JOB DESCRIPTION

Data Science Officer European and Global Partnerships - Secretariat of the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet)

Science Officer and Project Manager – Seascape Belgium

Start date: As soon as possible

Duration: Initial contract for 12 months, with view to a permanent contract subject to performance and availability of external funding.

Working hours: Full time

Employer: Seascape Belgium

Location: Based at the *EMODnet Secretariat Office, InnovOcean Campus, Jacobsenstraat 1, 8400 Oostende, Belgium* with regular visits to and working time in Brussels (Office Tribes Central Station). Travel to meetings elsewhere in Europe and beyond will be required from time to time.

Seascape Belgium seeks to recruit an experienced and high-performing Science Officer and Project Manager to take on a role as Science Officer for European and Global Partnerships at the Secretariat of the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) which is administered by Seascape Belgium for the European Commission and to contribute to selected projects with a focus on ocean data management, science policy support and marine environmental management.

This position is important to support Seascape's role in the EMODnet Secretariat to further develop and implement its EMODnet for Global Strategy, fully exploit its role as Ocean Decade Implementing Partner and strengthen the EMOD-network along the marine knowledge value chain in Europe and globally.

Role & Responsibilities:

The tasks and responsibilities will have particular focus on

1) Providing dedicated support to coordinate the implementation of the EMODnet for global strategy

- Support the project management of existing international collaborative projects;
- Assist with developing new bi-lateral collaborations and projects between EU and other countries and regions depending on EC policy priorities;
- Oversee the implementation of the EMODnet for Global & EMODnet for the Ocean Decade Strategy and manage the EMODnet for the Ocean Decade Group (with support from Head of the Secretariat and the two co-chairs);
- Assist the Head of the Secretariat with the gathering support and positioning of EMODnet in the Ocean Decade and implementation of the Ocean Data and Information Strategic Plan.

2) Supporting various EMODnet Secretariat activities

- Support EMODnet Progress monitoring (EMODnet Secretariat WP3) contributing to the assessment of team activities in particular: (i) assist with the EMODnet centralisation of the thematic data services; and (ii) assessing progress and performance of the thematic nodes. This may include helping to evaluate and improve the set of indicators in place to measure the performance of the EMODnet thematic portals and the subsequent use of data by thematic portal users; (iii) assist also in reviewing EMODnet underpinning infrastructures and data policies;

- Provide input/content for communication/outreach (Secretariat WP4), e.g. input for videos, Central Portal website, newsletters, etc. Assist with publicising and informing the EMODnet community about major developments and initiatives and supporting the coordination of internal activities; collate Ocean Best Practices from EMODnet community and collecting use cases;
- Support work in fostering coordination across the Ocean Observing Community (i.e. focused studies and targeted assessments) (EMODnet Secretariat WP5) to underpin the EC initiative on 'Ocean Observing: a shared responsibility';
- Participate in meeting, events, conferences representing/presenting EMODnet at selected fora and official bodies where relevant on behalf of the Secretariat;
- Work with other members of the EMODnet Secretariat and Seascape Belgium in contributing to and producing contractual reports and deliverables;

3) Other Seascape Belgium roles/contributions
- Contribute and/or lead specific tasks in EMODnet related research, outreach and partnership initiatives.
- Contribute to pan-European technical studies on data requirements, e.g. for the implementation of marine spatial planning, data sharing mechanisms and interoperability issues;
- Work with other members of Seascape by contributing to high-quality papers, minutes and reports.

Travel to meetings elsewhere in Europe and beyond will be required from time to time.

Profile and competences required:

The successful candidate is expected to have the following qualifications and competences:

- Qualification in a relevant discipline at Masters level or higher, preferably with a specialisation in marine or environmental science;
- Demonstrable track record with at least 5 years of experience working as a project manager overseeing work involving data manipulation, data and information product development, science policy advice, environmental assessment and marine knowledge generation/management;
- Excellent Project Management skills, able to combine social, organisational and project management efficiency with knowledge of the science and technical challenges and work being done by EMODnet and its European and global partners; ideally first-hand experience with EMODnet and its underpinning data infrastructures (EurOBIS, SeaDataNet, …) and partner initiatives such as Copernicus Marine; global programmes, including the Ocean Decade Actions, IOC-GOOS, IOC-IODE;
- Awareness and understanding of the marine science and policy landscape in Europe as well as the data and information requirements of the main stakeholders operating in this domain would be a strong advantage;
- Experience with processing Earth observation and *in situ* data, ocean modelling, marine data management and knowledge of advanced ICT tools, formats and terminology (Geotiff, ESRI Shapefile, netCDF, OGC, INSPIRE, QGIS, ESRI ArcGIS, GDAL, PostGIS, GeoServer, GeoNetwork, GeoNode, Openlayers, Leaflet, GeoExt, etc.), (geospatial) data infrastructures and platforms would be an advantage;
- Working knowledge of website content management systems (preferably Drupal) and project management systems (Confluence and Jira) would be an advantage as well;
- Familiarity with key EMODnet user communities, particularly in relation to their needs for data, information and knowledge would be a great advantage;
- Excellent standard of spoken and written English. Knowledge of other European languages would be an advantage;
- Good communication skills: 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.

About EMODnet

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 160 organisations assembling 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 and a Data Ingestion portal. All of these will be integrated into the EMODnet Central Portal where you can find more information (https://emodnet.ec.europa.eu/en) as well as on the Maritime Forum (https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/). The EMODnet community is supported by a dedicated Secretariat, based in Ostend, Belgium.

More information about Seascape Belgium providing the EMODnet Secretariat can be found here: https://seascapebelgium.be/.

Salary:

This post commands an attractive remuneration package; salary will 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@seascapebelgium.be. Closing date for applications is 30 September 2022. It is anticipated that interviews for shortlisted candidates will be scheduled in early October 2022.

For more information contact: janbart.calewaert@emodnet.eu