VACANCY NOTICE – 2023-IPR-D5-FGIV-022697

Scientific Project Officer - EU-wide integrated biogeochemical modelling of climate change mitigation scenarios for soil-crop systems

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	Agriculture, Environment, Climate
Place of employment	Ispra (IT)
Indicative basic salary	3877,47 - 5616,29 € (applicable as of 1st 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 in the Food Security Unit within the Directorate for Sustainable Resources located in Ispra, Italy. The unit contributes to scientific analysis for a more effective management of EU policies related to agriculture and food security, environment, and climate change.

The position enhances the JRC's capacity to assess benefits and trade-offs of climate mitigation policies that target the agricultural land sector and will contribute to the portfolio on Climate neutrality.

We offer:
A position as scientific project office to contribute to the integrated analysis of policy-relevant transformative pathways towards climate neutrality. The focus is on the European Union´s (EU) agricultural land sector, which is expected to play an increasingly important role to reach the net zero emissions objectives of the EU by 2050.

WE PROPOSE

The future job holder will work in a modelling team using advanced biogeochemical model simulations and data analysis methods to assess the benefits and trade-offs of agricultural, climate and environmental policies for greenhouse gas sources and sinks, and evaluate emission pathways for the agricultural sector. The job involves a good understanding of methods to represent farm practices and proposed policies for the EU's agricultural sector in scenario modelling.

The candidate will:

- Contribute to the EU-wide spatially-explicit modelling of C and N cycles with the DayCent biogeochemical agroecosystem model for present and future climate change conditions.
- Analyse and integrate observational data into the modelling system.
- Evaluate the capacity of farm/crop management practices to reduce emissions and enhance soil carbon storage.
- Perform integrated analysis of policies and strategies with regard to the performance of the agricultural system with regard to GHG emissions, soil carbon sinks, and nutrient balance.
- Analysis benefits and trade-offs (e.g. for food security) of these policies.
- Collaborate with the research community in joint analyses.
- Publish articles in peer-reviewed journals
- Communicate and disseminate results and ensuring feedback with policy making via the European Commission services, and other stakeholders

WE LOOK FOR

The ideal candidate should have a doctoral (PhD) diploma in agronomy, climate or earth system sciences, remote sensing, or related fields. Alternatively, a university degree (giving access to doctoral studies) and at least five years professional experience in the fields above is required.

The candidate should have profound experience in using crop growth or biogeochemical models at large-spatial scales. Extensive practical knowledge of processing and (statistical) analysis of large spatial and numerical datasets (using e.g. python or R) as well as knowledge of the Linux operating system are essential. Knowledge of geographical information systems is an asset.

Good knowledge and understanding of meteorology and climate change, agronomy and agricultural production systems in relation to the Common Agricultural Policy are expected.

Good skills in writing and communicating to scientific and non-scientific audiences in English (B2 level is required) as well as to the general public are an asset and ideally documented by a track record of relevant peer-reviewed publications. The knowledge of another community language is considered an advantage as the ability to work in a team in a multi-cultural environment.

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.