



VACANCY NOTICE – 2023-IPR-D6-FGIV-022536

Project Research Officer - African Regional Centres of Excellence and Africa Knowledge Platform

Type of contract	Member of the European Commission's contract staff, Function Group IV (article 3b of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants)
Duration of contract	36 months (renewable up to maximum 6 years)
Area	Environment, Marine Sciences, Biodiversity, Natural Resources
Place of employment	Ispra (IT)
Indicative basic salary	3877,47 - 5616,29 € (applicable as of 1 st of July 2022) For more detailed information please consult: Working Conditions

WE ARE

The [Joint Research Centre \(JRC\)](#) provides independent, evidence-based knowledge and science, supporting EU policies to positively impact society.

The current vacancy is with the Nature Conservation and Observations Unit of the Directorate for Sustainable Resources.

The mission of the Directorate for Sustainable Resources 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, bioeconomy, industry and trade.

The Nature Conservation and Observations Unit supports EU policies by providing relevant scientific data, methods and tools, and by collating available knowledge in the field of environment, space and international development.

The Unit focuses on transversal activities that require cross-sectoral integration of scientific evidence, paying particular attention to the identification of knowledge gaps and technical needs in the areas of nature conservation, Earth observation and global sustainable development. The Unit is at the heart of the new JRC portfolio of projects providing science for the Global Gateway and International Green Deal, and also plays a key role in international dialogues and conventions in these domains. We have a strong tradition and geographical focus in Africa, reflected in the recent development of the JRC Africa Knowledge Platform.

Further information:

<https://africa-knowledge-platform.ec.europa.eu/>

https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-01/mip-2021-c2021-9373-sub-saharan-africa-annex_en.pdf



We offer:

An interesting job opportunity focused on applying data science to contribute to the development of Regional Centres of Excellence (RCoE) across Sub-Saharan Africa across multiple domains. The Africa Knowledge Platform (AKP) will be further developed to facilitate RCoE's access to data and information and to favour a cross-sectoral and cross-regional network for the Green Transition. The selected candidate will support the development of content for the AKP, fostering the use of scientific results for policy development and implementation. Capacity building and the development of multidisciplinary networks will be among the key tasks of the selected candidate.

The job holder will be part of a multi-disciplinary team working on themes under the umbrella of the Global Gateway and Green Transition, carrying out integrated data analysis, building and enhancing partnerships with regional centres and institutions in Africa, working with JRC domain experts, supporting the overall objective of effective use of Science, Technology and Innovation for sustainable development in Africa.

WE PROPOSE

The jobholder main tasks will include:

- Identifying, gathering, collating and analysing data from across JRC and our network of African partners, providing innovative knowledge products and new datasets/databases and analyses that support science diplomacy and enhanced understanding of the effectiveness and impact of the investments linked to Global Gateway and related policy instruments.
- Liaising and coordinating with regional Centres of Excellence and related agencies and institutions in Africa responsible for the priority themes of biodiversity and forest, water, agri-food systems, oceans, climate, disaster resilience and energy, territorial development and demography, promoting an inter-disciplinary approach across these domains.
- Developing methods/tools to improve the collaboration between JRC and regional Centres of Excellence to address science, technology and innovation challenges, ensuring technical compatibility with the Africa Knowledge Platform.
- Presenting results to stakeholders with a strong emphasis on effective communication and addressing non-specialist audiences.



WE LOOK FOR

We are looking for an experienced data scientist with proven track-record of multidisciplinary applications in sustainable development domains.

Qualifications and competences:

- At least 5 years of university studies in environmental, physical, geographical or computer sciences (or related field) including Postgraduate University education (MSc and/or PhD) in the related domains.
- Minimum 5 years of experience in the field of Geographic Information Systems, applied remote sensing, Informatics or related field.
- Strong background in statistics, mathematics, or a related field.
- Experience with data analysis and visualization tools.
- Experience in multidisciplinary environments.
- Strong communication and presentation skills.
- Very good knowledge of spoken and written English (C1).

The following will be considered as an asset:

- Experience of at least 1 year in Africa or in projects related to Africa.
- Experience with R or Python, Google Earth Engine, ArcGIS Online or similar geospatial processing services.
- Software programming skills.
- Experience working with big data platforms and technologies, such as Hadoop, Spark, and Hive.
- Experience in developing and delivering training.
- Experience in managing multidisciplinary communities.
- Relevant publications and published knowledge products.

Proficiency in French is a plus.

The majority of the work is based at JRC Ispra, but some travel, including to countries considered "at-risk", may be necessary. Given the global nature of the project, out-of-hours work may be required, in particular to interact with our regional partners.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are **already on a valid CAST FG IV reserve list**, or you **have already applied to one of the calls below**, you can directly submit your application at <http://recruitment.jrc.ec.europa.eu/?type=AX>.

If not, before applying to this position, **you must register** for one of the two following:

- the [Call for Expressions of Interest | EU Careers \(europa.eu\)](#) (CAST Permanent FG IV), which is used by a wide range of organisations (institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the European Union), or
- the [specialised call for researchers](#) (JRC Call COM/1/2015/GFIV – Research), which is mainly used by the JRC.

Note that each of the calls above has **different minimum eligibility requirements and different selection tests**.

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