



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

VACANCY NOTICE FOR A POST OF SECONDED NATIONAL EXPERT

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| DG – Directorate – Unit | INTPA-F-3 |
| Post number in sysper: | 198162 |
| Contact person: | Leonard MIZZI |
| Provisional starting date: | 4 th quarter 2025 |
| Initial duration: | 2 years |
| Place of secondment: | <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 checked="" type="radio"/> 2 months <input type="radio"/> 1 month Latest application date: 25-06-2025 |

Entity Presentation (We are)

Our mission is to contribute - in the context of the European Union's external relations- to sustainable development, the eradication of poverty, peace and the protection of human rights, through international partnerships that uphold and promote European values and interests.

As part of the European Union's external relations, we base our actions on international law and multilateralism and are at the forefront of the European Union's efforts to implement global commitments, notably the United Nations 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

Under the geopolitical ambition and political guidelines set by the President of the European Commission, we lead on international cooperation, building partnerships with countries and organisations across the globe. DG INTPA works hand in hand with the Commission services and the European External Action Service to ensure that the external dimension of all EU policies strengthens our action in the world. We work hand in hand with our Member States to mobilize a strong Team Europe approach behind our EU agenda on the world stage, in particular the EU Global Gateway. We work hand in hand with our partners, setting policy agendas, taking initiatives and ensuring effective implementation of our actions for the ultimate benefit of people across the world.

Job Presentation (We propose)

The European Green Deal is a package of policy initiatives to support the sustainability transition in key sectors such as agriculture and food. The Vision for Agriculture and Food (2025) aims at fostering trust and dialogue across the entire value chain within the EU and globally. It emphasises close engagement with relevant institutions, farmers, food chain operators and civil society at local and regional levels, addressing their concerns. It includes new opportunities for additional incomes for farmers and fishers from climate-neutral and nature-positive economy. Organic sector and agroecological farming practices are recognised as attractive options for young farmers, in addition to innovation from bioeconomy, circularity and carbon farming opportunities. It underlines that “knowledge, research and innovation” must reach farmers and other food system actors more quickly and at a wider scale, as well as that reinforcing international partnerships and cooperation on the global stage with international organisations will help to deliver on innovative solutions. Strengthening agricultural knowledge and innovation systems is required to make new knowledge and innovations accessible and used.

The EU external action will be strongly driven by the Global Gateway strategy, the EU's strategy to boost sustainable infrastructure and development in partner countries. It puts emphasis on mobilising private investments and, for the agrifood sector, on agri-food value chains. “Education & Research” is a pillar of the Global Gateway and contributes to the enabling environment and capacities for its other pillars. Complementary to the Global Gateway, the EU external action will address fragility and global challenges and initiatives.

The Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA) has a long-standing experience in Research & Innovation for agriculture (R&I) and food systems transitions including with programme such as DeSIRA and DeSIRA+ and will address R&I as part of the new priorities of the EU for external actions, such as the Global Gateway. It is therefore requesting the appointment of a seconded national expert (SNE) to provide technical advice and operational support on research & innovation processes and innovation ecosystems in support to agroecological & circular approaches in agri-food sector for impact at scale. The tasks will be carried out through INTPA and/or Team Europe Initiatives, collaboration with other relevant Directorate-Generals of the European

Commission, and in partnership with international networks like CGIAR. The SNE will also provide guidance and quality support to value chains analyses in agriculture (incl. livestock, aquaculture and fisheries) as part of the broader sustainable agri-value chains and food systems partnerships aligned with the EU's Global Gateway strategy.

Description of Duties

- Strategic and technical engagement with Commission services, EU Member States, EU Delegations and implementing partners on agri-food Research and Innovation (R&I) and agroecological & circular approaches in agri-food sector in EU partner countries.
- Support to the interactions with DG INTPA and with other Directorate-Generals to coordinate policies and interventions in R&I in partner countries.
- Support to the design and to management of cooperation activities, projects and programmes in partner countries together with EU Delegations and implementing partners and aligned with agroecological & circular approaches
- Contribute to the development and management of programmes on sustainable agri-value chains and food systems in EU partner countries, focusing on public-private partnerships, (financial) incentives, and innovative financing for R&I as part of the Global Gateway strategy.
- Support the organization of political and technical events as well as multi-stakeholder dialogues at global, regional and local level.
- Provide ad hoc support on relevant agri-value chains and food systems files.

Jobholder Profile (We look for)

Academic Background

Preferably PhD level, or at least Master's or equivalent in agronomy (including agroecology or agroforestry) with a development focus (preferred option) or Environmental Studies/Development Economics/Sociology and/or Policy.

Required Knowledge and Working Experience

- Minimum of 3-5 years of relevant working experience required;
- Knowledge and experience on development issues (innovation processes, participatory approaches, policy dialogue, etc.)
- Knowledge and experience on R&I approaches
- Experience in international development (R&I, environmental/climate/agriculture policies);
- Field experience in developing countries would be a strong advantage.

Language skills

Spoken and written proficiency in both English and French required (min. C1 level). Further language skills can 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 your 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)