

Job Req ID: 12227

Agency: ESA

Land Applications Scientist



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. For this purpose, we welcome applications from all qualified candidates irrespective of gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, beliefs, age, disability or other characteristics. Applications from women are encouraged.

Post

Land Applications Scientist

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

Location

ESRIN, Frascati, Italy

Description

Land Applications Scientist in the Applications Section, Data Applications Division, Science, Applications and Climate Department, Directorate of Earth Observation Programmes.

Duties

You will report to the Head of the Applications Section and be responsible for defining and implementing projects which support the development of innovative Earth observation land applications.

You will manage Earth observation (EO) applications projects in the context of ESA programmes, particularly for activities in Block 4 of FutureEO-1, and responding to identified user needs.

Your main tasks will include:

- organising thematic consultation meetings to review state-of-the-art EO land applications and identify new user needs and recommendations;
- engaging with new user communities involved in land processes;
- fostering the development of innovative EO products, tools and precursor services in relation to land dynamics applications (e.g. related to agriculture, soils, hydrology, surface water, urban areas, vegetation);
- establishing partnerships with key environmental policy stakeholders (e.g. EU, UN) and authoritative user organisations (e.g. national ministries, statistics offices, local authorities, environmental agencies) to contribute towards international responses to global societal challenges (e.g. Sustainable Development Goals, EU Green Deal);
- enhancing data exploitation for the land applications of relevant EO missions using the

latest information technologies and platforms;

- demonstrating the upscaling potential of land applications to maximise user uptake, using cloud computing environments and big data analytics technologies;
- developing and leveraging open-source algorithms and tools to stimulate innovative EO applications and facilitate the uptake of EO land applications by user communities;
- helping identify evolving user needs for future EO mission land applications (e.g. New Space, Sentinel Next Generation, Sentinel Expansion and national missions, Very High Resolution missions);
- contributing to the development of regional (Europe and neighbouring countries) initiatives to stimulate the use of EO data for the benefit of the public sector;
- supporting relevant ESA land application activities in the context of the EU Destination Earth initiative;
- helping prepare and define relevant new ESA programme elements.

Other tasks will include:

- providing support for other Data Applications Division activities (e.g. related to science, platforms, the downstream sector) and other ESA programme elements (e.g. climate, global development assistance) relevant to land applications;
- fostering communication and scientific publications on project achievements;
- contributing to ESA communication efforts promoting EO land application results, mission achievements and EO benefits for society;
- supervising and supporting the work of Young Graduate Trainees and Research Fellows.

Technical competencies

Knowledge of scientific discipline and remote sensing retrieval techniques for Land Applications

Experience in the management of R&D activities

Knowledge of international environmental policy context

Experience in the coordination and leadership of international scientific collaborations

Behavioural competencies

Result Orientation

Operational Efficiency

Fostering Cooperation

Relationship Management

Continuous Improvement

Forward Thinking

Education

You should have a PhD in natural sciences or geophysics in relation to land dynamics, or other appropriate scientific fields.

Additional requirements

You should also have:

- Experience related to land processes including exploitation of relevant EO data (e.g. Sentinel-2, Sentinel-3, Landsat series, New Space) would be an asset
- Knowledge of the various international user communities and related environmental policies
- At least four years' experience in related remote-sensing applications development and/or relevant research would be an asset.

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 2 April 2021.

At the Agency we value diversity and we welcome people with disabilities. Whenever possible, we seek to accommodate individuals with disabilities by providing the necessary support at the workplace. The Human Resources Department can also provide assistance during the recruitment process. If you would like to discuss this further please contact us at 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, Latvia and Slovenia.

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. When short-listing for an interview, priority will first be given to internal candidates and secondly to external candidates from under-represented Member States.
(<https://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.

Recruitment will normally be at the first grade in the band (A2); however, if the candidate selected has little or no experience, the position may be filled at A1 level.