



2021-IPR-D5-FGIV-018289

FG IV - Scientific Project Officer - Agricultural crop monitoring and yield forecasting

POSITION FOR:

Member of the contract staff FGIV – art. 3b of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG:1962R0031:20110101:EN:PDF>

WE ARE:

As the science and knowledge service of the Commission, the mission of DG Joint Research Centre (JRC) is to support EU policies with independent evidence throughout the whole policy cycle.

The JRC is located in 5 Member States (Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain). Further information is available at: <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/>

The current vacancy is in the Food Security Unit of the Directorate for Sustainable Resources of the JRC, which contributes to the scientific development towards a more effective and efficient management of EU policies related to agricultures and food security.

WE PROPOSE:

This position is linked to the Unit's work dealing with agricultural crop monitoring and yield forecasting, and assessing climate change impacts and adaptation strategies for agricultural production.

The candidate will contribute to the implementation and further development of our MARS Crop Yield Forecasting System with focus on agro-meteorological and crop modelling aspects, to the analysis of growing conditions and the production of crop yield forecasts published in the monthly JRC MARS Bulletin, and to the evaluation of climate change impacts on agricultural production as well as adaptation options in Europe and its neighbourhood.

The work includes the promotion of the use of different weather forecast products to derive novel agro-meteorological indicators and to improve the accuracy of crop yield forecasts along the season.

The candidate will advance the crop modelling capacities of the AGRI4CAST project by improving the climate forcing and extending the modelling capabilities of biophysical processes and to additional crops. These tasks include the design, testing and validation of new methodologies and indicators to improve the quantitative crop yield forecasts and to enhance estimates of climate change impacts and adaptation opportunities.

The post will also involve work with national and international stakeholders holding climate and weather forecast data as well as agronomic and biophysical information and run relevant research programmes in the field.

WE LOOK FOR:

The ideal candidate should have completed university studies of at least 3 years attested by a diploma in meteorology, agro-meteorology, climatology or a closely related discipline and at least 3 years professional research experience in a field relevant to the position, or a doctoral diploma in agro-meteorology or a closely related field.

Essential requirements are:

- Good knowledge and understanding of agro-meteorological data and crop growing processes;
- Hands-on experience in processing weather observations and large meteorological datasets, forecast products, as well as climate scenarios;
- Proven experience in running and improving crop growth models;
- Hands-on experience in scientific programming;

- Good communication and writing skills and the ability to work independently;
- Good publication record;
- Knowledge of English (B2).

An understanding of the role of monitoring in the EU Common Agricultural Policy is desirable as is knowledge of Europe's Earth Observation programme Copernicus. Strong programming skills in Python, R, or C/C++ are an advantage.

INDICATIVE CONTRACT'S DURATION:

36 months initial contract with possible renewals up to maximum 6 years.

PLACE OF WORK:

Ispira (IT)

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

Candidates for this contract agent post shall:

– (i) have passed a valid EPSO CAST selection procedure;

or

– (ii) be registered in the EPSO Permanent CAST https://epso.europa.eu/documents/2240_en

or

- (iii) be registered in the specialised call for researchers <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/working-with-us/jobs/vacancies/function-group-iv-researchers> (used mainly by the JRC).

With a valid application number to one of the above, you may then apply for this specific vacancy at JRC through: <http://recruitment.jrc.ec.europa.eu/?type=AX>

RECRUITMENT POLICY:

The JRC

- Cultivates a workplace based on respect for other people and the environment.
- Embraces non-discriminatory practices and equality of opportunity. In case of equal merit, preference will be given to the gender in minority.