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| Logo of the European Commission, 12 yellow stars on a blue background arranged in a circle and framed by two light grey graphic elements representing the Berlaymont building, which is the headquarter of the European Commission. | EUROPEAN COMMISSION |

VACANCY NOTICE FOR A POST OF SECONDED NATIONAL EXPERT

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| DG – Directorate – Unit | INTPA.F.2 |
| Post number in sysper: | 4345 |
| Contact person:Provisional starting date:Initial duration:Place of secondment: | Chantal Marijnissen1 quarter 2022 years[x]  Brussels [ ]  Luxemburg [ ]  Other: Click or tap here to enter text. |
|  | [x]  With allowances [ ]  Cost-free |
| This vacancy notice is open to:[x]  EU Member States[ ]  EFTA-EEA In-Kind agreement (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway)  |
| This vacancy notice is also open to:[ ]  The following EFTA countries: [ ]  Iceland [ ]  Liechtenstein [ ]  Norway [ ]  Switzerland[ ]  The following third countries: [ ]  The following intergovernmental organisations:  |
| Deadline for applications | [x]  2 months [ ]  1 month |

**Entity Presentation (We are)**

Unit F2 – environment, natural resources and water is offering a seconded national expert position under the responsibility of the Head of Unit.

The EU is at a crucial juncture, with a new Commission, a new and ambitious European Green Deal, a new Multi-annual Financial Framework, programming and implementation of the EU’s new multiannual financial framework in the area of cooperation for the years 2021 to 2027.

The mandate of INTPA unit F2 is to support developing countries in addressing challenges related to environment, forest (biodiversity, climate change and sustainable management and use), water as well as the transition to a green economy.

With this aim, INTPAF2 develops three main areas of work: policy development; thematic and methodological support to EU Delegations and counterparts; programming and implementation. This also includes networking, collaborating, policy dialogue and exchange of experience and information.

Unit F2 promotes the design and implementation of the external dimension of the European Green Deal. In order to improve impact of its support to forest and to effectively contribute to implementing the Green Deal, Unit F2 is proposing to develop and implement EU Forest Partnerships with partner countries or regions through a Team Europe approach. This new, comprehensive and integrated approach will deliver on EU commitments, notably climate and biodiversity, while enabling partners to meet their socio-economic development objectives through the transition to a greener economy.

The Forest Partnerships will represent the overarching framework to implement the EU forest policy framework under the responsibility of Unit F2, notably the Action Plan (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade) and the Communication COM/2019/352 “Stepping up EU action to protect and restore world’s forests” (Communication on deforestation) and the upcoming “EU Forest Strategy” with a view to promoting private sector investments and sustainable forest-based value chains. Unit F2 will also help address deforestation and forest degradation in partner countries, notably through its support to the REDD+ mechanisms and zero-deforestation agriculture programmes as well as the design and implementation of programmes on biodiversity.

**Job Presentation (We propose)**

Under the responsibility of the Head of Unit and the direct supervision of the head of sector for forest, the successful candidate will support INTPA's work in the area of sustainable forest management, with a particular focus on the FLEGT action plan and the Communication on deforestation.

In this context, the successful candidate will carry out the following tasks:

1. Act as EU focal point for the negotiation and implementation of voluntary FLEGT partnership agreements (VPA) with some developing countries in Africa and/or Central America; provide backstopping to colleagues in INTPA/Delegations for other VPA processes;
2. Coordinate work with Member States and liaise with other Commission departments, Council and the European Parliament to implement the FLEGT Action Plan;
3. Advise on development assistance to support implementation of the FLEGT Action Plan;
4. Support multi-stakeholder processes and ensure effective communication on FLEGT Action Plan with EU stakeholders as well as in partner developing countries;
5. Contribute to analytical work and strategic reflection on a number of thematic topics related to FLEGT, EU Timber Regulation, the Communication on deforestation and forest-related and/or zero-deforestation agriculture commodities value chains, particularly from legal perspective;
6. Support, in collaboration with EU Delegations, INTPA geographic units and Member States, the development and implementation of the EU Forest Partnerships, from policy dialogue to programmes;
7. Support investment operations (blending, guarantees), public private partnerships and private sector involvement in the area sustainable forest management and reforestation, including afforestation and forest ecosystem restoration;
8. Support the mainstreaming of climate change throughout the forest portfolio in line with the NDICI’s financial obligation (2021-2027) of 30% climate relevant actions;
9. Conduct support missions in partner countries to provide policy and technical support in the area of green/circular economy, environment and greening development policies, programmes and investments;
10. Provide technical support to colleagues in INTPA and EU delegations in the area of sustainable forest management, and potentially on broader environmental matters.
11. Engage in and promote sector and thematic relations within the Commission and other EU institutions, Member States and other stakeholders;
12. Contribute to the identification and formulation of forest sector programmes and perform related analysis, provide thematic guidance and training & knowledge sharing.

The Seconded National Expert will also undertake any other relevant tasks assigned by the Head of Unit and could be called to participate in other areas of work such as forestry and agricultural policies in a land-based approach, sustainable finance mechanisms for forest ecosystems, including REDD+, LULUCF and, more broadly, to contribute to the environmental dimension of INTPA's work.

**Jobholder Profile (We look for)**

Diploma

- university degree or

- professional training or professional experience of an equivalent level

 in the field(s) :

Master degree or equivalent qualification preferably in environmental or forestry studies, law, agro-economics or similar

Professional experience

At least 5 years of proven full-time professional experience in areas relevant to sustainable forest management: particularly in the design of sector strategies/policies and/or projects/programmes;

Experience in the field of sustainable finance mechanisms for forests would be appreciated (blending, trust fund, Payment for Ecosystem Services);

Experience in the analysis and development of sector value chains, including involvement of the private sector;

Field experience in the African and/or South America region is considered as an asset.

Experience in international conventions on biodiversity, climate and forests will be an advantage. Knowledge of EU development policies and biodiversity/forest strategy would be appreciated.

Capacity to handle complex files; team worker with a strong sense of initiative and ability to work in a multi-disciplinary environment. Proven capacity to analyse, synthetize reports and draft recommendations would be an asset. Negotiations skills/experience would be an advantage.

Language(s) necessary for the performance of duties

Excellent writing and oral communication skills in English and/or in French. Spanish would be an asset.

**Eligibility criteria**

The secondment will be governed by the **Commission Decision C(2008) 6866** of 12/11/2008 laying down rules on the secondment to the Commission of national experts and national experts in professional training (SNE Decision).

Under the terms of the SNE Decision, a national expert needs to comply with the following eligibility criteria at **the starting date** of the secondment:

Professional experience: at least three years of professional experience in administrative, legal, scientific, technical, advisory or supervisory functions which are equivalent to those of function group AD.

Seniority: having worked for at least one full year (12 months) with the current employer on a permanent or contract basis.

Employer: must be a national, regional or local administration or an intergovernmental public organisation (IGO); exceptionally and following a specific derogation, the Commission may accept applications where the employer is a public sector body (e.g., an agency or regulatory institute), university or independent research institute.

Linguistic skills: thorough knowledge of one of the EU languages and a satisfactory knowledge of another EU language to the extent necessary for the performance of the duties. The national expert from a third country must produce evidence of a thorough knowledge of the EU language necessary for the performance of his duties.

**Conditions of secondment**

During the full duration of the secondment, the national expert remains employed and remunerated by his / her employer and covered by his / her (national) social security system.

He / she shall exercise his / her duties within the Commission under the conditions as set out by aforementioned SNE Decision and be subject to the rules on confidentiality, loyalty and absence of conflict of interest as defined therein.

Allowances can only be granted when the national expert fulfils the conditions provided for in Article 17 of the SNE decision.

Staff posted in a European Union Delegation are required to have a security clearance (up to SECRET UE/EU SECRET level according to [Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32015D0444). The selected candidate has the obligation to launch the vetting procedure before getting the secondment confirmation.

**Submission of applications and selection procedure**

Candidates should send their application according to the **Europass CV format** ([[Create your Europass CV | Europass](https://europa.eu/europass/en/create-europass-cv)](http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents/curriculum-vitae)) in English, French or German **only to the Permanent Representation / Diplomatic Mission to the EU of their country**, which will forward it to the competent services of the Commission within the deadline fixed by the latter.The CV must mention the date of birth and the nationality of the candidate.

Candidates are asked not to add any other documents(such as copy of passport, copy of degrees or certificate of professional experience, etc.). If necessary, these will be requested at a later stage.

**Processing of personal data**

The Commission will ensure that candidates’ personal data are processed as required by Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council ([[1]](#footnote-1)). This applies in particular to the confidentiality and security of such data. Before applying, please read the attached privacy statement.

1. () Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)