

EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Vacancy in the Directorate of Earth Observation Programmes

ESA is an equal opportunity employer, committed to achieving diversity within the workforce and creating an inclusive working environment. Applications from women are encouraged.

POST

Head of the Earth Observation Copernicus Space Component (CSC) Mission Management and Ground Segment Operations Division (GS), Ground Segment and Mission Operations Department, [Directorate of Earth Observation Programmes](#).

This post is classified A5 on the Coordinated Organisations' salary scale.

LOCATION

ESRIN, Frascati, (Italy).

DUTIES

The postholder will report to the Head of the Earth Observation Ground Segments and Mission Operations Department in the Directorate of Earth Observation Programmes.

The incumbent will be responsible for:

- end-to-end mission and data access management of the CSC, including the mission-management of the Sentinel missions, CSC contributing and third party missions and its coordinated data access;
- the development and operations of the Payload Data Ground Segment (PDGS) for the CSC in all mission phases;
- defining the future EO ground segment architecture, the setting up of concepts and standards jointly with Member States and implementing generic and shared ground segment systems;
- the Ground Segment technology section;
- managing the CSC Operations budget.

The division includes the Sentinel Mission Managers and the CSC Data Access Project Managers, the Payload Data Ground Segment Projects Management, and the Ground Segment Infrastructure Engineering and Ground Segment Research and Technology Activities.

The postholder will as priority and jointly with the division and office heads and the Sentinel mission managers and the project managers:

- maintain the operations concept of the CSC Space Component;
- with the CSC Payload Data Ground Segment Projects Managers complete the development of the sentinel PDGS systems and the Coordinated Data System;
- manage the CSC Pre-operations;
- manage the Ground Segment Infrastructure Engineering Development and the ground segment research and technology activities both in support of Sentinel, Earth Explorer and Third Party mission development projects and generically in collaboration with Member States towards a harmonised ground segment infrastructure;
- establish and maintain a coherent Ground Segment strategy for projects and with Member States;
- manage the respective budgets in EOEP (GS development), the CSC and Earthnet;
- contribute to the Department's, Directorate's and the Agency's management, and programmatic objectives.

QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants for this post should have a Master's degree or equivalent qualification in Engineering or (Earth) Data Science together with 10-15 years' experience in the management, engineering and operations of space missions.

Candidates should have:

- excellent knowledge of payload data ground segment development projects and the related technical, industrial and programmatic challenges in ESA programmes;
- knowledge of the CSC ground segment development and operations scenario;

- substantial experience with project and resource management;
- open and cooperative management skills with the ability to communicate the overall, cross programme goals of the department and directorate;
- a high level of motivation and dedication, who takes ownership and acts pro-actively;
- ability to align activities and resources to achieve goals within changing parameters, with the view to recognise opportunities for improvement;
- systematic and strategic problem-solving abilities with the ability to make challenging decisions in a fast paced and complex environment;
- strong ambassadorship skills in representing ESA; making a strong and positive personal impact.

In addition, applicants should have:

- proven experience of leading, motivating and developing a team;
- the ability to provide strategic direction to the individuals and teams within the Division and relate team objectives to the overall and evolving organisational goals and context;
- the ability to drive performance and foster cooperation within and across teams throughout the organisation;
- demonstrated excellent leadership, relationship management and communication skills, both oral and written;
- excellent cognitive, analytical, delegation, planning and organisational skills;
- the ability to anticipate problems, solve complex issues and relate situations to their context;
- the ability to reach solution-oriented, pragmatic and timely decisions of high standard and integrity as well as to support others (team members, upper management, other stakeholders) in this process.

For behavioural competencies expected from ESA staff in general, please refer to the [ESA Competency Framework](#).

The working languages of the Agency are English and French. A good knowledge of one of these is required together with a working knowledge of the other. Knowledge of another Member State language would be an asset.

CLOSING DATE

The closing date for applications is **8 March 2017**.

Applications from external candidates should preferably be made [online](#) from the ESA website (www.esa.int/careers). Those unable to apply online should submit their CV to Human Resources, ESA-ESRIN, Via Galileo Galilei, 00044 Frascati, Italy.

ESA staff members wishing to apply should fill in the [Internal Application Form](#) and email it to [Apply2ESRIN](#).

The Agency may require applicants to undergo selection tests.

If you require support with your application due to a disability, please email contact.human.resources@esa.int.

Please note that applications are only considered from nationals of one of the following States: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Canada.

In accordance with the European Space Agency's security procedures and as part of the selection process, successful candidates will be required to undergo basic screening before appointment.