



2021-IPR-D1-FGIV-019188

FG IV – Project Officer – Bioeconomy, global trade, deforestation and forest degradation

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 vacancy is within the Bio-Economy Unit, (located in Ispra, Italy), which provides scientific support to EU policies related to the bioeconomy such as the sustainable production as well as the use of biological resources and the conversion to value added products, such as food, feed, bioenergy, and bio-based products.

The Unit, inter alia, manages the EU Observatory for Deforestation and Forest Degradation (hereafter referred to as “Observatory”), a European Commission initiative to monitor and measure the change in the world’s forest cover and associated drivers of deforestation and degradation.

The overall purpose of the job is to contribute to the activities of the Observatory through, first, the analysis of time series and trends of consumption of commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation, and second, the development of an early warning system on changes in forest cover related to the consumption of commodities and products. The work is relevant to EU policy as defined in the EU Bioeconomy Strategy, The EU Communication on stepping up EU action to protect and restore the world’s forests, the new EU Forest Strategy and the upcoming Regulation concerning certain relevant commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation.

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WE PROPOSE:

We offer a position as scientific officer with the duties of contributing to the work programme of the Unit related to the activities Bioeconomy and Observatory. In collaboration with in-house and external specialists, the successful candidate will:

- Actively monitor and analyse data on trade of bio-based commodities and products with high forest footprints (e.g., crops, timber, beef) from global trade databases.
- Contribute to the development of tools to calculate statistics on trade time series and trade flows, and to identify hot spots areas and commodities associated to deforestation.
- Assess the direct and indirect land use change and environmental impact of the consumption of commodities and products.
- Contribute to the development of an early warning system on changes of forest cover related to the consumption of commodities and products.
- Synthesise data, information and knowledge on specific topics in the form of scientific publications in peer-reviewed journals, international conferences, web content, data visualisations, briefs, newsletters, and reports to inform policy makers.

- Follow-up ad-hoc requests for data, information and advice for partner DGs, other European institutions, Member States and other stakeholders in collaboration with in-house and external experts.

WE LOOK FOR:

The successful candidate will have a PhD or at least 5 years of experience in environmental/natural sciences or environmental economics or environmental engineering (sustainable natural resources).

Demonstrated professional experience in analysing and synthesising data in the field of the socio-economic drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, knowledge and experience with trade datasets (e.g., UN Comtrade, FAOSTAT) and trade models (e.g., physical trade models or global multi-regional input-output models) are desirable.

The ideal candidate would have:

- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, and preferably knowledge of a programming language (Python, R, Julia, etc)
- A good publication record and excellent communication skills including drafting skills.
- The ability to prioritise and organise her/his daily tasks
- A sense of responsibility and service culture
- A spirit of initiative

The abilities to collaborate with others within a multidisciplinary and multicultural research environment and with external contractors, to handle high workload when necessary and to deliver under pressure are essential.

Excellent knowledge of oral and written English (C1 level) is required.

INDICATIVE CONTRACT'S DURATION:

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

PLACE OF WORK:

Ispra (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 Joint Research Centre

- 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.