

Earth Observation Campaign Scientist

Job Req ID: 15262

Closing Date: 16 June 2022

Publication: Internal & External

Vacancy Type: Permanent

Date Posted: 19 May 2022

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, Netherlands

Description

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

Duties

You will report to the Head of the Campaigns Section in the Earth and Mission Science Division of the Science, Applications and Climate Department and your main tasks and responsibilities will be:

- Defining and implementing activities for the updated ESA Earth Observation science strategy coordinated by the Earth and Mission Science Division, and further developing and monitoring EO science under the Future Earth Observation Programme;
- Collecting requirements for Earth observation campaigns to support the maturation of mission science objectives, mission concepts in preparation, missions in development, and missions in operation;
- Translating campaign requirements into the definition of fit-for-purpose airborne or ground-based campaign activities to be implemented through ESA contracts;
- Implementing campaigns to support algorithm development, definition of science and engineering products and associated performance requirements, development and improvement of geophysical retrieval algorithms, end-to-end simulation of mission performance, in-orbit verification and validation of mission science products;
- Field-coordinating campaign activities and coordinating data dissemination and data analysis from all activities, and facilitating the successful uptake of the results into EO mission design, development, exploitation and service development as well as stimulating campaign data use in new EO domains (e.g. big data analytics, artificial intelligence and machine learning);
- Providing expertise and scientific support to prepare new mission ideas and concepts, development activities of approved missions, in-orbit commissioning phase calibration/validation, or operations phase, to ensure their payload and the end-to-end system fulfil the relevant mission requirements;
- Initiating and conducting in-house and external scientific studies; organising mission-specific science workshops/conferences, and supporting geophysical algorithm development and related research;

- Communicating research results in connection with ESA's Earth observation missions, and serving in role of ESA ambassador at relevant events, such as scientific conferences and user consultations;
- Preparing and managing external scientific study and/or campaign contracts and related KPI and quarterly reporting.

In performing these tasks, you will be expected to work closely with the Future Systems, Projects, and Mission Management and Ground Segment 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 and campaigns during different mission phases
 Knowledge of the relevant Earth Observation scientific user community

Behavioural competencies

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

Education

A PhD in a relevant science and/or engineering field, with the focus on Earth observation, Earth sciences and the use of remote sensing for science and applications.

Additional requirements

You must have experience in Earth observation based research and in a relevant remote sensing based Earth science domain, as well as experience in airborne or ground measurement campaigns, or in fieldwork to support remote sensing. Experience in areas such as geophysical retrieval algorithms, EO data quality and payloads are considered an asset.

You must be familiar with current and future planned satellite missions, including active/passive instrumentation and plans within ESA and the relevant Earth observation programmes. Particular importance will be attached to your ability to work closely with international experts, relevant scientific organisations and bodies and to function in a team environment, as well as to your familiarity with the programmatic outlook in the ESA Earth Explorer, Earth Watch and Copernicus domains. In addition to a PhD, you should demonstrate at least three years' experience in 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](#).

For further information please visit: [Professionals](#), [What we offer](#) and [FAQ](#)

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 or balanced 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 conducted by an external background screening service.

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.

*Member States, Associate Members or Cooperating States.