



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

VACANCY NOTICE FOR A POST OF SECONDED NATIONAL EXPERT

DG – Directorate – Unit	DG RTD – Directorate B – Unit B1
Post number in sysper:	336268
Contact person:	Astrid LADEFOGED (HoU)
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: ☐ The following intergovernmental organisations: ... ☐ EFTA-EEA In-Kind agreement (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norw...	
Deadline for applications	☐ 2 months ☒ 1 month Latest application date: 25-11-2025

Entity Presentation (We are)

The mission of the **Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD)** is to develop and implement European Research and Innovation (R&I) policy. The DG supports R&I through European Framework Programmes, coordinates and supports national and regional R&I programmes, contributes to the creation of the European Research Area, and

supports the cooperation of European organisations and researchers in Europe and in an international context.

Unit RTD B.1 sits within the **‘Healthy Planet’ Directorate of RTD** which aims to support and accelerate the needed innovations and transitions of the European Union and its economy with the long term objective of creating well-balanced prosperity, respecting planetary boundaries and ensuring a healthy planet Earth. This includes the generation of new scientific and technological knowledge and the development and upscaling of innovative technological and systemic solutions. The activities of the Directorate encompass circular economy and bio-based systems; bioeconomy and food systems; climate, biodiversity, environment and Earth observation; and healthy oceans, seas and inland waters.

Unit RTD B.1 ‘Green Transitions’ has specific responsibility for supporting R&I in the areas of circular economy and bio-based systems. This includes initiatives such as the Circular Biobased Europe Joint Undertaking (CBE JU) and the European Circular Bioeconomy Fund (ECBF). The Unit works closely with other Commission services on key policy initiatives such as the update of the EU Bioeconomy Strategy and the upcoming Circular Economy Act.

The Unit ensures the strategic planning, programming, coordination and communication of the activities of all RTD B units including for the intervention areas of Cluster 6 of Horizon Europe, such as biodiversity and natural resources; agriculture, forestry and rural areas; seas, oceans and inland waters; bioeconomy and food systems. The Unit also supports the cooperation within Directorate B on the key task of ‘feedback to policy’ with Executive Agencies (REA, CINEA, etc.) as well as with alignment among Missions, Partnerships, B.1’s own Circular Cities and Regions Initiative, and International cooperation.

The Unit builds bridges across DG RTD, interacting closely with other policy DGs and relevant Executive Agencies; ensures an open and constant dialogue with the Member States, the research community, industrial stakeholders and relevant international partners for maximising synergies and impact of EU R&I. Key activities include transition analysis, strategic intelligence for policymaking, strategic planning and programming, programme monitoring and evaluation, communication, dissemination and exploitation of results, international cooperation.

Job Presentation (We propose)

Under the supervision of an AD staff member, the expert will primarily contribute to Unit’s circular economy file. This involves:

1. Closing the loop between bringing new solutions into policy and into markets by supporting ‘feedback-to-policy’ processes to help ensure the effective uptake of circular economy R&I project outcomes;
2. Contributing to the programming and management of green and circular economy research and innovation activities led by DG RTD in close cooperation with the Executive Agencies (particularly REA and CINEA), other Commission services (in particular DG ENV and DG GROW), Member States and other relevant external stakeholders. This includes support with the management of the internal RTD Circular Economy Task Force;

3. Tracking and contributing to the scoping, management, analysis and dissemination of relevant circular economy-related studies including those led by other Commission services;
4. Contributing to the identification of major circular economy trends, the elaboration of green and circular economy transition pathways, and identification of circular economy R&I priorities for funding;
5. Tracking, analysing and disseminating important circular economy developments at the international level;
6. Supporting internal and external communication activities related to circular economy topics, such as newsletter, blogs, and conferences;
7. Provide support to the general activities of the unit and other teams, such as the Bio-based team, Programming, and Policy & Communication teams.

Jobholder Profile (We look for)

We look for a highly motivated, dynamic and friendly colleague with a service-orientated approach. The post requires the ability to proactively provide quick input, strategic intelligence and apply science/policy analysis to find innovative solutions. This includes preparing targeted policy briefings for the hierarchy, as well as contribute to swift and sound responses to stakeholder concerns or political issues. Excellent oral and written skills in English, allowing for effective communication with all counterparts and partners, as well as the capacity to establish solid collaborative working relations are essential.

The successful candidate will also be well organised and capable of working independently, and also be keen and ready to co-create and share with other members of the team. A background, or qualifications, in a mix of the following fields would be a very strong asset: systems approaches, circular economy solutions and innovation ecosystems, bio-based systems, environmental sciences, and related socio-economic studies. Experience in EU policy processes, including participation in expert or comitology groups, and the Commission's internal procedures would be beneficial.

More specifically, we seek the following:

Diploma

- university degree
- professional training or professional experience of an equivalent level in the field(s) of: R&D and innovation, environmental science and policy and, particularly, circular economy and bio-based systems science and policy. Experience in economics and green transitions science and policy would also be an asset.

Professional experience

The expert will have at least 5 years of experience in policy analysis or innovation policies. In addition, proven experience in environmental/circular economy/bio-based systems R&I

policy would be a strong asset as would project management and stakeholder engagement experience.

Language(s) necessary for the performance of duties

A thorough knowledge of one of the EU languages (in addition to English) and a satisfactory knowledge of another EU language is required. Excellent command of written and spoken English is essential.

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)