

Earth Observation Scientist

Job Req ID: 12701

Closing Date: 07 September 2021

Publication: Internal & External

Vacancy Type: Permanent

Date Posted: 27 July 2021

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

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

Location

ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands

Description

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

Duties

You will report to the Head of the Earth and Mission Science Division and your main tasks and responsibilities will be:

- Providing expertise and scientific support to prepare new mission ideas and concepts, development activities for approved missions, in-orbit commissioning phase calibration/validation, or operations phases, in order to ensure their payload and the end-to-end system fulfil the relevant mission requirements;
- Maintaining and convening the Director's Advisory Committee for Earth Observation (ACEO), as the main interpreter of the views and needs of the European scientific community on access to space-based capabilities and data exploitation in Earth science;
- Organising ACEO and User Consultation Meetings and preparing meeting reports and formal recommendations and programme documents for mission selection and mission extension on behalf of the Director of Earth Observation Programmes;
- Initiating and conducting in-house and external scientific studies or campaign activities, organising mission-specific science workshops/conferences, supporting geophysical algorithm development and related research;
- Providing scientific support and advice to Earth Observation (EO) mission teams across the respective FutureEO, Earth Watch, Copernicus and Operational Meteorology programmes;
- Supporting the identification of and critical review of scientific challenges, EO user community requirements, on the interests and aspirations of those communities;
- Managing the implementation of independent peer review of mission ideas and concept proposals in response to Agency calls, and the preparation of evaluation reports;
- Communicating research results in connection with ESA's Earth Observation missions, and acting as ESA ambassador at relevant events such as scientific conferences and

- user consultations;
- Preparing and managing external scientific study and/or campaign contracts and related KPIs and quarterly reporting.

In performing these tasks, you will be expected to work closely with the Director of Earth Observation Programmes, and the Future Systems, Projects, and Mission Management and Ground Segments Departments.

Technical competencies

Knowledge of scientific discipline, including strategic vision of the Earth Observation area
Knowledge of space projects, including instrumentation and operations
Knowledge of the role of mission science during different mission phases
Knowledge of the relevant Earth Observation scientific user community

Behavioural competencies

Result Orientation
Operational Efficiency
Fostering Cooperation
Relationship Management
Continuous Improvement
Forward Thinking

Education

A PhD in the field of Earth observation satellite remote sensing-based Earth sciences is required for this post.

Additional requirements

Particular importance will be attached to your experience and ability to skilfully coordinate a team of independent external scientific advisors, to communicate, and to behave with tact, diplomacy and discretion. You should be familiar with current and future planned missions within the relevant EOP programme domains. In addition to a PhD, you should demonstrate at least 3 years' additional proven experience and credibility in the field of EO satellite remote sensing-based Earth sciences.

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.

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 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, Latvia, Lithuania 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.