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ESPON EGTC “EUROPEAN NODE FOR TERRITORIAL EVIDENCE” LUXEMBOURG

VACANCY

Project Expert/Project Development and Coordination

The ESPON EGTC based in Luxembourg is recruiting new permanent staff members to join the international team working on European territorial evidence relevant for policy making. The ESPON EGTC shall implement the Single Operation under the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme. New staff is supposed to take up their positions as early as possible in autumn 2016 to support the implementation of the Single Operation.

What is the ESPON EGTC?

The ESPON EGTC is a European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation. As part of a renewal of ESPON it has been established according to European law to deliver the content envisaged by the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme. The ESPON EGTC is established with an Assembly including members of the 3 Belgian regions and Luxembourg, the latter hosting the ESPON EGTC.

What is the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme?

The ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme is related to EU Cohesion Policy and shall play the specific role supporting policy development, institutional capacity, effective policymaking and efficient public administration with European territorial evidence and in doing so pursue the following overarching mission:

- *ESPON 2020 shall continue the consolidation of a European Territorial Observatory Network and grow the provision and policy use of pan-European, comparable, systematic and reliable territorial evidence.*

The ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme has a budget of almost 50 mio. Euro for the period 2014-2020 which is financed mainly by the European Commission through the ESIF (ERDF), as well as by the 28 EU Member States and 4 Partner States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. The Ministry for Sustainable Development and Infrastructure of Luxembourg is the Managing Authority.

What is the task of the EGTC?

The ESPON EGTC as the Single Beneficiary of the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme receives a grant to implement:

- Applied research projects on themes defined by policy demand where the European process needs better information and evidence.
- Targeted analyses in cooperation with stakeholders from national, regional and local authorities as well as other programmes under European Structural Investment Funds and European Macro-regions.
- Observation and monitoring of territorial trends and dynamics within Europe as basis for policy consideration covering the entire European territory, its regions and cities as well as European Macro-regions.
- Development and maintenance of a “toolbox” relevant for information and use of the territorial evidence base including data and indicators in the ESPON Database as well as tools for territorial analyses, urban benchmarking, mapping, etc.
- Outreach activities at European level as well in the transnational and national context in order to promote the European perspective of territorial development and cohesion.

As an important element in the renewal of ESPON, the ESPON EGTC will be equipped to serve ongoing policy processes more direct upon demand delivering rapid analytical responses such as short papers, policy briefs, etc. based on the ESPON evidence base. At the same time, the ESPON EGTC will as legal entity have to ensure an impeccable management and procedural implementation of its activities. It has therefore decided to increase the number of staff in the ESPON EGTC.

The ESPON EGTC is envisaged to have 18 permanent staff members and 2 trainees.

The job as Project Expert/Policy and projects

As project expert you will be responsible for various ESPON projects from the start to the end: scoping, tendering, evaluating, monitoring and administrating projects, the latter in close coordination with a financial expert colleague. These ESPON projects can include applied research, targeted analyses for stakeholders using ESPON results as well as observation and monitoring activities. The specific projects and activities will be depending on your background and interest.

This task will require analytical skills and knowledge about the development of the European territory and the European policy process as well as administrative flair.

As the programme is producing a wealth of new European territorial evidence, your work will as well include communication and outreach activities such as involvement in drafting of ESPON publications and in analytical activities within the ESPON EGTC as well as the organisation of events.

Qualifications required

You preferably have 5 years of work experience or more related to territorial development, regional policy and/or spatial planning. Candidates with less work experience can however still be considered if sufficiently convincing skills and competences are present.

You possess good analytical skills and are interested in specifying and managing applied research and analysis. You are familiar with European policy development in the context of regional policy and territorial cohesion. Your role will moreover be to support other project experts with delivery of data and maps for analyses produced by the ESPON EGTC.

You preferably carry a university degree covering economic geography, spatial planning, or political science and have extensive knowledge and practical experience in GIS

software. Furthermore, experiences from working with policy development and in applying research and analytical results in a policy context would also be considered an additional asset.

You possess good analytical skills and administrative flair for managing projects in the field of applied research and analysis. Your ability to communicate in English is at high level in order to support the challenging task of communicating applying research and analytical results into the policy arena and promote that results are taken up at different administrative levels.

Applying for the posts

Your application shall include a brief letter expressing your motivation and expectations as well as your qualifications and experience in relation to the post. In addition, you shall submit your Curriculum Vitae (preferably in EU format) including the main details concerning your professional experience and educational background of relevance for the post as well as the personal and language skills you may bring.

In case you are selected for the post you will be asked to present certified copies of your degree/diplomas as part of the contracting.

In case you want to apply for the vacant post please send your **application including your CV** by e-mail to recruitment@espon.eu indicating **Project Expert/PDC** in the **subject line of the email**.

Deadline for submitting an application is **22 August 2016 at 16.00**.

Selection procedure

The ESPON EGTC will establish a Selection Board, which will invite the best qualified candidates for an interview. Interviews are planned to take place in September 2016.

All interviews will take place in Luxembourg.

In the selection process the ESPON EGTC applies a policy of equal gender.

Conditions

You will be contracted on an undetermined contract with the ESPON EGTC related to the implementation of the Single Operation of the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme. A competitive salary will be paid with regard to your experience.

The ESPON EGTC is serving a pan-European programme which is mirrored in the composition of staff. You will at the ESPON EGTC have a diversity of colleagues from different countries in Europe and be part of a multi-cultural working environment which favours cooperation and team work.

Information

You can get further information about the vacant post and the ESPON EGTC as well as on living conditions in Luxembourg by using the email address indicated above or by calling the ESPON EGTC on 00352-20 600 280.

More information on the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme and the ESPON EGTC can be accessed on <http://www.dat.public.lu/index.html> and www.espon.eu.