



Position: Assistant Researcher A' at the Environment and Climate Department

Ref No.: ERA-ARA-ECD-46

Category: Full-time or part-time employment

Location: ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence, Limassol Cyprus

ONE (1) ASSISTANT RESEARCHER A' POSITION AT THE ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE DEPARTMENT

ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence (www.eratosthenes.org.cy) of Cyprus University of Technology (www.cut.ac.cy) invites applications for one researcher (1) position at the Environment & Climate Department of ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence. The position is open either on a full-time (100%) or part-time employment basis. The successful candidate will conduct research under the PAS-AGRO-PAS project funded by the European Union (PRIMA – Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area).

More specifically, **PAS-AGRO-PAS** aims to increase productivity, adaptiveness, sustainability and profitability of agro-pastoral systems in eight (8) Mediterranean countries, through a systemic approach leveraged on the multifunctionality of resilient agro-pastoralism. The systemic approach consists of a farm-to-global scale integrated evaluation interlinking agro-ecosystem, socioeconomic components and information system to identify and overcome the stressors affecting agro-pastoralists' viability, with views to implementing strategies that redirect agro-pastoralism from fragile, subsistence-oriented systems towards resilient, climate-change adaptive, more commercially-oriented systems. Multifunctionality alludes to the wide range of goods/services alongside food that will be addressed in this project, such as the use of animal to extend the use of pastures, the preservation of endangered breeds, the valorisation of typical products and the quality certifications derived thereof, and the protection of tacit knowledge on the functioning of local ecosystems, flocks and rangeland management. Within the project, a network of 10 agro-pastoral systems – located into the Mediterranean and Atlantic biogeographical regions of Europe and in the arid and semi-arid regions of Northern Africa, will be subject of investigation for characterisation and diagnostics, design and implementation of tailored strategies, data analysis, and multi-actor knowledge exchange (i.e., agro-pastoralists, decision-makers and researchers).

ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence is an autonomous Centre of Excellence with Cyprus University of Technology as its sole stakeholder, specialising in earth

observation, space technology and geospatial analysis. Cyprus University of Technology has a 13-year experience in earth observations and geospatial analysis. Through the 'EXCELSIOR' H2020 Teaming Project (<https://excelsior2020.eu/>), ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence aspires to become a Digital Innovation Hub for Earth Observation and Geospatial Information by offering knowledge, responsible research, open innovation and application services capable of sustaining Cyprus' development. ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence aspires to actively contribute to the European Research Area (ERA) priorities in Atmosphere and Climate, Resilient Societies and Big Earth Data Analytics, as well as to become the reference Earth Observation/Geoinformation Centre for research and innovation in the Eastern Mediterranean, Middle East and North Africa (EMENA) region.

A core activity of ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence is to conduct high caliber, state-of-the-art research, both basic and applied. A central task is to acquire research funding for the Centre, to provide facilities to the researchers, and to support them to acquire funding for their research independently and via international and local collaborations. Collaborations with industrial partners are particularly encouraged and facilitated.

Description of the Position

This position concerns researchers with a postgraduate degree in Animal Science; or Agriculture or Biological Sciences or related subjects.

Duties and Responsibilities

The successful candidate will be placed in the research team of the project, and is expected to contribute towards successful completion of the project by:

1. Participation in PAS-AGRO-PAS project activities;
2. Executing field and laboratory work related to the evaluation of pastures, animal production and chemical analysis of the sheep and goat end-products (milk, and cheese)
3. Participation and/or organisation of meetings and trainings;
4. Participation in the preparation and submission of project deliverables;
5. Dissemination and communication of project results through journal/conference publications, participation in conferences, information days and other relevant events;
6. Assisting in the research goals of the project, fulfilling duties related and providing assistance to the Coordinator of the project;
7. Assisting in the establishment of local, regional, and international research networks that can support the long-term research agenda and priorities of the project, traveling all over Cyprus and visiting farms;
8. Working with farmers and collaborative research farms towards fulfilling the mission goals of the project;

9. Ensuring that the KPIs and other performance targets as set by the coordinator of the project and ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence are delivered;
10. Undertaking any other relevant duties deemed necessary for the project.

Qualifications

1. B.Sc. in Animal Science; or Plant Science; or Agriculture; or Environmental; or Biological Sciences; or Chemistry; or Biochemistry; or similar field;
2. M.Sc. in a relevant subject, such as: Animal Science; Plant Science; Biology or Agricultural Sciences; or other relevant field;
3. Previous experience in animal production; or animal nutrition; or crop production; or yield productivity; will be considered as an advantage;
4. Quantitative skills and understanding of environmental impacts will be an advantage;
5. Previous experience in field work (having driving license), some previous work with animal conservation or agricultural projects and carbon farming will be considered as an advantage.
6. Proven knowledge of agro-food systems or equivalent relating to animal, plant and food systems transitions and transformations will be an advantage.
7. Excellent knowledge of English both verbal and in writing is required.

Minimum Requirements

The appointment will be for a period of 6 months with the prospect of renewal for another 12 months. The annual gross salary for the (full-time) position will range from €25468.08 to €29592.08, depending on qualifications. It is noted that there is provision for 13th salary (the cost of the 13th salary is proportionally incorporated in the monthly remuneration).

Interested candidates must submit their application comprising of all documents listed below via email to vacancies@eratosthenes.org.cy, entering in the subject line: “*Application for Assistant Researcher A’ ERA-ARA-ECD-46*” no later than Friday 26 of May 2023 at 14.00 CYPRUS TIME, which is the deadline for the submission of the applications.

1. A letter in English stating the interest of the candidate in the subject of the project (enhancing pastoralism, ruminant production, rare breeds etc) and previous related knowledge in case he/she had (up to 1500 words);
2. *Curriculum vitae* in English;
3. List of any publications or projects or training the candidate has completed or participated in (in English);
4. Copies of the candidate’s degree certificates;
5. Contact details;

6. Names and contact details of at least two senior academic/research referees. Candidates should request and state the availability of the referees to provide confidential letters of reference in English in case the Evaluation Committee request additional confidential information if considered necessary. The names and addresses of the referees should be submitted together with the application.

For further information contact the coordinator of the project Dr Ouranios Tzamaloukas at ouranios.tzamaloukas@cut.ac.cy (+357 25002437)

It is noted that:

- For non-EU applicants a work permit, driving license and excellent knowledge of the Greek language will be required;
- Applications will be treated in strict confidence. All information provided will comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of the European Union;
- The job requires that the Researcher is physically present at the Centre's premises;
- ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence is an equal opportunity employer;
- ERATOSTHENES Centre of Excellence does not discriminate in any way on the basis of gender, religion or belief, ethnic, national or social origin, age, physical ability, marital status and sexual orientation;
- The title of the position may be modified.



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