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ESPON EGTC “EUROPEAN NODE FOR TERRITORIAL EVIDENCE” LUXEMBOURG

VACANCY

Project Expert/Policy and Projects

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 summer 2015 to support the implementation of the Single Operation.

What is the ESPON EGTC?

The ESPON EGTC is a European Grouping on 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, as well as by the 28 EU Member States and 4 Partner States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. Luxembourg is the Managing Authority.

What is the task of the EGTC?

The ESPON EGTC will as the Single Beneficiary of the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme receive 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.

At the time of contracting the post the ESPON EGTC is envisaged to include 12 permanent staff members that all have worked together at the ESPON Coordination Unit. Later in autumn 2015 it is envisaged to further enlarge the team in terms of management and communication capacity. The ESPON EGTC is envisaged by average to have 18-20 permanent staff.

The job as Project Expert/Policy and projects

You will as project expert deal with relations to policy development from EU to local level and be involved in screening and meeting policy demand with rapid responses based on ESPON results and knowledge. In this respect you will need to be able to present key messages to policy makers in an easy-understandable English language and have good insight in ESPON research, analytical skills.

Moreover, you will be involved in the development and processing of the implementation of the EGTC operation and the Annual Work Plans for the ESPON EGTC to propose and carry through, which will include prior consultations with the ESPON 2020 Monitoring Committee. In this context you will use of the digital communication tool established by ESPON 2020 Managing Authority.

As project expert you will in addition become responsible for scoping, tendering, evaluating, following and administrating ESPON 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 concrete projects and activities will be depending on your background and interest.

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.

Qualifications required

You have a university degree in the area of economics, geography, spatial planning or political science and you have preferably more than 5 years of work experience related to territorial development, regional policy and/or spatial planning. Candidates with less work experience will however also be considered if sufficiently convincing skills and competences are present.

Your experience covers as far as possible a combination of policy relations, research insights and project management.

You are familiar with European policy development in the context of Cohesion Policy and territorial cohesion. In case you have experience from working in a policy environment, a European institution, a ministry, a regional or local administration, this will be considered an advantage. It will as well be seen as a benefit if you have a university degree covering macroeconomics or economic geography.

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 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-Esponegtc@mat.etat.lu indicating **Project Expert/Policy and Projects** in the **subject line of the email**.

Deadline for submitting an application is **16 June 2015 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 June 2015.

All interviews will take place in Luxembourg. The interviews will include a test as well as an oral interview.

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.

You will have colleagues of many nationalities and be part of a working environment favouring 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 Mrs. Anouk Torres, acting secretary of the EGTC on 00352-247-86917.

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

ESPON EGTC

c/o Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures

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