



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

2021-IPR-A5001-FGIV-018389

**FG IV - SCIENTIST - EXPLORATORY
RESEARCH PROJECT - *Assessing FORest
BIOdiversity and RESilience from Space (ForBioRes)***

POSITION AS:

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 JRC offers a vacancy for a Contract Agent within the Exploratory Research Project “Assessing FORest BIOdiversity and RESilience from Space” (ForBioRes). The JRC Exploratory Research Programme (ER) is a strategic initiative characterised by ideas that might lead to novel results and qualitatively enrich current JRC scientific work.

The vacancy is within the Directorate for Sustainable Resources. The directorate supports the European Commission with scientific evidence in the areas of the environment including biodiversity, environmental quality and sustainable use of natural resources. The operational scientific research will take place in the Bio-Economy unit.

Further information is available at: <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/science-areas>

The Scientific Development unit is in charge of the overall JRC Exploratory Research Programme.

WE PROPOSE:

A vacancy to carry out scientific and technical tasks in accordance with the Exploratory Research Project “Assessing FORest BIOdiversity and RESilience from Space” (ForBioRes) with special emphasis on quantifying tree diversity and resilience of forests with advanced remote sensing and data analytics.

The ER project ForBioRes will quantify and map tree diversity in forest landscapes using high-resolution remote sensing products based on multiple technologies and platforms. The project will also analyse the relationship between biodiversity and resilience metrics derived from remote sensing. The output will contribute to the design of management strategies that can optimize the adaptation of forest ecosystems to future environmental conditions.

The successful candidate will contribute to:

- Mapping tree diversity in global forests using a combination of remote sensing retrievals (optical, SAR and Lidar);
- Produce a set of resilience metrics for forest ecosystems based on remote sensing data of forest primary productivity;
- Assess the interplay between biodiversity and resilience to support the development of adaptation policies in the forest sector;
- Provide regular and accurate reports on scientific activities every twelve months and a final report;
- Report to the Project Leader on progress, achievements and potential problems in a timely manner;
- Provide feedback and maintain interactive communication with colleagues;
- Explain the research activities and achievements to third parties, such as scientific communities and the general public;
- Write, disseminate and publish results, among other, in peer-reviewed journals.

WE LOOK FOR:

A scientist with the following qualifications:

- A doctoral diploma in remote sensing, geography, environmental sciences, ecosystem modelling or related field. Alternatively, completed university studies of at least three years attested by a diploma and at least five years professional experience in a field relevant to the position;
- Extensive knowledge and experience in the collation and analysis of large geospatial and/or environmental datasets is essential;
- Broad knowledge in the area of remote sensing of vegetation, including experience in the use of optical, SAR and/or Lidar data is essential;
- Strong experience with numerical computing languages (e.g. R, Python) and the use of cloud computing environments (e.g. Google Earth Engine) is essential;
- Solid record of research activities including publications in international peer-reviewed journals is essential;
- Knowledge of biodiversity science and forest ecology is an advantage;
- Good oral and written communication skills in English (B2) are essential, knowledge of other languages is an advantage.

In addition, the following competences will be considered as an advantage:

- Ability to work in a team and in a multi-cultural environment;
- The candidate is expected to be creative and work independently.

EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT DURATION:

24 months employment contract for the Exploratory Research “Assessing FOReSt BIODiversity and RESilience from Space” (ForBioRes)

Employment contracts for Contract Agents can be renewed for maximum 6 years.

PLACE OF WORK:

Ispra, Italy

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

- (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.