



VACANCY NOTICE – 2023-IPR-D1-FGIV-024236

FGIV - Project Officer – Scientific Research - Science for Policy Researcher in the field of Advancing forest monitoring at EU and global level

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| 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 | Environmental research, Remote sensing, Climate change adaptation |
| Place of employment | Ispra (IT) |
| Indicative basic salary | 3943,39 - 5711,77 € (applicable as of 1 st of January 2023) 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 Unit *Forest and Bioeconomy* of the Directorate for Sustainable Resources.

The Unit promotes sustainable management of forest resources and bio economy 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.

The activity will focus on the advancement of forest monitoring based on Earth observations and big-data analytics in support of EU adaptation policies for the land sector.

We offer the position in a dynamic research group that excels in the integration of multiple observations from remote sensing and ground observations to address challenging scientific questions that have relevant societal and policy implications.

This job opportunity offers the possibility to directly provide support to the formulation and monitoring of EU policies and strategies in a family-friendly working environment.



WE PROPOSE

In collaboration with in-house and external specialists, the successful candidate will:

- Support the advancement of methods and tools based on the integrated use of remotely sensed observations (from satellite and airborne platforms) to monitor the extent and status of forests in support of adaptation policies;
- Support the development of the EU Observatory on Forests (EUFO);
- Support the development of the observation system foreseen in the ongoing legislative proposal on the new EU forest monitoring;
- Develop tools to integrate ground observations performed in the frame of the European National Forest Inventories and other monitoring programs (e.g. ICP forests) with remote sensing data in order to foster the production of timely and spatially resolved forest data;
- Contribute to the synthesis of the methodologies and knowledge emerging from the ongoing Horizon Europe projects that deal with the advancement of EU forest monitoring (e.g. PathFinder, ForWard, ForestPath, ForestNavigator);
- Support the analysis of ongoing impacts of climate change on EU and global forests by monitoring changes in structural and functional properties from Earth Observation and the link to climate anomalies and natural disturbances;
- Contribute to assessing gaps and opportunities in the use of remote sensing for forest monitoring, in connection with the Forest Science Partnership;
- Synthesise data, information and knowledge on specific topics in the form of scientific publications in peer-reviewed journals, international conferences, web content, briefs 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

We are looking for a researcher with the following **essential requirements**:

- A demonstration of a PhD or, alternatively, at least 3 years of research experience in environmental/natural/life science, forestry, environmental/physical/computational engineering, or other related topics;
- Excellent knowledge of oral and written English (C1) ;
- A strong publication record;
- Experience with remote sensing of forests' attributes;
- Excellent programming skills (e.g. using Python, R, Julia, etc.) ;



The ideal candidate would have as an **asset**:

- Professional experience on the use of remote sensing information from multiple platforms and technologies (e.g. optical, microwave, lidar);
- Professional experience in the assessment of land cover properties from Earth observations;
- Experience with the handling of large datasets, using distributed IT infrastructures and cloud computing;
- 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

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.