



**Who benefits from access agreements?  
Student Assistant position  
Fall 2021**

The Environmental Markets Lab ([emLab](#)) seeks to hire one or two Fall 2021 research assistants to support an ongoing project estimating the distribution of benefits from Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) access agreements. This project is led by Christopher Costello and Gabriel Englander.

Countries have the exclusive right to harvest and manage the resources within their EEZ, including fish, minerals, oil, and natural gas. Some countries choose to sell the right to fish in their waters to other countries. For example, Côte d'Ivoire allows European Union (EU) purse seine vessels and longline vessels to catch 5,500 tons of tuna in its EEZ each year. EU vessels earn 1,150 Euros and pay Côte d'Ivoire 60 Euros for each ton they catch--the ex-vessel price is twenty times greater than the access fee paid to Côte d'Ivoire.

How do the profits earned by foreign vessels compare to the profits earned by “selling countries” like Côte d'Ivoire? Though foreign vessels tend to hail from richer countries than those they fish in, foreign vessels may be capturing the vast majority of surplus. We will use data and economic theory to calculate the distribution of benefits from access agreements. We will then use our model and variation in the data to simulate how access fees, quantities, profits, and fish populations would change if African countries sold their access rights as a bloc. We believe this research will support the development of the [African Continental Free Trade Area](#), which among other objectives aims to improve African countries' bargaining power.

These are hourly student researcher assistant positions who will work ideally ~10-15 hours per week and will be paid \$16-18 per hour, depending on if they are enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program. This position will be from October 11, 2021 to December 10, 2021, with the possibility of extension.

**Internship Responsibilities:**

Responsibilities may include, but are not limited to:

- Collect data on access agreements



- Collect data on Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) lease prices, ITQ ex-vessel prices, and characteristics of ITQ fisheries
- Collect data on African and Pacific Island Nation ex-vessel prices and fisheries characteristics

**Qualifications:**

- Enrolled in bachelor or graduate program at UCSB
- Demonstrated ability to collect and record data from a variety of online sources
- Ideal candidate has knowledge of marine fisheries, demonstrated through prior research experience, work experience, or coursework.

emLab is committed to sustaining an equitable and inclusive workplace and to the goal of reflecting the rich diversity of our campus community within our staff. We encourage applications from students of all backgrounds and majors. We strive to create an adaptive, supportive environment, especially during circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. As such, independent work will be remote; meetings will either be in-person or remote, pending UCSB guidelines and team availability.

**How to apply:**

To apply, please submit a resume and a statement describing your interest in this position and outlining your relevant expertise. You can either apply via email (Jen Bone, [jebone@ucsb.edu](mailto:jebone@ucsb.edu)) or Handshake with: a) job number - 5399555; b) job title - Fishing Access Agreement Student Assistant Position; or c) employer - Marine Science Institute.

Application deadline: **October 6th, 2021.**