



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

2022-IPR-D6-FGIV-019934

**FG IV- Project Officer – Scientific Research for
Fitness for Purpose of Earth Observation (EO)**

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 Knowledge for Sustainable Development & Food Security Unit of the Directorate for Sustainable Resources of the JRC.

The mission of the Directorate is to provide independent scientific evidence to support the development, implementation, evaluation and coherence of EU policies, mainly in the areas of agriculture and rural development, development cooperation, environment and climate change, blue growth and fisheries, bio-economy, industry and trade.

The Knowledge for Sustainable Development & Food Security Unit supports EU policies on environment, agriculture, maritime affairs and development by mapping, collating, analysing, quality checking and communicating in a systematic and digestible way all the relevant scientific data, methods, tools and knowledge available worldwide in their policy area including from Earth Observation. Attention to be given to anticipating knowledge needs, mapping knowledge gaps and suggesting research topics to be carried out in the JRC. On a selected number of topics, the Unit will host Knowledge Centres.

The Copernicus Programme has been user-driven since its inception. The Programme's evolution responds to new requirements from EU Policy needs in a way which is defensible, traceable and technically sound (underlining JRC's key role). Increasingly the policy users and decision makers need reliable information on the reliability of products and their associated uncertainties.

Further information:

<https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/>

<https://www.copernicus.eu/en>

https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/earthobservation_en

<https://fapar.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

<https://rami-benchmark.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

WE PROPOSE:

A project officer position for scientific research, to deal with the quality control, and quality assurance, of Earth Observation products, to monitor their fitness for purpose (F4P) for EU policies. The use of the model-based quality assurance framework is foreseen in support to some aspects.

This position is within the JRC CLEO (Copernicus Land Observation quality assurance) project which aims to assess the quality assurance of space- and ground-based products and their retrieval methodologies. Fitness for purpose of the Copernicus data records must be ensured, meaning that the expected users' quality requests must be verified to establish fundamental priorities for the long-term of Copernicus 2.0 implementation and evolution. This project contributes to the JRC contractual obligations for review of the quality and fitness for purpose of Copernicus data and information explicitly requested in Regulation EU 2021/696.

Specifically, the goals of this position are to evaluate the overall performance of Copernicus service and products against users' needs and high-level requirements and translate findings into recommendations

into programmatic and technical requirements for implementation.

The envisaged work consists of:

- Use the in-house model-based framework, i.e. virtual lab, for both ground-based measurements and space products validation protocols against requirements: These tasks will help for designing new generation of products using a 3-D radiative transfer model coupled with atmospheric model.
- Contribute on an ad-hoc basis to the implementation of the Copernicus Land Service – specifically the future quality control/quality assurance components and support to the Ground-Based Observations for Validation component
- Translate policy needs into technical requirements, in collaboration with the Knowledge Centre for Earth Observation (KCEO).
- Organise and perform research activities independently.
- Carry out the activities in full respect of the occupational health and safety guidelines and regulations in place at the Ispra site.

WE LOOK FOR:

The ideal candidate should have a PhD in computing sciences/applied mathematics/geophysics, /environmental sciences, or a closely related discipline (or 5 years of experience after the university degree giving access to doctoral studies).

Experience in radiative transfer modelling and knowledge of Earth Observation data and products is mandatory.

Relevant publications are essential and should be highlighted.

Experience in scientific programming languages such as Python, IDL, C/C++ and shell scripting within a Linux OS environment is indispensable. Knowledge of Fortran and Java is an advantage.

Creativity, team spirit, good knowledge (spoken and written) of the English language (C1) are also important. Italian (B2).

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.