



## VACANCY NOTICE – 2023-IPR-D1-FGIV-022696

### FG IV – Land system scientist – Methods in systems thinking approaches for bioeconomy, with application to land systems

<b>Type of contract</b>	Member of the European Commission's contract staff, Function Group IV (article 3b of the <a href="#">Conditions of Employment of Other Servants</a> )
<b>Duration of contract</b>	36 months (renewable up to maximum 6 years)
<b>Area</b>	Land use, bioeconomy, climate mitigation
<b>Place of employment</b>	Ispra (Italy)
<b>Indicative basic salary</b>	3877,47 - 5616,29 € (applicable as of 1 <sup>st</sup> of July 2022) For more detailed information please consult: <a href="#">Working Conditions</a>

#### 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 in the **Forests and Bioeconomy Unit** of the **Directorate for Sustainable Resources** of the JRC. The unit promotes a sustainable management of forest resources and bioeconomy through anticipation, conception, monitoring and impact assessment of relevant EU and global policies, whilst providing scientific and technological contributions to policies for climate change mitigation and adaptation and for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Further information:

<https://forest.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/lulucf/>

[https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/bioeconomy\\_en](https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/bioeconomy_en)

A highly motivated and multidisciplinary team is providing scientific support to various EU policies related to land-use, bioeconomy, forests and climate, such as the EU Bioeconomy Strategy, the 2030 Biodiversity Strategy, the Land Use Land-Use Change and Forestry Regulation, the Renewable Energy Directive, the EU Forest Strategy, the Deforestation-free products trade Regulation and the Sustainable Carbon Cycles (SCC) Communication. In particular for the latter SCC, the project "Methods for Land Assessment, Biomass and Bioeconomy, MetLABB" develops methodologies for integrated land assessments, integrated biomass assessments (both aquatic and land-based) and methods for assessing the sustainability of the whole bioeconomy. The final goal is to quantify the expectations set out by EU policy of land to simultaneously produce biomass for bioeconomy, house biodiversity and mitigate climate change.

We offer a job in a dynamic and multidisciplinary work environment that is active at the interface between science and policy and represents a unique opportunity of high-level scientific and policy impact. The team is physically present in Ispra and meeting on a regular



basis to ensure consistency of the analyses. Occasional travel to our stakeholders (mainly in policy DGs in Brussels) is envisaged.

## **WE PROPOSE**

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A position as researcher, with the duties of contributing to the work programme of the Unit related to the activities on the EU forests and bioeconomy. The candidate's research and applications will contribute to bioeconomy-related policy coherence through the holistic understanding of complex systems, which include the policy arena.

While the work is focussed on assessing the relationships between forest and bioeconomy-related policies and land dynamics ex-post, the findings will support the deliberation process for ex-ante impact assessments of future policies. The focus area are land system dynamics, however the candidate will apply new methods to a range of studies related to natural resource management. The successful candidate will:

- Work within a team to develop and apply methods to assess EU land dynamics as they relate to EU bioeconomy-related policies ex-post;
- Quantify land-based biomass expectations from bioeconomy-related policies, including their targets;
- Contribute to the development of narratives for “what if” scenarios for a deliberation support approach in policy impact assessments, building on foresight studies already conducted by the JRC;
- Liaise with policy officers to test deliberation support tools and narratives;
- Study the pressures of EU policies on the land systems, in particular on forests in Europe;
- Develop approaches for assessing trade-offs and stimulate integration and coherence among the policies above;
- 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**

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A scientist with experience in developing and applying different systems-level approaches to understand and provide evidence about complex socio-ecological systems such as land systems and governance.

The candidate should be aware of and have tackled issues such as the operationalisation of metaconcepts such as “sustainability” and “multifunctionality” (of land).

The candidate should have an understanding of the human relationship to the land-based primary production systems, a background in environmental social sciences, or land-related science branches such as agriculture or forestry is desirable.

Qualifications:

The successful candidate will have:

- A PhD or at least 5 years of experience in environmental land systems science, forestry, other related topics including environmental/natural sciences, or engineering.
- Excellent knowledge of oral and written English (C1 level).



- A strong publication record.

Demonstrated professional experience in the following is considered important:

- Systems thinking
- Land use dynamics
- Science to Policy interface, with a focus on the EU

The ideal candidate would have:

- Experience in principles and processes from post-normal science
- Experience in societal metabolism and quantitative storytelling methods
- Complexity science
- A spirit of initiative
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills
- Ability to prioritise and organise her/his daily tasks
- A sense of responsibility and service culture

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

## HOW TO APPLY

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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 \(europa.eu\)](http://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.*