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Job announcement (#4/4)

Marine Geospatial Engineer

I – CONTEXT: The OCEAN METISS Project

Applicants are invited for a Marine Geospatial Engineer who will join researchers at the University of Reunion Island (France) in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) (<http://www.univ-reunion.fr/university-of-reunion-island/>) as part of the OCEAN METISS scientific project funded by the European Commission – European Maritime and Fisheries Fund. This project is one of four European projects on Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) to be selected for funding by EASME (<https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/south-western-indian-ocean-maritime-spatial-planning>) and the only one to be selected from the European overseas territories.

The successful applicant will be based at the University of La Réunion (UMR ESPACE-DEV and UMR ENTROPIE), and will actively participate in project-related activities, which involve cooperation between the Regional Council of Reunion Island, French State institutions - based in Reunion Island under the aegis of the Secretary General for Regional Affairs (SGAR) - and the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC).

Overall, the OCEAN METISS project aims to support the integrated economic development of the South West Indian Ocean Basin and the EU. To this end, the project will develop 1) MSP as a method to operationalize a blue economy strategy; 2) the sharing of international experience and active networking in favour of a blue economy; 3) the mutualizing of local, national and international human, scientific and technical resources; 4) capacity building to ensure higher performance results in the analysis, development and implementation of the blue economy; 5) the emergence of projects that may be entitled to further funding beyond the duration of the OCEAN METISS project.

The OCEAN METISS project implements MSP as a framework for consistent, transparent, sustainable and evidence-based decision-making, as stated in the 2014 EU directive on MSP for instance. To meet this objective, the various partners will apply a multi-scale approach to marine spatial planning involving both a large scale (WIO) and small scale (Reunion Island coastlines) approach. Participants will be associated to the project in working groups linked to each work package (WP). The first three thematic work packages are sectorial and aim to set baselines for the project: WP1 Ecosystem and Energy; WP2 Sustainable Development of Economic Activities; WP3 Research and Innovation. The following three work packages are cross-sectoral and aim to develop the blue economy strategy: WP4 Governance; WP5 Risks and Conflicts of Practices; WP6 Cooperation and Networking.

II – REQUIREMENTS

1 – Missions

Activities include 1) a technological watch on spatial data infrastructures applied to marine spatial planning, 2) the animation of a local network of data managers with the view of collecting historical data on social-ecological systems relevant to establish a strategic marine spatial plan, 3) development of data agreements with external data providers/SDIs, 4) formatting of spatial data (vector data, raster / remote sensing data, tracking data) described with proper metadata, 5) the enrichment of a spatial data infrastructure (SDI) to support marine spatial planning which implements standards for data interoperability (data formats and access protocols), 6) validation of SDIs technical options and tools with project partners (Indian Ocean Commission, French State, Regional Council, University) and 7) the adoption of a data management plan beyond the project period.

The recruited engineer will ensure the coordination of its activities with on-going SDI initiatives in the region and the provision of a data flow (OGC formats) to the SeaSketch on-line planning tool to be



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used during marine zoning sessions organized with stakeholders (validation of data access protocols). To this purpose, the recruited engineer will collaborate with the McClintock lab (University of Santa Barbara California) in charge of implementing the Seasketch tool in Réunion Island. His/Her work will be conducted in Saint-Denis and in Saint-Pierre (SEAS-OI station) in close cooperation with the project partners and the (post-doctoral) researchers recruited for the OCEAN METISS project in geography, marine ecology and marine governance.

2 – Job Profile

- 5 years experience in GIS/SDIs implementation and management
- Programming : SQL, Python, R, applied to data management and processing in a scientific context
- Experience in research and/or interdisciplinary team
- Basic knowledge of marine social-ecological GIS datasets and SDIs

3 – Conditions

The position is for 20 months starting in June 1st 2018 in Réunion Island. Salary after tax is about 1750 euros per month. Candidates must possess strong teamwork skills and ability to work successfully within an interdisciplinary group of researchers. Because of the international nature of the work in the Western Indian Ocean, the ability to read and speak French and English would be an additional asset. The successful applicant will reside in Reunion Island for the duration of his/her contract.

III – APPLICATION

Interested applicants should send a cover letter, research statement, Curriculum Vitae, and the names and contacts of three referees to Pr Matthieu Le Corre and Dr. Erwann Lagabriele at the following e-mail addresses matthieu.lecorre@univ-reunion.fr and erwann.lagabriele@univ-reunion.fr, by April 16th, 2018. The email should be entitled « ENGINEER GEOSPATIAL OCEAN METISS ».