

VACANCY NOTICE FOR THE POSITION OF

Expert - EEA International Engagement

- Temporary Agent (AD 7)

Reference no. EEA/AD/2021/5

Please send us your application by no later than 15 September 2021 at 23:59 (Copenhagen time), following the instructions in the [ANNEX](#).

The European Environment Agency (EEA) is organising an open competition with a view to recruiting a temporary agent to work as Expert - EEA International Engagement and further with a view to establishing a reserve list.

THE AGENCY:

The EEA is an Agency of the European Union (EU) and one of the decentralised Union bodies. The EEA aims to support sustainable development and to help achieve significant and measurable improvement in Europe's environment, through the provision of timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policy-making agents and the public.

JOB DESCRIPTION:

The EEA/Eionet founding Regulation and the recent EU policy documents (such as 8th EAP) indicate an active EEA international engagement around its core activities in support to EU environmental agenda and the related external policies and actions. Specifically, with the increased level of ambition set by the European Green Deal on environmental issues both domestically and on the international scene, the EEA and Eionet need to engage and work more closely together with international partners, countries and regions to promote these values and the wealth of knowledge and experience behind. Under the responsibility of the Head of Corporate Processes and International Engagement Group, reporting to the Head of Coordination and Strategy Programme (see [organisational chart](#)), the Expert shall be responsible for strengthening the EEA's international dimension on environmental and climate diplomacy with partners and organisations (including coordination of work with Conventions, UNEP and UNECE), third countries and regions beyond EEA's geographical membership and to ensure close implementation of the updated EEA Framework for International Engagement in line with the EU external political priorities.

The identified post is aiming to contribute to and support EEA's international engagement by facilitating cross-cutting activities with particular focus on climate change and biodiversity as well as to stimulate the interlinkages between them and with other thematic areas. The post is aimed at identifying opportunities for promoting of the EEA products and knowledge in various events, initiatives and programmes under international agreements and promoting them widely in cooperation with Eionet partners, international organisations as well as with countries and regions beyond EEA's geographical membership. This covers, inter alia, bringing EEA messages into the context of various international fora, ensuring environmental data and information accessibility and facilitating organisation of joint events, as well as contributing to strengthening the visibility of EEA-Eionet working methods, tools and practices internationally, in development programs and to contribute to achieving the SDGs.

These activities are aimed at impacting and bringing benefits back to the EEA core work as reflected in the 2021-2030 Strategy by enriching them, stimulating new dialogues and partnerships and feeding into the content work across various thematic activities.

The position will entail the following tasks:

- Strengthening the EEA contribution to the EU international agenda with particular focus on biodiversity and climate and their intrinsic relationship;
- Maintaining regular dialogue with relevant EC services, Member States and international partners in support of the EEA input to environmental activities and products with an international/global impact and contribution (e.g. thematic COPs preparation and related events and products);
- Identifying and facilitating new partnerships with other international organisations/bodies and build further on the existing ones in the context of EGD implementation (e.g. FAO, OECD others) and similar and related international processes (e.g. UN Decade on ecosystem restoration);
- Actively identifying opportunities for promoting and presenting EEA-Eionet knowledge, products and services in various international fora, to countries and regions beyond Eionet, including support and organisation of joint activities and events;
- Contributing to a regular dialogue with Eionet partners regarding EEA's international engagement with countries and regions beyond EEA's geographical membership in order to foster synergies and streamline efforts;
- Participating and assisting cross-cutting teams and projects across EEA on different thematic issues and their linkages, in particular on climate change and biodiversity;
- Maintaining a common shared platform/space for EEA international interactions (beyond Eionet) as a single-entry point;
- Facilitating the regular update of information available by engaging relevant experts across EEA in this work and ensuring shared knowledge and information;
- Coordinating preparation of cooperation agreements with partners, external meetings, background documents and contribution to relevant events in support of the EEA/Eionet international engagement and with particular focus on biodiversity and climate issues;
- Contributing to building stronger relations and extend EEA networking activities in wider international settings, linked to the implementation of the new EEA-Eionet Strategy 2021-2030 with focus on the delivery of Strategy Objective 3 'Building stronger networks and partnerships' and capitalising on EEA engagement internationally;
- Supporting the engagement of EEA-Senior management in regular dialogues with international partners and at UN fora.

CONTRACTUAL CONDITIONS:

The successful candidate will be offered a Temporary Agent contract in accordance with Article 2f) of the [Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Communities](#). The selected candidate will be employed for an initial time period of four years, renewable.

Successful candidates who are recruited undergo an initial probation period of 9 months.

Should the successful candidate currently hold a Temporary Agent 2(f) contract and qualify for a transfer under the terms of the CEOS, the band width for this position which can be accommodated is in accordance with Annex I of the Staff Regulations.

For information on salary, please see information published under [Temporary Agents](#).

The place of work will be Copenhagen, Denmark.

It is brought to the particular attention of candidates that the provisions of Articles 11 to 26 of the Staff Regulations, concerning the rights and obligations of officials, shall apply by analogy to Temporary Agents. These rules specify that:

“An official shall carry out his duties and conduct himself solely with the interests of the Union in mind. He shall neither seek nor take instructions from any government, authority, organization or person outside his institution. He shall carry out the duties assigned to him objectively, impartially and in keeping with his duty of loyalty to the Union.

An official shall not without the permission of the appointing authority accept from any government or from any other source outside the institution to which he belongs any honour, decoration, favour, gift or payment of any kind whatever, except for services rendered either before his appointment or during special leave for military or other national service and in respect of such service.

Before recruiting an official, the appointing authority shall examine whether the candidate has any personal interest such as to impair his independence or any other conflict of interest. To that end, the candidate, using a specific form, shall inform the appointing authority of any actual or potential conflict of interest. In such cases, the appointing authority shall take this into account in a duly reasoned opinion. If necessary, the appointing authority shall take the measures referred to in Article 11a(2).”

For further information on the Staff Regulations and the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union see:

[Staff Regulations](#)

SELECTION PROCEDURE:

A Selection Committee is set up for the selection procedure. It consists of members designated by the Appointing Authority and the Staff Committee. The Selection Committee is bound by the principle of confidentiality as enshrined in Article 6 of Annex III to the Staff Regulations. This works in two ways: first, it imposes obligations to ensure equal treatment for candidates; and second, it seeks to protect the Selection Committee to ensure that its decisions are totally impartial.

The Selection Committee adheres strictly to the conditions of admission laid down in the vacancy notice when deciding whether or not candidates are eligible. Candidates admitted to a previous selection procedure will not automatically be eligible. **Candidates are strictly forbidden to make any contact with the members of the Selection Committee, either directly or indirectly. Any infringement of this rule will lead to disqualification from the selection procedure.**

In a spirit of transparency, and in order to align our working methods with current practice in certain Member States, the administration has decided to proceed with the publication of [names of Selection Committee members](#).

Should the Selection Committee discover at any stage in the procedure that the candidate does not meet one or more of the general or special conditions for admission to the selection procedure, the candidate will be disqualified.

The Selection Committee decides on those candidates who are admitted to the selection procedure in accordance with the requirements as specified under eligibility criteria. The applications of the candidates admitted to the selection procedure are reviewed to establish whether or not they show evidence of all requirements as specified under selection criteria. The Selection Committee will invite to the interview and to the written test phase the best qualified candidates (maximum of 8). Should the case arise that there are various candidates scoring the same number of points in the 8th ranking, the number of candidates to be invited may be increased accordingly to accommodate this.

The interview will be held in English and the candidate's knowledge of other languages will also be assessed during the interview. Candidates invited for an interview will be asked to undergo a written test in the area of expertise required for the post. The test and the interview will take place online. At the end of the interviews the Selection Committee will submit the list of suitable candidates to the Appointing Authority who will decide on the appointment of the successful candidate and the establishment of a reserve list for the post advertised or similar posts that may become available. This usually follows from follow-up recruitment interviews conducted by the Appointing Authority with the suitable candidates. Candidates shall note that inclusion on the reserve list does not guarantee recruitment. Recruitment will be based on availability of posts and budget.

The reserve list for this post will be valid until **31 December 2022** and may be extended at the discretion of the Appointing Authority.

Prior to contract signature, the successful candidate will be asked:

- to provide original or certified copies of all relevant documents proving his/her eligibility, including a police certificate confirming the absence of any criminal record;
- to undergo a compulsory medical examination to establish that he/she meets the standard of physical fitness necessary to perform the duties involved.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

Candidates applying must satisfy the following eligibility criteria on the closing date for the submission of applications:

- a) Successful completion of university studies attested by a degree relevant to the field concerned, where the normal duration of university education is 4 years or more OR successful completion of university studies attested by a degree relevant to the field concerned, where the normal duration of university education is 3 years OR where justified in the interests of the service, professional training of an equivalent level;

b) A minimum of 6 years (with a 4 year diploma) OR 7 years (with a 3 year diploma) of relevant professional experience after award of the university degree.

In addition, in order to be eligible a candidate must:

- Be a national of one of the member countries of the EEA (Member States of the European Union plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey);
- Enjoy full rights as a citizen;
- Have fulfilled any obligations imposed by law concerning military service;
- Have a thorough knowledge of one of the languages of the EEA member countries and a satisfactory knowledge of another of these languages (corresponding to level B.2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for languages [CEFR](#));
- Meet the character requirements for the duties involved;
- Be physically fit to perform the duties linked to the post.

Candidates should assess carefully and check before submitting their application whether they fulfil all the conditions for admission laid down in the vacancy notice, particularly in terms of qualifications and relevant professional experience.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Essential:

(In your application, please provide examples from current or past work experience where these competencies have been applied)

- Professional experience and demonstrated in-depth knowledge of environment policies and developments including of key environmental international agreements and related processes (e.g., United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change – UNFCCC, Convention on Biological Diversity, UNCB, UNCCD, Aarhus Convention on Access to Information);
- Very good knowledge of EU commitments and EU position, as promoted in regional and global settings and professional experience in applying them;
- Demonstrated experience in environmental related international activities/negotiations involving various policy actors, expert networks and stakeholder groups;
- Demonstrated experience in networking and engaging in multi-stakeholder environment-related processes/activities;
- Proven ability to work in a multi-disciplinary and cross-cutting team, to engage and motivate experts in reaching common positions and objectives*;
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with a demonstrable ability to establish and maintain effective working relations in a multicultural and multidisciplinary environment*;
- Excellent command of written and spoken* English language, at least at level C1 in all categories according to the [Common European Framework of Reference for Language](#);

* Will only be tested at the stage of interview/written test.

Advantageous:

- University education or specialised training/courses in environment or in related field;
- Professional experience in EU/international or regional institution, process, initiative or programmes.