



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

2022-IPR-D3-FGIV-020408

**FG IV – Project Officer – Soil Biodiversity
Monitoring and Assessment**

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 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 Sustainable Resources Directorate, Land Resources Unit (JRC.D.3). Further information: <https://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

As part of the Sustainable Resources Directorate, the Land Resources Unit provides policy support on how to balance competing land use demands whilst securing access to natural resources and maintaining ecosystem services. The Unit operates the EU Soil Observatory. There is strong collaboration with a range of European Commission services, European Agencies and International Organizations.

WE PROPOSE:

This position focuses on the coordination and expansion of the soil biodiversity component of LUCAS Soil survey, combining the current LUCAS soil monitoring system of the European Commission and existing National soil monitoring systems in Member States. The job holder will especially take care of all aspects related to the survey, from sample management (e.g., sampling point selection) and target selection (metabarcoding) to data analyses (bioinformatics and statistics). Based on data generated, the main focus will be on assessing the relation between soil biodiversity and ecosystem services and developing indicators relevant to the European Green Deal and the EU Soil Strategy for 2030. The indicators will be made available to users and stakeholders over the indicator dashboard of the EU Soil Observatory.

Specifically, the job holder will support the development and expansion of LUCAS Soil Biodiversity survey. The proposed research activity will focus on the identification of National soil biodiversity monitoring and following assessment of their possible integration into LUCAS scheme. The job holder will be also responsible for the Technical Working Group on soil biodiversity within the EU Soil Observatory, the JRC contribution to the Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative (GSBI) and the Global Soil Biodiversity Observatory. Furthermore, the selected profile will co-supervise PhD students dealing with projects associated to LUCAS Soil (biodiversity) survey.

WE LOOK FOR:

Candidates should possess a degree in biology/ecology, soil science, earth sciences, environmental sciences or agricultural sciences. A post-graduate qualification in a related field such as soil biology/ecology and soil monitoring and assessment would be an advantage.

At least 5 years of job-related research experience on soil biodiversity and big data (metagenomics and metabarcoding) management are desirable. Experience in the related field of soil biology/ecology, bioinformatics and spatial data processing with database skills - supported by a good publication record (e.g. contributions to papers and reports about the importance of soil biodiversity and ecosystem services and functions) - will be considered as assets.

Candidates are expected to lead and contribute to scientific publications, policy briefs and technical reports that require clear, well-structured texts. In this case, a high level of written and oral English (C1) 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 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.