



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

VACANCY NOTICE FOR A POST OF SECONDED NATIONAL EXPERT

DG – Directorate – Unit	INTPA.F.2
Post number in sysper:	374934
Contact person:	Chantal MARIJNISSEN
Provisional starting date:	1st quarter 2026
Initial duration:	2 years
Place of secondment:	☒ Brussels ☐ Luxembourg ☐ Other: Click or tap here to enter text.
Type of secondment	☐ With allowances ☒ Cost-free
This vacancy notice is open to: ☒ EU Member States as well as ☐ The following EFTA countries: ☐ Iceland ☐ Liechtenstein ☐ Norway ☐ Switzerland ☐ The following third countries: United Kingdom ☐ The following intergovernmental organisations: ... ☐ EFTA-EEA In-Kind agreement (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norw...	
Deadline for applications	☒ 2 months ☐ 1 month Latest application date: 19-12-2025

Entity Presentation (We are)

Under the geopolitical ambition and political guidelines set by the President of the European Commission, DG INTPA leads on international cooperation, building partnerships with countries and organisations across the globe. We work hand in hand with the European External Action Service and with our Member States to mobilise a strong

Team Europe approach to ensure the impact of the EU agenda on the world stage. We also cooperate with our partners, setting policy agendas, taking initiatives and ensuring effective implementation of our actions for the ultimate benefit of people across the world.

The European Union's Global Gateway aims to accompany partner countries so that they reap the benefits of Europe's clean transition for their sustainable development and the clean transition of their economies. The Global Gateway's 360-degree approach goes beyond infrastructure and private sector support by applying five key principles—democratic values, good governance, equal partnerships, green transition, and security—to tailor investments to specific contexts. The next Multi-Annual Financial Framework (2028-2035) will be key to the scale up of the Global Gateway. Therefore, DG INTPA is at a crucial juncture, developing an investment portfolio and financial instruments that will benefit both people and planet.

In this context, the mandate of Unit INTPA.F.2 is to support developing countries in addressing challenges related to the environment and natural resources such as biodiversity, forests, land, water as well as the transition to a circular economy. Unit F2 is therefore in charge of the external dimension of the European Green Deal.

With this aim, Unit INTPA.F.2 has three main areas of work: 1. policy development (including legislative work); 2. thematic support to EU Delegations and counterparts; 3. programming and implementation.

The next years will be crucial to ensure that water and nature-based solutions are firmly anchored in our external action according to the orientation put forward in the Water Resilience Strategy and the next MFF. Working with the private sector and financial institutions will be key. Particular attention will be paid to the development of an innovative financing offer through guarantees, blending, bonds, biodiversity credits, investment funds.

Job Presentation (We propose)

In the context of the Green Deal and its related external investment agenda namely the Global Gateway, the water sector is gaining importance as a strategic enabler and asset for investments notably in Critical Raw Materials, Digital transformation, Clean Energy or Agriculture, while continuing to be an equity integrator and social enabler through WASH.

In line with the Water Resilience Strategy and through its action under the Global Gateway, the EU has developed a holistic approach aiming at protecting and restoring the global water cycle, building a water smart economy and ensuring water security for all. .

The EU will expand strategic partnerships and water diplomacy to promote Integrated Water Resource Management, the source-to-sea approach, the use of nature-based solutions, investment in sustainable water and sanitation for all, and innovation-driven policy reforms.

It will build on the EU strengths, including innovation, know-how and a strong private sector with global leadership. Particular attention will be paid to investments with the development of an innovative financing offer that blends public, private and international finance regarding climate and biodiversity.

Continued support to a stronger global water governance (notably in preparation of the UN 2026 Water Conference) and globalisation of the UN Water Convention (notably with the

implementation of the Team Europe Initiatives on Transboundary water management in Africa and on Water, Climate, Energy in Central Asia) will set the enabling framework for investment in the sector and beyond.

In this context, the Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA) is ready to further develop opportunities this agenda creates for the sector. It is therefore requesting the appointment of a seconded national expert (SNE) to provide technical advice and operational support to the development of INTPA's investment portfolio in the areas of water and nature-based solutions for infrastructures.

Description of Duties

1. Contribute to the development of investment policies and strategies for water and nature-based solutions in line with the Water Resilience Strategy and the Global Gateway. Ensure a full integration of the use of blended finance, notably with the private sector.
2. Provide expert advice and analysis on the market, its key stakeholders, its development, its financing and the related enabling policies and governance frameworks, notably in our partner countries.
3. Contribute to the follow-up internally and externally at a political level, notably with the Council, Member States and external Stakeholders (International Organisations, NGOs or Private Sector partners). Contribute to the follow-up of Team Europe Initiatives on Water.
4. Support a meaningful engagement in the international arena, in line with the objectives of the Water Resilience Strategy and the Global Gateway.
5. Support investments reviews and analysis (including of their financial structuring) to ensure additionality, increase leverage from the private sector and achieve development impact. Provide advice on the development of new financing instruments and initiatives for the sector.
6. Ensure that water and nature-based investment operations are developed with a logic of integrated natural resource management and inclusiveness that meaningfully includes all necessary stakeholders in decision-making processes.
7. Contribute to the Commission policy and legislative work on water and nature-based solutions and help develop policies and approaches coherent with both EU policies and the international agenda, with due attention to impact on third countries.
8. Assist, upon demand, European Union Delegations in the policy dialogues in relation with water and nature-based solutions. Conduct missions in partner countries to provide financial/investment and thematic/policy support.

Jobholder Profile (We look for)

Academic Background

University degree with a focus on natural resources, sustainable finance, water or related fields.

Required Knowledge and Working Experience

- Minimum of 3-5 years of relevant working experience required;
- Experience in the areas of natural resources management, and in particular water and nature-based solution policies and strategies;

- Experience in private sector investments and/or sustainable finance
- Field experience in developing countries.
- Excellent analytical and writing skills

Language skills

Spoken and written proficiency in English (min. C1 level) required and French/Spanish (min. B2level) an advantage. 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)