

Amsterdam, 22 May 2025

R&D engineer for Cloud-based Virtual Research Environments

Job Vacancy

Job description

PURPOSE: We are looking for an **R&D engineer** to develop services and tools for a Virtual Research Environment (VRE), focusing on digital twin and AI-based advanced scientific applications in ecosystems, biodiversity, and ecology.

JOB TITLE: R&D engineer for cloud-based virtual research environments;

LOCATION: Virtual Laboratories and Innovations Centre (VLIC) premises in Amsterdam, Netherlands;

POSITION: Full-Time, 24 months, with an option for extension of 12 months if funding allows and upon positive evaluation;

FUNDING RESOURCES: LifeWatch ERIC Strategic Working Plan.

Main responsibilities

- They will be contracted by LifeWatch ERIC VLIC and will work within the premises of the Multi Scale Networks Systems Group (MNS) Informatics Institute at University of Amsterdam;
- They will closely collaborate with domain scientists from the domains of ecosystem and biodiversity research, in the context of various EU and national funded projects;
- They will work closely with the ICT researchers, data scientists, modellers, and domain researchers to develop customised advanced VRE components;

- They will actively review the state-of-the-art technologies in the context of cloud computing, semantic web, search engine, big data and scientific workflow management, follow Agile, Co-development and other best practices of modern software engineering in cloud environments to effectively deliver solutions to the VRE.

The ideal candidate should meet the following requirements

- A PhD degree in computer science or similar. For experienced applicants, the degree can also be a master in computer science or similar fields;
- Experience in system architecture and programming;
- Familiarity with data science and computing technologies;
- Strong interest in learning new technologies from different domains;
- Willingness to work in a multidisciplinary team (ecology, computer science, software engineering);
- Ability to speak and communicate in English at an academic level both verbal and written;
- Experience in one or more major pre-programming languages (e.g. Java, Python);
- Familiarity with UNIX/Linux environment;
- Up-to-date knowledge about various software development and deployment tools including minimally Git/GitHub;
- Experience with web programming, Cloud computing and elastic search;
- Experience with web applications and libraries (e.g., Jupyter, HTML, JavaScript, and PHP);
- Experience with user studies and search evaluation;

- Based in The Netherlands and able and willing to work in LifeWatch ERIC's offices in Amsterdam.

The vacancy is subject to the following procedure

- A **short covering letter** and **Curriculum Vitae**¹ (**EUROPASS format and annexes, 4 pages at the most**) shall be written in English and submitted by **19 June 2025**. Please use the form available at this link: <https://zfrmz.eu/SAL0L42kxiSd8W0nIYF3>;
- The selection process will follow the Employment Policy of LifeWatch ERIC;
- Due to national regulations, the LifeWatch ERIC VLIC can only recruit within the European Union, and cannot sponsor visa. Therefore, candidates must already be eligible to work in the EU – either as EU citizens (including Norway and Switzerland) or by holding a valid working permit for the EU – in order to be considered;
- A knowledge security check may be part of the selection procedure. Click here for more information:
<https://english.loketkennisveiligheid.nl/documents/2022/04/07/national-knowledge-security-guidelines>
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and may be called for an interview. Interviews will take place from **20 June 2025 to 27 June 2025**;
- They will be appointed for a period of 24 months. A competitive gross salary, 3.378,00 - 5.331,00 € based on the qualifications and experience of the candidate, will be offered. Employment will be in The Netherlands, and follow the Dutch employment law;

¹ According to the Personal Data Protection Act, any resume not mentioning explicitly the following wording: 'I authorise the use of my personal data in accordance with Personal Data Protection Act' will be automatically deleted from our database and consequently not taken into consideration.

- This position is Full-Time. The main office will be located at the Virtual Laboratories and Innovations Centre premises in Amsterdam, Netherlands, without prejudice to the establishment of others in the future;
- Start date in office for the **R&D engineer for Cloud-based Virtual Research Environments: 01 July 2025.**

LifeWatch ERIC is an equal opportunity employer, and encourages all qualified candidates to apply, regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, national origin, or sexual orientation.