Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change

POSITION OF RESEARCH OFFICER (ECOLOGY)
IN THE PARKS AND INITIATIVES DIRECTORATE
IN THE MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT,
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Nomenclatures denoting the male gender include also the female gender.

This call is being issued to replace the call for Manager I (Research – Ecology) in the PARKS and Initiatives Directorate as published in the Government Gazette of Friday 11 May 2018. Applicants who have already submitted their application under the original call need not reapply.

1. The Director Human Resources, on behalf of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change invites applications for the position of Research Officer (Ecology) in the PARKS and Initiatives Directorate. This position shall be co-financed by the European Union under the LIFE Programme as part of the LIFE 16 IPE MT 008: Optimising the Implementation of the 2nd RBMP in the Malta River Basin District.

Duration of assignment and Conditions

2.1 A selected candidate will enter into a three (3) year assignment as a Research Officer (Ecology) in the PARKS and Initiatives Directorate, which may be renewed for further periods.

2.2 The position of Research Officer (Ecology) is subject to a probationary period of twelve (12) months.

2.3 Since this position is time-barred or linked to the completion of a specific task, such constitutes an objective reason in terms of Regulation 7(4) of S.L. 452.81.

Salary pegged to the position

3. The salary attached to the position of Research Officer (Ecology) is equivalent to Salary Scale 10 (which in the year 2018 is €19,331 per annum rising by annual increments of €407.67 up to a maximum of €21,777).

Duties

4. The duties of Research Officer (Ecology) include:

i. Form an active part of a multi-disciplinary team entrusted with the implementation of LIFE IP project “Optimising the implementation of the 2nd RBMP in the Malta River Basin District”;
ii. Assist Project and PARKS’ personnel in the planning and carrying out of reconnaissance and ground-truthing missions in valley catchments in the Maltese Islands;
iii. Collect extensive ecological and environmental field data to populate a geodatabase of baseline environmental data of valley resources in the Maltese Islands through the use of handheld equipment, such as GIS tablets, and remote data capture vehicles such as drones/quadcopters;
iv. Provide technical assistance to Project and PARKS’ personnel in the development of terms of reference and review of valley management classification system, pressure analysis tests and with regard to master plans and technical guidelines in valley management;
v. Contribute in the development of publications and other scientific literature;
vi. Lead and take part in research, and prepare reports for management purposes;
vii. Carrying out other duties as instructed by the Permanent Secretary (MESDC), the respective Director General/Director and/or their representative/s; and
viii. Carrying out any other duties according to the exigencies of the Public service, as directed by the Principal Permanent Secretary.
Eligibility requirements

5.1 By the closing time and date of this call for applications, applicants must be:

(i) (a) citizens of Malta; or

(b) citizens of other Member States of the European Union who are entitled to equal treatment to Maltese citizens in matters of employment by virtue of EU legislation and treaty provisions dealing with the free movement of workers; or

(c) citizens of any other country who are entitled to equal treatment to Maltese citizens in matters related to employment by virtue of the application to that country of EU legislation and treaty provisions, on account of their family relationship with persons mentioned in paragraph (a), (b) or (c); or

(d) any other persons who are entitled to equal treatment to Maltese citizens in matters related to employment in terms of the law or the above-mentioned EU legislation and treaty provisions, on account of their family relationship with persons mentioned in paragraph (a), (b) or (c); or

(e) third country nationals who have been granted long-term resident status in Malta under regulation 4 of the “Status of Long-Term Residents (Third Country Nationals) Regulations, 2006” or who have been granted a residence permit under regulation 18(3) thereof, together with family members of such third country nationals who have been granted a residence permit under the “Family Reunification Regulations, 2007”.

The advice of the Department of Citizenship and Expatriate Affairs within the Identity Malta Agency should be sought as necessary in the interpretation of the above provisions.

The appointment of candidates referred to at (b), (c), (d) and (e) above would necessitate the issue of an employment licence in so far as this is required by the Immigration Act and subsidiary legislation. Jobsplus should be consulted as necessary on this issue.

(ii) able to communicate in the English Language;

(iii) (a) in possession of a recognised Bachelor's qualification at MQF Level 6 (subject to a minimum of 180 ECTS/ECVET credits, or equivalent, with regard to programmes commencing as from October 2003) in Ecology, Biology, Earth Systems or Botany; OR

(b) Public Officers in a Scale not below Scale 12, whose appointment in such scale has been confirmed, or Public Sector employees performing duties in the Public Service or RSSL employees, both at a comparable level of responsibility and whose appointment in such level has been confirmed, with three (3) years relevant work experience.

5.2 To determine the comparable level of responsibility of Public Sector employees currently performing duties in the Public Service and RSSL employees to the level of responsibility required of public officers applying for this position, the Selection Board should invariably and formally consult the Director/HR Manager responsible for the respective Public Sector entity.

5.3 The current arrangement, whereby Public Sector employees performing duties in the Public Service remain on the books of the respective entity, shall continue to apply in the case of Public Sector employees who are selected for the position, subject to the consent of the entity. RSSL employees will remain on the books of the company.

5.4 Qualifications at a level higher than that specified above will be accepted for eligibility purposes, provided they meet any specified subject requirements. A Master's qualification at MQF Level 7, or equivalent, must comprise a minimum of 60 ECTS/ECVET credits with regard to programmes commencing as from October 2008.
Moreover, candidates who have not yet formally obtained any of the above-mentioned qualifications will still be considered, provided that they submit evidence that they have been approved for the award of the qualifications in question, or successfully completed the necessary ECTS/ECVET credits, or equivalent, taken as part of a recognized MQF level program of study, as required in the afore-mentioned eligibility criteria or higher, by the closing time and date of the call for applications.

5.5 Applicants must be of conduct which is appropriate to the position applied for (applicants who are already in the Malta Public Service must produce a Service and Leave Record Form (GP 47); those applying from outside the Service must produce a Certificate of Conduct issued by the Police or other competent authority not earlier than one (1) month from the date of application and state whether they have ever been in Government Service, giving details).

5.6 Applicants must be eligible to take up their due appointment, in terms of 5.1 to 5.5 above, not only by the closing time and date of this call for applications but also on the date of appointment.

5.7 Prospective applicants should note the requirement to produce MQRIC recognition statements in respect of their qualifications from MQRIC, or other designated authorities, as applicable, as per provisions applicable to this call for applications (see link below).

Submission of supporting documentation

6.1 Qualifications and experience claimed must be supported by certificates and/or testimonials, copies of which should be attached to the application. Scanned copies sent electronically are acceptable.

6.2 Original certificates and/or testimonials are to be invariably produced for verification at the interview.

Selection procedure

7.1 Eligible applicants will be assessed by a Selection Board to determine their suitability for the position. The maximum mark for this selection process is one hundred per cent (100%) and the pass mark is fifty per cent (50%).

7.2 Due consideration will be given to applicants who, besides the requisites indicated in paragraphs 5.1 to 5.5, have proven relevant work experience.

Submission of applications

8. Applications, together with a curriculum vitae showing qualifications and experience and an updated Service and Leave Record Form (GP47), where applicable, will be received by the Director Human Resources (Attn: Assistant Director, Human Resources) in the Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change, 6, Qormi Road, St. Venera SVR 1301 by not later than noon (Central European Time) of Friday, 13 July 2018. In the case of Public Sector employees performing duties in the Public Service and RSSL employees, these are to present their paid and unpaid Leave and Sick Leave records for the last four years, including any records of any disciplinary actions that may have been taken in the absence of which, it will be understood that no disciplinary action was ever taken. In the case of Public Sector employees performing duties in the Public Service, they are also to produce confirmation from the DCS of the Ministry where they are performing duties, that they are officially performing duties in such Ministry. Applications can also be submitted through the Online Government Recruitment Portal on http://recruitment.gov.mt by the said closing time and date of this call for applications. Further details concerning the submission of applications are contained in the general provisions referred to below.
Other general provisions

9. Other general provisions concerning this call for applications, with particular reference to:

- applicable benefits, conditions and rules/regulations;
- reasonable accommodation for registered persons with disability;
- the submission of recognition statements in respect of qualifications;
- the publication of the result;
- the process for the submission of petitions concerning the result;
- medical examination;
- access to application forms and related details;
- retention of documents

may be viewed by accessing the website of the People & Standards Division at the address https://publicservice.gov.mt/en/people/Pages/PeopleResourcingandCompliance/FormsandTemplates.aspx or may be obtained from the Human Resources Directorate (Attn: Assistant Director, Human Resources), Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change, 6, Qormi Road, St. Venera SVR 1301. These general provisions are to be regarded as an integral part of this call for applications.

The website address and e-mail address of the receiving Directorate are http://www.environment.gov.mt and humanresources.mesdc@gov.mt.

This position shall be co-financed by the European Union under the LIFE Programme as part of the LIFE 16 IPE MT 008:

*Optimising the Implementation of the 2nd RBMP in the Malta River Basin District*