



Programme officer

IPBES technical support unit (TSU) on knowledge and data

Location:

Biodiversa+ Secretariat
Fondation pour la Recherche sur la Biodiversité
195 rue Saint Jacques
75005 Paris, France

Duration: Fixed-term contract for 2 years. This is a full-time position.

Monthly salary: 2,200 € before tax, depending on education and experience

Starting date: Jan. 3rd, 2022

Application deadline: Nov. 30th, 2021

INSTITUTIONAL SETTING

About Biodiversa+ - Being one of the main actions of the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030, the European Biodiversity Partnership (Biodiversa+) coordinates research programmes between EU and its Member States and Associated Countries, mobilizing environmental authorities as key partners for implementing biodiversity research and innovation, along with ministries of research, funding organisations, and environmental protection agencies (75 organisations from 37 countries). Biodiversa+ has five overarching objectives: (1) improve monitoring of biodiversity and ecosystem services across Europe (status and trends); (2) generate actionable knowledge to tackle the direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss; (3) expand and improve the evidence base, and accelerate the development and wide deployment of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to meet societal challenges across Europe; (4) make the business case for the conservation and restoration of biodiversity; and (5) ensure efficient science-based support for biodiversity policy making in Europe.

About IPBES and its technical support unit (TSU) on Knowledge and Data - The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is an independent intergovernmental body established by States to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services. IPBES currently has 137 Member States, and a large number of organizations also participate in the process as observers. To conduct its work, IPBES gathers high-level scientists from all over the world to perform regional, thematic and methodological assessments about biodiversity and Nature's contributions to people worldwide and inform political decision-making.

Such assessments also establish knowledge gaps, spanning from state-of-the-art science to requirements for policy-making, including in relation to data and indigenous and local knowledge. In this context, the IPBES task force on knowledge and data has been mandated to i) support experts from the different IPBES assessments in the identification of knowledge gaps and key scientific information needed for policy-making at appropriate scales, and ii) catalyse efforts to generate new knowledge, in dialogue with relevant organizations that support the generation of new knowledge. The task force is supported in implementing these objectives and the related work plan by a technical support unit (TSU). The TSU is mainly responsible for the mobilization of the task force and organizing the implementation of its work plan.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Context

Biodiversa+ is experienced in the process of catalysing the generation of new knowledge in response to identified knowledge gaps and policy needs and was selected by IPBES in 2019 to host the 'knowledge' functions of its TSU on knowledge and data, in FRB offices in Paris (France). The TSU supports the task force on knowledge and data in implementing its objectives (i.e. support for knowledge gaps identification and catalysing the generation of new knowledge) and related work plan. The other part of the TSU (data functions) is hosted by Senckenberg (Frankfurt, Germany).

The task force activities and key deliverables, supported by this TSU, can be found here: <https://www.ipbes.net/knowledge-generation>

Main role and duties

Under the direct supervision of the TSU lead on knowledge and in close collaboration with the IPBES task force on knowledge and data, the IPBES main Secretariat (Bonn, Germany) and the TSU team working on data aspects (Frankfurt, Germany), the Programme Officer will:

- Develop materials to propose and present processes at expert meetings to catalyse new knowledge generation based on gaps identified in IPBES assessments;
- Follow and contribute to the implementation of processes to identify knowledge gaps and needs in IPBES assessments, in collaboration with other TSUs and working with the scientific experts writing these assessments;
- Identify key stakeholders (in particular international research programmers and funders on biodiversity) and initiate contacts around proposed activities for the uptake of knowledge needs identified in IPBES assessments;
- Plan and implement on-line and physical workshops with IPBES scientific experts and relevant international stakeholders programming and funding research on biodiversity globally and regionally;
- Develop and implement a monitoring plan identifying impacts of IPBES's work on knowledge generation, and provide inputs for IPBES communications.
- Engage in the TSU's administrative and financial management and support the fulfillment of formal narrative and financial reporting requirements

CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS:

Education and work experience

- Master degree (or another relevant degree and relevant work experience) either in management, policy or science, if possible with a relation to the topic of biodiversity and ecosystems and with demonstrated skills in understanding the science-society/policy interface and international collaboration;
- A minimum of 1 year of relevant work experience is desirable;
- A demonstrated interest for biodiversity-related issues in previous education, professional or personal experience is desirable.

Skills and personal qualities

- Excellent communication and drafting skills in English are an absolute requirement:
 - o Clear oral presentation skills
 - o Writing in a clear, synthetic style in English
- Organizational skills:
 - o Organizing information and work
 - o Understanding and respecting processes and governance in complex institutions

- Administrative and financial management and reporting
- People's skills
 - Capacity to adapt and work with experts and multiple stakeholders internationally
 - Have a good contact with people, committed to fostering and managing long term relationships
 - Understanding multiple opinions and interests, in a multi-cultural context

Language requirements

- Fluent English (reading, writing, speaking). This work position is in English.
- French is appreciated (French working environment) but not compulsory.

Other requirements

- This position requires travels abroad.
- Applicants must be eligible to work in France (support to work permits is not provided). Applications will not be considered if submitted by people non-eligible to work in France.
- This position falls under the French labor law, the official employer being the French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity, on behalf of the Biodiversa+ Partnership.

HOW TO APPLY:

Please send a CV and a cover letter to Frédéric Lemaître and Elisa Magueur **by November 30th, 2021**. Applications that do not include both a resumé and cover letter will not be considered.

- frederic.lemaitre@fondationbiodiversite.fr

- elisa.magueur@fondationbiodiversite.fr