

**VACANCY NOTICE FOR A POST OF SECONDED NATIONAL EXPERT**

DG – Directorate – Unit	DG AGRI-H-4 AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT H: Assurance and audit H.4: Assurance and financial audit
Post number in sysper:	424772
Contact person: Provisional starting date: Initial duration: Place of secondment:	Katia PHILANIOTOU 3rd quarter 2024 2 years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brussels <input type="checkbox"/> Luxemburg <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Click or tap here to enter text.
Type of secondment	<input checked="" type="radio"/> With allowances <input type="radio"/> Cost-free
This vacancy notice is open to: <input checked="" type="radio"/> EU Member States as well as <input type="checkbox"/> The following EFTA countries: <input type="checkbox"/> Iceland <input type="checkbox"/> Liechtenstein <input type="checkbox"/> Norway <input type="checkbox"/> Switzerland <input type="checkbox"/> The following third countries: <input type="checkbox"/> The following intergovernmental organisations: ... <input type="radio"/> EFTA-EEA In-Kind agreement (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway)	
Deadline for applications	<input type="radio"/> 2 months <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1 month

Entity Presentation (We are)

We are the Assurance and Financial Audit Unit of the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, which has the following key responsibilities:

- The annual financial clearance of accounts exercise. This activity aims to provide the Commission with reasonable assurance that the expenditure declared by the Member States and Candidate Countries Paying Agencies' as set out in their annual accounts are true, complete and accurate and that their management and control systems have worked adequately. This activity covers agricultural expenditure of almost €55 billion per year.
- The continuing assessment of EAGF, EAFRD and IPARD Paying Agencies' internal control systems by carrying out audits to obtain assurance that the management and control systems are in place and work properly and in particular to verify their effectiveness and conformity with the Regulations and the Guidelines on clearance of accounts.
- The ongoing provision of such assistance and advice to contribute to improving the management and control systems by proposing modifications of EU legislation and addressing recommendations and guidelines to the Member States and Candidate Countries.

The Unit currently has 26 staff and boasts a positive working atmosphere and a strong "esprit de corps". Most Member States are represented.

Job Presentation (We propose)

The SNE will be requested to carry out the following tasks:

- Contribute to the annual clearance exercise by analysing the annual accounts of the Paying Agencies and reports of the Certification Bodies.
- Contribute to the provision of audit methodology and guidance for the Certification Bodies' work on the audit of the governance systems and legality and regularity. The main responsibilities cover the analysis of reports of the Certification Bodies, the follow-up of these audit reports and the assessment of the effectiveness of the control systems in Member States in managing the use of EU resources in the field of agricultural and rural development expenditure and preventing fraud.
- Undertake around 3-4 missions per year, including with departure on Sundays.

The SNE will work under the supervision of a Team Leader. Without prejudice to the principle of loyal cooperation between national, regional and European administrations, the SNE will not work on individual cases with implications with files he/she would have had to deal with in his/her national administration in the two years preceding the entry into the Commission or directly adjacent cases. In no case he/she shall represent the Commission in order to make commitments, financial or otherwise, or to negotiate on behalf of the Commission.

Jobholder Profile (We look for)

Diploma:

- university degree or
- professional training or professional experience of an equivalent level

In the field(s) accountancy, audit, finance, statistics, economics, project management, administration, law

Professional experience: In addition to experience in accounting and audit, experience in statistics, general mathematics, budget, finance and financial clearance and accreditation would be an asset. Knowledge of the CAP, Rural Development policy and European Structural and Regional Funds, general audit standards, methods and procedures and the standard Commission tools would also be an advantage.

Language(s) necessary for the performance of duties: Very good communication skills in English. A working knowledge of French or other EU languages would be an advantage.

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, you need 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 your 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 your 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. If you come from a third country, you 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 your secondment, you must remain employed and remunerated by your employer and covered by your (national) social security system.

You shall exercise your 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.

In case the position is published with allowances, these can only be granted when you fulfil 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](#)). It is up to you to launch the vetting procedure before getting the secondment confirmation.

Submission of applications and selection procedure

If you are interested, please follow the instructions given by your employer on how to apply.

The European Commission **only accepts applications which have been submitted through the Permanent Representation / Diplomatic Mission to the EU of your country, the EFTA Secretariat or through the channel(s) it has specifically agreed to**. Applications received directly from you or your employer will not be taken into consideration.

You should draft you CV in English, French or German using the **Europass CV format** ([Create your Europass CV | Europass](#)). It must mention your nationality.

Please do not 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⁾. 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)