



Job Description: Junior ICT specialist for the Secretariat of the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet)

Start date: As soon as possible

Duration: Initial contract for 12 months with a view to long-term employment upon performance and continuation of funding

Working hours: Full time

Employer: Seascope Belgium

Location: EMODnet Secretariat Office, InnovOcean site, Wandelaarkaai 7, 8400 Oostende, Belgium

Outline:

The Secretariat of the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet), provided by Seascope Belgium, seeks to recruit an enthusiastic and motivated web developer to strengthen the EMODnet Secretariat in supporting the partnership to improve the availability and accessibility of marine data in Europe. The incumbent will work at the EMODnet Secretariat in Oostende under the guidance of the EMODnet Technical Coordinator with a particular focus on front-end web development and testing. The position will also involve interaction with other data initiatives and projects in Europe and beyond. The successful candidate will have first-hand experience with relevant ICT tools, data infrastructures and platforms. Expertise in designing software test suites and front-end web development will be essential. Good understanding of geospatial data formats, web standards and software would be an advantage.

EMODnet is a long-term marine data initiative from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) underpinning its Marine Knowledge 2020 strategy. EMODnet comprises a consortium of more than 100 organisations assembling and making available European marine data, data products and metadata from diverse sources. The main purpose of EMODnet is to unlock fragmented and hidden marine data resources, make these data widely available and to facilitate investment in sustainable coastal and offshore activities through improved access to quality-assured, standardised and interoperable marine data that are free of restrictions on use. Currently, EMODnet comprises seven sub-portals that provide access to marine data covering bathymetry, geology, physics, chemistry, biology, seabed habitats and human activities. More information is available on the EMODnet central portal (www.emodnet.eu) and Maritime Forum (<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/>).

The EMODnet community is supported by a dedicated Secretariat based in Oostende (Belgium) administered by Seascope Belgium. Since September 2017, the EMODnet Secretariat also oversees the maintenance and further development of the European Atlas of the Seas (https://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/atlas_en) which is powered by EMODnet and other key EU initiatives and bodies.

Seascope Belgium is an environmental consultancy specialised in the provision of high-level advice to the marine sector, including industry, policymakers, NGOs and regulatory bodies. Our expertise includes strategic environmental assessment, stakeholder consultation and engagement, ocean governance and the management of marine data and information. We work alongside leading scientists around the world, and are partners in a number of major European research programmes addressing marine issues. For a full overview of the project portfolio and activities, please visit our website at www.seascopebelgium.be.

Profile and competences required:

- Primary or postgraduate qualification in an ICT or in a relevant area of natural science or equivalent experience in geo-informatics.
- At least one year of experience working in a web development or general software development position.
- Familiarity of exchange standards such as XML, JSON, architecture and implementation of APIs (more specifically RESTful APIs) and programming languages such as PHP, Python, JavaScript would be very useful.
- Knowledge of ICT terminology, tools and data management software, including geospatial data formats (Geotiff, ESRI Shapefile, netCDF, etc.), web standards (OGC, INSPIRE, etc.) and software (e.g. GDAL, PostGIS, GeoServer, GeoNetwork, GeoNode, Openlayers, Leaflet, GeoExt, etc.).
- Excellent standard of spoken and written English (working language). Knowledge of the local language (Dutch) would be an advantage as well as any other European language.
- Good communication skills: able to work in a small multi-cultural team and able to report progress and issues in an effective manner internally and externally at (technical) expert group meetings.
- Excellent organisational skills with capacity to multitask, to deliver on allocated tasks and to meet deadlines in pressurised situations.
- Be able to build successful and productive relationships with stakeholders, user groups and other project team members.

Duties and responsibilities (under guidance of the EMODnet Technical Coordinator):

- Write test plans for the acceptance of data and services from third parties to the EMODnet Central portal.
- Audit data services hosted on the EMODnet Central Portal.
- Contribute technical input to project proposals and progress reports.
- Contribute to technical developments in the framework of EMODnet Secretariat and European Atlas of the Seas.
- Assist in the maintenance of online GIS portals.
- Write scripts for testing the functionality of geodata services for INSPIRE, OGC and other geospatial standards.
- Work with other members of the EMODnet Secretariat and Seascope in contributing to reports and deliverables and ensure your line manager and team members are regularly informed of progress, achievements and any emerging issues.
- Travel to meetings elsewhere in Europe may be required from time to time.

Salary: this post commands an attractive remuneration package commensurate with the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate.

Application procedure: written applications comprising a cover letter and CV should be submitted via email to recruitment@seascopebelgium.be. Closing date/time for applications is 4/09/2020. Interviews for shortlisted candidates are scheduled to take place in September 2020.