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## 1. National Expert on Invasive Alien Species

### Context

In the EU, 86% of habitats, 73% of non-bird species and 50% of birds are in a poor or bad state. This continued stress on our environment means that it is becoming increasingly less resilient to the many stressors created by human activity. The five main direct drivers of biodiversity loss - changes in land and sea use, overexploitation, climate change, pollution, and invasive alien species – are harming nature.

Invasive alien species can significantly undermine efforts to protect and restore nature. Besides inflicting major damage to nature and the economy, many invasive alien species also facilitate the outbreak and spread of infectious diseases, posing a threat to humans and wildlife. The rate of release of invasive alien species has increased in recent years. Of the 1,872 species now considered threatened in Europe, 354 are under threat from invasive alien species. Without effective control measures, the rate of invasion and the risks it brings to our nature and health will continue to rise. The implementation of the EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation and other relevant legislation and international agreements needs strengthening. This should aim to minimise, and where possible eliminate, the introduction and establishment of alien species in the EU environment.

The EU Regulation 1143/2014 on Invasive Alien Species (the IAS Regulation) that entered into force on 1st January 2015 foresees that by 1st June 2019, and every six years thereafter, Member States are obliged to submit a report on the implementation of the Regulation. Invasive Alien Species are also a global concern with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework which sets out a global target to "eliminate, minimize, reduce and or mitigate the impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity".

The EEA is looking for a national expert to help our work with our Eionet member countries to strengthen work on **Invasive Alien Species**, in response to the ambitions set out in the relevant EU legislation and Global ambitions. The successful candidate would work with countries to support the sharing of knowledge and best practice around policies and measures at national and local relating to dealing with invasive alien species.

The position will offer the successful applicant the opportunity to work at the European level at a crucial time in the development of EU Biodiversity legislation. They will also contribute to crosscutting EEA activities including helping us develop innovative methods to disseminate and communicate information on **Invasive Alien Species.** There is opportunity to develop a sound understanding of the information being reported by different countries including examples of good practice that can be transferable back to the national/regional setting.

- Contributing to the development and preparation of relevant EEA reports, briefings, and indicators on Invasive Alien Species, including analysis.
- Lead on preparing for the submission of the reporting period "2019-2024" which will be submitted in 2025.
- Working with other colleagues on activities related to Invasive Alien Species
- Working with Invasive Alien Species experts from across Europe, including organising
  meetings and workshops and contributing to capacity building activities to identify together
  with EEA member countries examples of good practice in dealing with invasive alien species
- Coordinating and working with key EEA stakeholders including EEA member countries, the European Commission, the European Topic Centre on Biodiversity and Ecosystems, and relevant international organisations, NGOs and industry organisations.

### 2. National Expert on Circular Economy monitoring

### Context

The European Green Deal highlights the importance of transforming Europe's economy to progress toward a climate neutral and circular economy. The European Commission's Circular Economy Action Plan subsequently laid out a series of principles and measures to contribute to that transition by transforming Europe's production and consumption systems.

The EEA supports that transformation by analysing the levers of such a transition both at a broad level and at specific value-chain level (with focus on industry, plastics, textiles and the built environment). In recent years, monitoring activities complementary to those around the European Circular Economy Monitoring Framework – hosted by Eurostat - have been at the centre of the EEA's work programme in this theme. Against this context, it will remain essential that high quality information is available from countries upon which improved policy effectiveness and progress tracking assessments may be made, together with the sharing of knowledge and best practices across countries.

The EEA is therefore looking for further expertise to work with its Eionet member countries to strengthen assessment and knowledge activities across the network. This includes in particular supporting EEA member countries with the sharing of knowledge and best practice on policies and measures relevant to the sector, critically evaluating initiatives, as well as supporting data reporting tasks. This position will offer the successful applicant the opportunity to work at the European level and strengthen their expertise by working with key partners including the Eionet countries and European Commission.

- Contributing to EEA and Eionet activities in the area of 'industrial transformation and circular economy' by coordinating policy-relevant assessments and the sharing of best practices relating to the circular economy implementation;
- Contributing to the dossier of monitoring the circular economy and, in particular, to the further improvement of the so-called "Circularity Metrics Lab";
- Contributing to work with EEA member countries and the European Commission on the management of data flows in this domain and the dissemination of these datasets to the public via e.g. indicators, briefings or other publications;
- Contributing to cross-cutting Eionet and EEA activities relating to sustainable resource use, climate mitigation, waste management, sustainable production and consumption and the broader relationship between the industrial sector and the state of the environment.
- Participating in relevant networks and meetings/workshops related to the topic. This includes
  cooperation with the Eionet network of EEA member and cooperating countries, the preparation
  and coordination of capacity-building activities in the form of workshops, webinars, drafting of
  guidance materials, dedicated training sessions etc.

### 3. National Expert on Nature Restoration

#### Context

Nature and biodiversity is the life support system of our planet and for humanity. It provides food, filters the water we drink, cleans the air we breathe, and it is important for our mental and physical well-being. It is fundamental to our society and economy, and the basis for many of our economic sectors. In the EU, 86% of habitats, 73% of non-bird species and 50% of birds are in a poor or bad state. This continued stress on our environment means that it is becoming increasingly less resilient to the many stressors created by human activity. The EU Biodiversity Strategy has the restoration of nature as one of its key principles. The EU Nature Restoration Law (currently under discussion) sets out ambitious yet essential targets and ambitions for EU Member States. This enhanced legal framework sets out legally binding targets for the long-term recovery of nature in the EU. This legislation links to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework which sets out a global restoration ambition. The Agency has a key role in the forthcoming work on restoration, from designing reporting formats, developing the knowledge base for targets and assessments, creating guidance documents and assessing the Nature Restoration Plans which are due two years after adoption of the law.

The EEA is therefore looking for a motivated expert to work with its Eionet member countries to strengthen work on **restoration**, in response to the ambitions set out in the proposed EU Nature Restoration Law. In addition, the successful candidate would work with countries to support the sharing of knowledge and best practice around policies and measures at national and local relating to nature restoration.

The position will offer the successful applicant the opportunity to work at the European level at a crucial time in the development of EU Biodiversity legislation, helping shape future reporting and assessment practices. They will also contribute to activities including on developing innovative methods to disseminate and communicate information on **nature restoration**. There is opportunity to develop a sound understanding of the information being reported by different countries including examples of good practice that can be transferable back to the national/regional setting.

- Contributing to EEA reports, briefings and indicators on nature restoration, including analysis.
- Leading activities to assess the effectiveness of nature restoration measures, including synergies and trade-offs with greenhouse gas climate mitigation measures.
- Working with nature restoration experts from across Europe, including organising meetings and workshops and contributing to capacity building activities to identify together with EEA member countries examples of good practice in nature restoration.
- Coordinating and working with key stakeholders including EEA member countries, the European Commission on the national restoration plans, the European Topic Centre on Biodiversity and Ecosystems and relevant international organisations, NGOs and industry organisations.

## 4. National Expert on Waste management for a Circular Economy

### Context

The European Green Deal highlights the importance of transforming Europe's economy to progress toward a climate neutral and circular economy. The European Commission's Circular Economy Action Plan has laid out a series of principles and measures to contribute to that transition by transforming Europe's production and consumption systems.

While this transformation will be enabled by changes across e.g. material cycles, production and consumption systems, and changing consumption patterns, the collection and management of waste will be crucial to achieve a transition to a circular economy.

The EEA supports a number of elements concerning EU waste policy implementation, by producing evidence across several dimensions. Among these, as illustrative examples, is supporting the Environment Implementation reviews led by the European Commission and performing the so-called early warning system (article 11, Waste Framework Directive). This work complements efforts on other crucial elements of EU policy on waste, particularly on prevention of the generation of waste.

The EEA is looking for an engaged expert to work with our Eionet member countries to help strengthen our assessment and knowledge activities across the network. The role would help reinforce our support to EEA member countries with the sharing of knowledge and best practice on policies and measures relevant to the sector, critically evaluating initiatives and waste management practices, as well as potentially supporting data reporting tasks. This position will offer the successful applicant the opportunity to work at the European level and strengthen their expertise by working with key partners including the Eionet countries and European Commission.

- Contributing to EEA and Eionet country activities in the area of 'waste management and
  prevention' by contributing to policy-relevant assessments and the sharing of best practices
  relating to the Waste Framework Directive and related pieces of EU law;
- Contributing to work with EEA member countries and the European Commission on the management of data flows on waste and the reuse of waste data produced by other EU institutions, namely Eurostat;
- Supporting the dissemination of these datasets to the public via e.g. indicators, briefings or other publications;
- Contributing to cross-cutting Eionet and EEA activities relating to waste management and prevention;
- Participating in relevant networks and meetings/workshops related to the topic. This includes
  cooperation with the Eionet network of EEA member and cooperating countries, the preparation
  and coordination of capacity-building activities in the form of workshops, webinars, drafting of
  guidance materials, dedicated training sessions etc.

## 5. National Expert on Air pollution

### Context

Air pollution is the greatest environmental health risk in the EU. As a result, the European Union (EU) has implemented a clean air policy and set <u>standards</u> for key air pollutants in the <u>ambient air quality directives</u>. The <u>zero pollution action plan</u> sets the target of improving air quality, with a focus on fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), as this pollutant is responsible for the majority of premature deaths caused by air pollution in the EU. Meeting the target requires a minimum 55% reduction in premature deaths by 2030, relative to 2005 levels. Of note, most of the air quality plans implemented by Member States in response to exceedances of the standards explicitly aim to protect health.

In October 2022, the European Commission published a proposed zero pollution legislative package, including a proposed revision of the ambient air quality directives, building on its zero pollution commitment to align air quality standards more closely with WHO's recommendations. In parallel, stricter requirements are foreseen to tackle air pollution at its source, such as from agriculture, industry, transport, buildings and energy. The <a href="National Emission Reduction Commitments Directive">National Emission Reduction Commitments Directive</a> (NEC Directive) is the key legislative instrument that sets an ambition level to lower emissions and so reduce air pollution-related impacts on health and ecosystems by 2030.

In this context, it is clear there will remain a focus on implementing air pollution policy at European, regional, national, and local levels to achieve cleaner air. It will remain essential that high quality information is available from countries as a basis for assessing policy effectiveness and tracking progress towards the zero pollution target. In addition, EEA has a role in facilitating the sharing of knowledge and good practices across our member countries.

The EEA is therefore looking for an experienced national expert to work with Eionet member countries to strengthen our work on air quality, in response to the ambitions set out in the proposed revision to the air quality directives. In addition, the successful candidate would work with countries to support the sharing of knowledge and best practice around policies and measures at national and local scales to mitigate emissions of air pollutants from different sources. The EEA is also looking to explore how trends in emissions of different air pollutants affect air quality, including through the use of data provided by the Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service (CAMS).

The position will offer the successful applicant the opportunity to work at the European level at a crucial time in the development of EU air quality legislation. They will also contribute to cross-cutting EEA activities including on innovative methods to disseminate and communicate information on air quality and emissions. There is opportunity to develop a sound understanding of the information being reported by different countries including examples of good practice that can be transferable back to the national/regional setting.

- Contributing to EEA reports, briefings and indicators on emissions of air pollutants and/or air quality, including analyses of the roles of different economic sectors in contributing to emissions of air pollutants.
- Leading work to assess the effectiveness of air pollution mitigation policies and measures, including synergies and trade-offs with the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Working with air pollution experts from across Europe, including organising meetings and workshops and contributing to capacity building activities to identify together with EEA member countries examples of good practice in mitigating emissions and improving air quality.



- Coordinating and working with EEA member countries and the European Commission on the emissions reporting under the NEC Directive and Gothenburg protocol to the UNECE Air Convention.
- Liaising with key EEA partners in the air pollution area, including the European Commission, EEA member countries, the <u>European Topic Centre on Human Health and the Environment</u> and relevant international organisations, NGOs and industry organisations.

6. National Expert on Supporting delivery of the chemical strategy for sustainability – Chemicals

#### Context

In 2020, the European Commission published the <u>Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability</u>, setting an ambitious and progressive roadmap for managing chemical risks in Europe. The strategy aims to ban the most harmful chemicals in consumer products — allowing their use only when essential. Amongst various tasks, EEA is working in partnership with the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) to deliver a framework of indicators against which to measure progress under the chemical strategy. Key elements in the strategy aim to tackle the risks posed by high volumes and diversity of chemicals in an efficient and timely manner, and to overcome the current time-consuming processes designed to assess and manage the risks related to single substances. These include:

- Taking a generic approach to risk management, entailing restrictions on the use of specific chemicals due to their hazardous properties and the types of exposure they are associated with, such as widespread use or exposure to children.
- Shifting to chemicals that are safe and sustainable by design and ensuring that the most harmful chemicals are only used when necessary, by promoting the essential use concept.
- Implementing a mixture assessment factor in chemical risk assessment to ensure the protection of both humans and the environment from combination effects.
- Ensuring a "one substance one assessment" approach to chemical risk assessment.

The EEA is therefore looking for an engaged and dedicated expert to join our team and help us in our work supporting the chemical strategy for sustainability. In addition, the EEA has a role to play in ensuring that existing monitoring data on chemicals in water, soil and air is made available for risk assessments under the one substance one assessment approach, as well as being used effectively to understand the impacts that chemicals have on environment and health in Europe.

The EEA is also a partner in the Horizon Europe Partnership for the risk assessment of chemicals (PARC), responsible for steering PARC research priorities to ensure they respond to policy needs, communicating and disseminating results and feeding into work on safe and sustainable by design. The position will also support work to prioritise research under PARC, in collaboration with ECHA and the European Food Safety Authority. As such, the successful applicant will have the opportunity to work and gain experience at the European level and develop expertise through working with countries and a wide network of key stakeholders.

- Working with the EEA member countries in the Eionet thematic group on chemicals to strengthen knowledge on chemicals across the network. This includes organising meetings and workshops to support the sharing of knowledge and best practice around policies and measures to minimise human and ecosystem exposure to chemicals.
- Leading EEA assessment activities to better understand human and environmental exposure pathways to chemicals, assess current exposure levels and impacts.
- Supporting the implementation of upstream options to mitigate chemical releases with relevant scientific knowledge, including approaches that are safe and sustainable by design and eliminating non-essential uses of hazardous chemicals.
- Contributing to cross-cutting EEA activities relating to chemicals, including work on chemicals in products, consumer exposure pathways and contaminated material flows as a barrier to a circular economy. This may include exploring options to clean up material flows.



- Supporting delivery of the EEA tasks under PARC, in particular contributing to steering the research agenda under the partnership.
- Contributing to networking activities and knowledge exchange with other relevant EU agencies (e.g. ECHA and the European Food Safety Authority), EEA member countries, the European Commission, WHO, Eurostat and other international organisations.

# 7. National Expert on National policies for climate change mitigation

### Context

To achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, the European Union has committed to becoming climate neutral by mid-century. At the national level, this commitment translates into increasingly ambitious national goals for emissions reductions, both toward the milestone of 2030 and toward the shared mid-century target. The national policies and measures that will help achieve these ambitious national goals are described in detailed, amongst others in National Energy and Climate Plans as well as in the biennial national reporting on policies and measures in the National Energy and Climate Progress Reports, which are collected by the EEA. The policies cover all sectors, from agriculture to transport, waste management to energy production.

The increasingly detailed and complex reporting on climate mitigation and energy policies and measures creates new opportunities to address, and assess, the nature of the policies being prepared and implemented across Europe. At the same time, the members of the Eionet network are keenly interested in policy evaluation and identifying which policies and measures are generating the strongest results. EEA has conducted some work on policy evaluation in the past, and this post will strengthen and reinvigorate this work.

### Main tasks

The EEA is looking for a seconded national expert with professional expertise in national policies to address climate change mitigation and energy transition. The seconded national expert should have experience with policy monitoring, evaluation and a keen interest in supporting the quality of reported information on national policies and measures, as well as supporting knowledge sharing between Eionet members on which policies are delivering on national climate objectives.

The tasks will include, amongst others:

- Support the reporting and quality assurance of national policies and measures under the Governance Regulation and National Energy and Climate Progress Reports.
- Contribute to analysis of reported policies and measures, including assessments of policies addressing mitigation in specific sectors.
- Contribute to strengthening EEA's online information on policies and measures, including interactive data visualisations.
- Contribute to new initiatives to support policy evaluation, possibly together with the European Topic Centre for Climate Change Mitigation or with external contractors.
- Interface with national representatives in the Eionet network to collect information and support knowledge sharing on national climate change ambitions and the policies and measures being prepared or implemented to achieve these.

# 8. National Expert on Climate change risks and adaptation

### Context

The European Commission adopted its EU strategy on adaptation to climate change on 24 February 2021. This strategy sets out how the European Union can become climate resilient by 2050. The Strategy has four objectives: to make adaptation smarter, swifter and more systemic, and to step up international action on adaptation to climate change. Each of the fourteen fields in the strategy contains specific actions to which the Commission has committed itself. In the Council conclusions on the strategy, Member States committed on working together with the Commission to implement the strategy and increase the implementation of adaptation at national and subnational level.

Climate adaptation actions must be informed by robust data and risk assessment tools that are available to all concerned. The EEA supports the Strategy with data and assessments regarding regional and sectoral vulnerability, related adaptation measures and their effectiveness, as well as capacity building within EIONET. In cooperation with the European Commission, the EEA is currently preparing the comprehensive European climate risk assessment (EUCRA) that will be published in 2024 and contributed to the Mission on Adaptation by launching the Mission knowledge hub by 2024. Both EUCRA and the Mission on Adaptation will also inform the further development of EU policies such as possibly new adaptation strategy.

#### Main tasks

The EEA is looking for a seconded national expert with professional expertise in conducting climate risks assessments and analysing the solutions to increase resilience and to adapt to climate change at EU, national and subnational levels.

The main tasks will include amongst others:

- Contribute to EEA assessments on climate impacts, risks and adaptation to support policy developments, notably inputs to the assessment on climate risk and Mission knowledge hub;
- Analyse different lines of evidence, including measured and modelled data on climate change hazards and risks, scientific publications and review-type assessment of climate risks and adaptation solutions at various scales;
- Contribute to the development and improvement of EEA data, indicators, assessment reports and information systems by involvement of EIONET in identifying relevant applications and information from Copernicus services (notably the Copernicus climate change service) and the Destination Earth initiative on climate change adaptation;
- Participate in relevant meetings on climate change risks and adaptation at EU level and to actively contribute to the stakeholders meetings on adaptation;
- Raise awareness and support for the uptake of the EEA assessments on climate risks and adaptation;
- Collaborate with the European Topic Centres supporting climate change adaptation work.

### 9. National Expert on Greenhouse gas emissions and carbon removals

### Context

When it comes to achieving climate neutrality of the European economy by 2050, and to reach Europe's 2030 climate target, member states are in need to enhance the efforts to decrease greenhouse gas emissions in all economic sectors and to increase the carbon removals especially in the agriculture sector and the land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector. This has been recognised by the European Union through the revision of the LULUCF regulation that has been adopted in 2023 and which sets EU and Member States target to enhance the natural carbon removals and initiates activities to achieve a gradual improvement of emission inventory data for the LULUCF sector. In addition, in 2022, the European Commission proposed the setup of a certification framework to increase carbon removals from agriculture practices, forest management and through technological solutions and to ensure and monitor that such removals result to a long-term storage of removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

The EEA is instrumental to support the implementation of the LULUCF regulation, the setup of a regulatory framework for the certification of carbon removals and to provide reliable data on greenhouse gas emissions and carbon removals at EU and MS level. To that extent the carbon emissions and removals monitoring group has been established in January 2022 and its organisational mandate is to provide reliable data on greenhouse gas emissions and carbon removals at EU and MS level, supporting the implementation of the LULUCF regulation and carbon certification framework through monitoring reporting and verification (MRV) activities and the performance of assessments on options to increase carbon removals that do not lead to significant negative consequences on the environment.

Against this context EEA is investing in providing support to countries to gradually improve the quality and accuracy of their greenhouse gas inventories in the agricultural and LULUCF sector due to the increasing importance of carbon removals. This by creating awareness of and making available geographical datasets and by enhancing the sharing of knowledge on best practices and methodologies to improve greenhouse gas inventory data on carbon removals and on MRV methodologies that can be applied to increase the reliability of such information.

# Main tasks

EEA is looking for national experts with professional expertise in compiling national greenhouse gas inventories for the agriculture and LULUCF sector that will be seconded to the EEA for a period of up to one year.

During this period, the expert will be contributing to and learn from EEA's inventory improvement and MRV activities that are initiated to support countries with the gradual improvement of greenhouse gas inventories in the agriculture and LULUCF sector.

This position will offer the successful applicant the opportunity to inform EEA about the national circumstances in the agriculture and LULUCF sector in relation to options to increase carbon removals and the national MRV activities in place and provide support to other EIONET countries with such information. In return, it will allow the experts to strengthen their own expertise – and thus the country expertise –with insights on policy and management options applied in other countries to increase carbon removals as well a better understanding of best available methodologies to calculate of greenhouse gas emissions and carbon removals and methodologies.



### The main tasks will include amongst others:

- Contribute to EEA gaining deep understanding of currently applied country inventory methodologies in the agriculture and LULUCF sector to calculate carbon emissions and removals.
- Support EEA assessments on increasing carbon removals by providing insights into the
  national circumstances for policy options and land management practices that can safeguard
  and enhance carbon removals in the agriculture and LULUCF sectors and support
- Gaining deeper understanding on the state-of-the-art methodologies including geographic datasets - to improve calculation of greenhouse gas emissions and carbon removals in the agriculture and LULUCF sector and identify ways to apply these in own work when returning to the country.
- Providing peer support to other countries in compilation of greenhouse gas emissions and removals in the agricultural and LULUCF sector and supporting EEA in setting up an emission inventory improvement programme to exchange and disseminate knowledge on best practice methodologies and (geographic) datasets
- Support the EU greenhouse gas emission inventory quality assurance and control programme by quality control activities on reported greenhouse gas inventory data.
- Providing feedback to EEA staff on how the monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) activities provide insights to improve the national greenhouse gas inventory data

## 10. National Expert on EPA Network Secretariat

The secretariat of the Heads of Environment Protection Agencies (EPA) Network is currently located at the EEA in Copenhagen. The National Expert who takes up the post of EPA Network secretary will be carrying out the following tasks and should fulfil the candidate profile as described below.

#### Functions and duties:

- To run the EPA Network secretariat
- To coordinate the organisation of plenary meetings (bi-annual) of the EPA Network, together with the host agency and the EPA Network Troika
- To coordinate the work of the EPA Network Troika
- To keep an overview of all Interest Group activities and provide assistance on practical issues such as participation, web support, correspondence and preparation of public statements
- To support further targeted activities agreed upon by the EPA Network
- To maintain links with relevant European Commission staff and to ensure high level participation in EPA plenary meetings
- To act as an active information broker and issue-spotter, helping the Network to identify issues
  of common interest, for example through the production of a regular newsletter
- To stimulate and follow up on content aspects relevant to the EPA network
- To further develop and maintain the EPA Network website
- To maintain contact and cooperate with Eionet and other relevant networks, such as ENCA and IMPEL
- To liaise with relevant EEA staff in identifying EEA/Eionet input to the EPA Network



## 11. National Expert on EU institutional relations (Brussels or Copenhagen)

### Context

The growing understanding of the systemic and crosscutting nature of the environmental and climate challenges that we face implies that the institutional landscape in which the European Environment Agency operates is changing and becoming more complex. To meet growing needs for senior management and staff to understand better strategic new policy trends and developments at EU institutional level in view of the implementation of the EEA-Eionet strategy, and to become more pro-active and impactful, additional capacity is needed in support of the EEA's Brussels Representation activities.

#### Main tasks

In line with the EEA strategy and in support of the EEA's Brussels Representation, enhancing the impact of EEA institutional outreach by:

- monitoring and analysing of strategic developments at EU institutional level
- contributing to proactive EEA contributions to the EU policy process
- ensuring timely communication on upcoming important EEA activities and products

### Relevant skills:

- good understanding of the EU political environment
- demonstrated knowledge of procedures related to the development of new EU legislation;
- good knowledge of the EU regulatory framework for Environment and Climate Change;
- excellent written and verbal communication and interpersonal skills, with a flexible mindset
- demonstrable ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships in a multicultural environment;
- professional work experience in networking and engaging with broad range of stakeholders

## 12. National Expert on Eionet relations

### Context

In the context of the EEA/Eionet Strategy 2021-2030, the EEA initiated several strands of activities to strengthen country networking in line with emerging policies and technologies.

After modernisation of the structure and working methods of EEA-Eionet, efforts in coming years will focus on further strengthening of its coordination role towards the network addressing the capacity development needs of countries and EEA experts. Work will also continue on further developing of networking tools and services in order to increase EEA and Eionet value added at country level. To meet this ambition additional capacity is needed in support of the EEA's Eionet coordination team.

#### Main tasks

In line with the EEA-Eionet strategy and in support of the EEA's Eionet coordination team, enhancing the coordination of Eionet by:

- supporting internal coordination of EEA Eionet Group leads (EGLs), EEA Thematic Group leads (TGLs) and Country desk officers
- supporting capacity building activities and communication with NFPs, EEA EGLs and TGLs
- support uptake and further developments of Tools 2.0 improvement projects to better support networking and information sharing within Eionet
- contributing to regular monitoring and analysis of Eionet operation and Tools 2.0 developments
- contributing to coordination of (possible) cooperation with established and new EEA partners towards strengthening of the Eionet
- upload new and update existing content on the EEA and Eionet web site.
- contributing to other networking activities of the EEA Eionet team

### Relevant skills:

- good understanding of the EEA and Eionet role
- good knowledge of the EU policy frameworks for Environment and Climate Change;
- good knowledge of digital tools, experience with web content management is an advantage.
- professional work experience in network management and engaging with broad range of stakeholders;
- good written and verbal communication and interpersonal skills, with a flexible mindset
- demonstrable ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships in a multicultural environment;

# 13. National Expert on Communication coordination expert

### Context

The EEA/Eionet strategy and the current communication framework stress the need to strengthen our efforts for adding value with and in member countries. Tailored communication activities are a great way to increase engagement with countries. Demands have been expressed to add value to national debates through active engagement with political/institutional partners. Grounds have been prepared with the Eionet communication working group to share national priorities and editorial calendars. This position offers the successful applicant the opportunity to help identify and implement joint communication activities with Eionet and to implement more targeted and country relevant communication initiatives.

### Main tasks

In line with the EEA/Eionet strategy, enhancing the impact of EEA outreach by:

- Ensuring better coordination of communication activities in the member countries
- Building stronger links between online campaigns and monitoring impact
- Customising/tailoring information to specific countries and/or specific target groups
- Identifying and implementing joint communication activities in individual countries or group of countries.

#### Relevant skills:

- Planning and reporting project updates
- Understanding and hands on experience on communication campaigns and coordination
- Experience in cross-country communication campaigns
- Web content management (e.g. uploading and tagging)
- Experience in digital tools (e.g. GIFs for social media promo and online surveys for feedback)

### 14. National Expert on Data management

#### Context

The Data Management team at the EEA is responsible for the technical aspects of supporting all data flows, monitoring and maintaining the production chain of automated data flows, and collaborating with the EEA's thematic programmes. The team also strives to optimize the EEA data production process for efficiencies and effective service provision. In addition, the Data Management team leads the implementation of the data management framework, policies, practices, and procedures in line with EU policies and international standardisation frameworks. The team also sets up and maintains a platform that enhances the collaboration of all partners dealing projects around data. This platform holds all aspects of data handling from data acquisition, processing of European datasets, data analytics to interactive products.

Many areas we work in have some major challenges that we want to distribute the data flow management for, but with a central technical governance. EEA is aiming to strengthen its data analytics capacities. Interactive products are becoming more popular in EEA and there is a need to merge design and communication expertise with a technical data team.

### Job description

The EEA is looking for a seconded national expert with professional expertise in data management related one or more of the following profiles:

- A creative web product designer with a passion for data to help us create interactive data driven dashboards related to the environment. You would be part of a sub-team (Thematic experts, communication experts, data analysts, application expert) who are responsible in producing interactive products for EEA and Eionet.
- A database engineer that can help us to improve the performance, scalability, hardware
  optimisation of our Microsoft SQL Server databases or with advice towards PostgreSQLimplementations. You would play an advisory role to the team of data custodians that
  operates a multitude of databases with their own complexities.
- A data reporting manager that supports the use of Reportnet implementation by data stewards (thematic data experts leading the data flow) and data custodians (technical data engineers responsible for the implementation and automation). This profile helps implementing data flow schemas and has a practical mindset that can find the most optimal data schemas with that keeps the cost for our data providers as low as possible and the learning curve to a minimum.
- A data scientist who can share expertise in the latest technical knowhow in data processing such as machine learning and artificial intelligence or big data storage and processing. More specifically, EEA is extending its knowledge in using Jupyter, R, Microsoft Azure such as databricks, with a focus on environmental applications, scenarios or similar domains.

## 15. National Expert on Use of Copernicus Data and Information Services

### Context

The European Earth Observation Programme Copernicus is a user driven programme aiming to deliver data and information services to support the European Green Deal. The EEA and Eionet are aiming to make full use of the potential of Copernicus for the implementation of its 2030 strategy, including the monitoring the 8th EU Environment Action Plan. Special attention will be given to the use of the following Copernicus monitoring services: atmosphere, marine environment, land, climate change and emergency management. The EEA and Eionet member countries are increasingly becoming key users of a number of these services for monitoring and reporting by means of data, information, indicators and assessments. The EEA is also responsible for the overall coordination of the Copernicus in situ component across services and is coordinating together with the Joint Research Centre the implementation of the Copernicus land monitoring service.

A major challenge for Copernicus is communication and outreach to national users within the Eionet network. Identifying user needs and addressing them by use cases that integrate Copernicus services with existing national monitoring and reporting activities require regular dialogues between the various types of user communities. The EEA aims to facilitate co-creation, collaboration and interactions, e.g. by organising expert meetings, managing communication channels as well capacity building.

#### Main tasks

The EEA is looking for a seconded national expert with professional expertise in monitoring and reporting on the environment and familiar with the European Earth Observation Programme Copernicus, to engage with national and European users, to contribute to improved communication and outreach related to the use of Copernicus services in support to the European Green Deal and the monitoring of the 8th EU Environment Action Programme, as well as the broader user uptake of Copernicus services. The main tasks will include amongst others:

- Support the assessment of user needs for Copernicus monitoring services for improving the knowledge and evidence base for EU environment and climate policy (i.e. 8th EAP and the European Green Deal) as well as the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development;
- Participate in the EEA Copernicus project, attend the project meetings and contribute to product development;
- Raise awareness and support for the uptake of Copernicus data and information services within Eionet members with concrete use cases such as those related to nature restoration, zero pollution, resource efficiency, climate adaptation etc.;
- Explore with the Copernicus services and relevant European and international networks options to define and implement the policy-relevant use cases, including attending expert meetings focusing on communities of practice;
- Contribute to the development and improvement of EEA data, indicators, assessment reports and information systems by involvement of Eionet in identifying relevant applications and information from Copernicus services;
- Support the EEA and Eionet on partnerships by assisting the development of Copernicus in situ component;
- Strengthen the communication and outreach efforts related to the use of Copernicus data and information services as part of the EEA Working Group on Copernicus User Uptake;
- Contribute to brand communications around Copernicus and the EEA's role, in cooperation with the EEA communications team;
- Collaborate with the European Topic Centres on the use of Copernicus services.

## 16. National Expert on Copernicus and Eionet

### Context

The European Earth observation Programme Copernicus is a user driven programme aiming to deliver data and information services in the following areas: atmosphere monitoring, marine environment monitoring, land monitoring, climate change, emergency management and security. The EEA and Eionet member countries are increasingly becoming key users of a number of these services to support the monitoring and reporting of a range of environment and climate change themes by means of data, information, indicators and assessments. The EEA is also responsible for the overall coordination of the Copernicus in situ component across services and is coordinating together with the Joint Research Centre the implementation of the Copernicus land monitoring services.

A major challenge for Copernicus is the identification and interpretation of the needs from national end users i.e. Eionet partners (national focal points, Eionet groups and European topic centres). Copernicus needs to deliver policy-relevant data and information to support the monitoring and reporting priorities of the European Green Deal and the 8th EU Environmental Action Programme (EAP). Identifying such needs requires regular dialogues between the various types of user communities, i.e. Eionet members in EEA-38 countries and the providers of the Copernicus services. The EEA as both service provider of the Copernicus Land Monitoring Service and user as an environment agency should facilitate such dialogues and interactions, e.g. through organising and participating in relevant expert meetings, networks as well capacity building. The EEA together with Eionet needs to further review and elaborate how it might incorporate data and information from Copernicus services to inform the upcoming EU Climate Law, new strategies for Biodiversity and for Forest as well as the zero-pollution targets, with specific focus on Eionet and co-creation of joint products and services.

#### Main tasks

The EEA is looking for a seconded national expert with professional expertise in monitoring and reporting on the environment and being familiar with the European Earth Observation Programme Copernicus and Eionet, to contribute to the EEA-Eionet user uptake of Copernicus services and its use on environmental and climate policies. The main tasks will be to:

- Foster the uptake of the Copernicus Services within the EEA, supporting the identification
  and articulation of the Eionet user needs for Copernicus monitoring services for improving
  the knowledge and evidence base for the EU environment and climate policy (e.g. 8th EAP
  and the European Green Deal) as well as the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development;
- Participate in the EEA Copernicus project, attend the project meetings and manage the resources related to user uptake;
- Raise awareness and support the user uptake of Copernicus data and information services within Eionet members;
- Support the collaboration between the Eionet network of EEA member and collaborating countries and Copernicus services, special support is required to the National Collaboration Programme to foster the national uptake of the Copernicus Land Monitoring Services. This task includes participation in Eionet workshops and the NFP Eionet meetings;
- Support the EEA and Eionet on partnerships and networking for the coordination of the Copernicus in situ component;
- Support the EEA thematic programmes in the uptake of Copernicus through the EEA Working Group on Copernicus User Uptake coordination;



- Liaise with the Copernicus service operators (entrusted entities) and relevant European and international networks to help ensure delivery of policy-relevant information, including attending expert meetings focusing on user needs;
- Contribute to the development and improvement of EEA indicators, assessment reports and information systems by involvement of Eionet in identifying relevant applications and information from Copernicus services;
- Collaborate with the European Topic Centres (ETCs) and support the user uptake tasks, including in house coordination for definition and implementation of user uptake tasks in support of EEA thematic programmes and management of user uptake budget.

## 17. National Expert on Sustainable Finance

#### Context

Sustainable finance (SF) has a key role to play in delivering on the policy objectives under the <u>European Green Deal</u> as well as the EU's international commitments on climate and sustainability objectives. It encompasses the development of standards around ESG (environmental, social and governance) considerations, innovative financial products to enable long-term and increased investments in sustainability, and efforts to increase transparency in the risks and returns of the financial sector that impact and are impacted by sustainability, among other things. It does this to channel private and public investment into the transition to a climate-resilient, nature-positive, resource-efficient, and fair economy.

The EU has been at the forefront of efforts to build a financial system that supports sustainability transition and here EEA has played a central role in contributing to the policy processes such as the Technical Expert Group on the SF Taxonomy and on various directives. The EEA would therefore like to strengthen its capabilities in sustainable finance to develop targeted indicators and reports on progress towards sustainability transition in and throughout Europe and neighbouring regions.

This position offers the successful applicant the opportunity to work at European level and to support EEA member countries and the European Commission in the delivery of the ambition of the Sustainable Finance Framework. This includes contributions to the <u>Platform on Sustainable Finance</u>, that is advising the Commission on the development of the EU Taxonomy and on the implementation of the Sustainable Finance Framework, and to the <u>Sustainability Standard Board of the European Financial Reporting Advisory Group</u> (EFRAG), advising the Commission on European Sustainability Standards and to specific topics, such as the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation and/or natural hazards. SF is part of the wider agenda of financing the sustainability transition and greening the financial system.

#### Main tasks

- Develop knowledge on financing the transition to sustainable development and the various aspects of this transition including climate-neutrality, nature, and circular economy etc.
- Steering and contributing to the development of EEA reports etc. in the field of Sustainability
  Transitions, particularly on the assessment of environmental risks and opportunities for the
  financial sector.
- Contributing to cross-cutting EEA activities related to Sustainability Transition, including
  developing relevant information, data, and indicators to track progress towards financing
  and investment into the EU environmental and Green Deal objectives. Also assess
  opportunities and challenges of implementing the EU Sustainable Finance Strategy and its
  follow ups.
- Engaging to network activities with the European Commission, ECB, ESMA, EIB, OECD, and
  other international organisations to secure relevant information, data, and indicators to
  strengthen our knowledge base Also contributing to knowledge and capacity building
  activities to assist EEA Member and cooperating countries in the field of sustainable finance,
  including organising meetings and workshops.
- Contribute as needed to our engagement in policy processes as described above.