

## Job Title: Head of the $\Phi$ -lab

Req ID 4661 - Posted 18/01/2018



### 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 $\Phi$ -lab

This post is classified A2-A4 on the Coordinated Organisations' salary scale.

#### Location

ESRIN, Frascati, Italy

#### Description

Head of the  $\Phi$ -lab in the Future Systems Department, Directorate of Earth Observation Programmes.

#### Duties

Under the direct authority of the Head of the Future Systems Department, the Head of the  $\Phi$ -lab is responsible for promoting investments in industrial innovation within the EO domain and developing partnerships with new actors entering the EO sector, including constellation operators, start-ups, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), micro-companies, major internet and other IT companies. He/she will foster entrepreneurial initiatives aimed at developing new business opportunities in EO and improve European economic operators' competitiveness in global markets, including those for:

- EO missions and subsystem manufacture;
- mission operations;
- ground segment technologies;
- EO data access.

The duties of the Head of the  $\Phi$ -lab include:

- facilitating high-risk/high-potential developments, based on public-private partnerships (PPP) and other financial risk mitigation mechanisms;
- enabling pioneers of disruptive technologies, from space and non-space domains, to connect and interact with mainstream activities across all EOP departments to demonstrate the benefits of new technologies for the EO activities of ESA;
- managing a cooperative framework through which these actors can work with ESA to explore the potential of these new technologies for EO, by rapidly prototyping new, disruptive concepts in an informal, multi-disciplinary, collaborative environment: the  $\Phi$ -lab;
- elaborating detailed proposals for applying such technologies in mainstream activities across all EOP departments;
- conducting socio-economic assessments to document the impact of EO at all levels of society.

In performing these tasks, the Head of the  $\Phi$ -lab will be supported by the team of the  $\Phi$ -lab Explore Office, responsible for exploring new technologies, from space and non-space domains, prototyping, demonstrating and adapting them for use in EO missions, systems, products, applications and services, and the team of the  $\Phi$ -lab Invest Office, responsible for activities to foster investment in industrial innovation within the EO domain.

#### Technical competencies

Knowledge of scientific discipline, including strategic vision of the area of Earth Observation  
Experience in remote sensing retrieval techniques  
Experience in the development of EO applications  
Knowledge in EO Big Data and digital services  
Knowledge of innovation-related processes  
Knowledge of international scientific community  
Understanding of space system architectures  
Computer science including Artificial Intelligence technologies

#### Leadership competencies

Developing & motivating people  
Strategic vision & business context  
Acting as a role model

#### Behavioural competencies

Relationship Management  
Ambassadorship  
Innovation & Creativity  
Responsible Decision-Making  
Teamwork  
Problem Solving

#### Education

Applicants for this post should have a PhD or as a minimum a Master's degree, or equivalent qualifications, in engineering, physics or mathematics.

#### Additional informations

This post is opened at A2-A4 grade with a potential regrading to A5 in 12 months, dependent on the incumbent achieving a successful evolution of the post according to current plans and delivering successful performance.

Experience in an international environment (i.e. outside the candidate's home country) and in diverse functional areas relevant to the activities of ESA are considered an asset for the post.

#### Other information

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. Knowledge of another Member State language would be an asset.  
The Agency may require applicants to undergo selection tests.

**The closing date for applications is 1 February 2018.**

If you require support with your application due to a disability, please email [contact.human.resources@esa.int](mailto: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 and Slovenia.

Priority will first be given to internal candidates and secondly to external candidates from under-represented Member States.

According to the ESA Convention the recruitment of staff must take into account an adequate distribution of posts among nationals of the ESA Member States. Priority will first be given to internal candidates and secondly to external candidates from under-represented Member States when short-listing for interview.

<http://esamultimedia.esa.int/docs/careers/NationalityTargets.pdf>

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.