policies that impact the environment. The SEEA statistical standard has proven instrumental in harmonizing and prioritizing collection of environmental statistics in other domains (land, freshwater, energy, waste, etc.) and points to its usefulness in the context of ecosystems and the services they provide.

The NSERC funded research project ResNet conducts place-based research in six Canadian sea- and landscapes to better understand the relationships between nature and people. This can involve identifying and measuring or modelling ecosystems; their extent, condition, the services and the benefits they provide.

The task of the student will be to compare the UN SEEA EA to one or more ecosystem service frameworks across ResNet landscapes, with the goal of improving our understanding of how different ES frameworks lead to different understanding of the world around us. The position will be co-supervised by Dr. Winkler and Dr. Bennett and be part of the ResNet Synthesis team in Dr. Bennett's lab.

The successful applicant will have the opportunity to engage with other ResNet researchers and partners across Canada, including Statistics Canada, who are deeply engaged in UN SEEA EA.

Ideal Qualifications

We seek a candidate with an BA or BSc degree with a specialization in environmental science, geography, economics, ecology, or similar. Familiarity with ecosystem services and knowledge of ecology and economics will be considered an asset.

We recognize that diversity is central to strong and innovative teams and that scientific labs in academia are often lacking in diversity. We therefore encourage candidates to indicate voluntarily on their applications if they are a woman or non-binary gender, an Indigenous person, a person with a disability, or a member of a visible minority group.

To Apply:
Send a cover letter describing your background and fit to the position, along with a CV, and list of references in one pdf to the ResNet Deputy Scientific Director, Klara.winkler@mcgill.ca. As we have multiple positions open, please explicitly state the position for which you are applying. References will only be contacted for short-listed candidates. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. The position will stay open until a suitable candidate has been identified.