Seville, 27 February 2026

Scientific Data Specialist

Job Vacancy

Job description

PURPOSE: The Scientific Data Specialist drives data-driven initiatives across projects within the environmental sciences domain, contributing expertise in data management, harmonisation, standardisation, and the development of interoperable data workflows and other digital tools supporting biodiversity and ecosystem research.

Beyond core data stewardship activities, the role contributes to the translation of scientific research needs into operational technical solutions, including workflow design, data integration pipelines, and modelling support, and co-development of digital services in collaboration with researchers, ICT teams, and international stakeholders.

Within the LifeWatch ERIC framework, this position strengthens the interface between research, data infrastructure, and digital services, enabling collaborative science, reproducible analyses, and improved understanding of biodiversity, ecosystem functioning, and agroecological transitions.

JOB TITLE: Scientific Data Specialist;

LOCATION: ICT-Core premises in Seville, Spain;

POSITION: Full-Time;

FUNDING RESOURCES: Horizon Europe Projects and other funding sources.

Main responsibilities

- Research workflow translation and modelling support:
    - Contribution to the development of LifeWatch ERIC digital tools, services, and virtual research environments by translating scientific research needs into practical technical implementations, in collaboration with researchers and ICT

teams, ensuring that infrastructure capabilities effectively support biodiversity, ecosystem, and environmental research, with specific focus on agroecology, microbiology, and/or soil ecology;

- Support to the implementation of scientific workflows, including coding support, model operationalisation, and documentation to ensure reproducibility and reuse;
- Facilitating the integration of modelling outputs, predictive analytics, and experimental datasets into LifeWatch ERIC digital environments;
- Contribution to the conceptual design of databases, data platforms, and workflow architectures supporting environmental research;

- Scientific collaboration and outputs:
  - Collaboration with LifeWatch ERIC stakeholders in projects involved in biodiversty, ecosystem and environmental research, e.g. agroecological, microbiological, soil ecology modelling, monitoring, and digital innovation in environmental and biodiversity domains;
  - Contribution to technical reports, project deliverables, and scientific publications, including data papers and methodological papers;
  - Promotion of documentation and reproducibility practices supporting scientific transparency;

- Data management and integration:
  - Identification of existing data sources throughout Europe for different disciplines within environmental sciences, (e.g., agroecology, microbiology, molecular biology and/or soil ecology), assessing availability, digitalisation level, formats, and standards compliance, and integration potential within LifeWatch ERIC infrastructure;

- Contributing to the process of harmonisation and standardisation accross the full data lifecycle (e.g., data collection, data documentation - metadata-, data integration - repositories, analysis and visualisation), ensuring alignment with FAIR principles and establised vocabularies, ontologies, and metadata standards, in both domain-specific and cross-domain standards;

- Support to the engagement with stakeholders, including researchers, policymakers, and industry partners, in the development of our data infrastructure and tools, ensuring alignment with their needs and priorities;

- Training and guidance to stakeholders on FAIR data management practices, and the use of state-of-the-art tools and technologies developed in the projects and within the LifeWatch ERIC;

- Interaction with researchers and help to translate research questions into data needs and solutions;

- Contribution to the implementation and continuous improvement of LifeWatch ERIC tools and services and data management framework in collaboration with the Service Center.

The ideal candidate should meet the following requirements

- Master's or Ph.D. degree in a relevant field (e.g., ecology, environmental science, bioinformatics) with a focus on agroecology, biodiversity, or microbial diversity;
- Minimum 5-year experience supporting scientific workflows, modelling activities, or research software development or similar role in biodiversity and ecosystem domain;
- Demonstrated contribution to scientific publications, data papers, or technical documentation is a plus;

- Familiarity with standardised vocabularies, ontologies, and data management procedures;
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, with the ability to explore and interpret complex datasets effectively;
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to collaborate effectively with multidisciplinary teams and engage stakeholders from diverse backgrounds;
- Proficiency in programming languages (e.g., Python, R) and data management tools is desirable;
- Knowledge of GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and remote sensing techniques is a plus;
- Expertise in semantic data management and a solid understanding of RDF (Resource Description Framework), SPARQL, and APIs for data access and manipulation;
- Proficiency in English (C1 level) is required;
- Participation in Framework Programme projects (Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe) is desirable;
- Availability to travel abroad occasionally according to the specific working needs of this position.

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 to the **People & Culture Manager** by **19 March 2026.** Please use the form available at this link: https://zfrmz.eu/KHxMv15EmgLXfczD6kdD;

- The selection process will follow the Employment Policy of LifeWatch ERIC;

- Only shortlisted candidates will be re-contacted. Selected candidates may be called for an interview.

- Interviews will take place from **23 March 2026 to 03 April 2026**;

- A competitive gross salary, 40.000,00 - 55.000,00 € based on the qualifications and experience of the candidate, will be offered. Employment will be in Spain, following Spanish employment law, and subject to a 180-day trial (probation) period;

- This position is Full-Time. The main office will be located at the ICT-Core premises in Seville, Spain, without prejudice to the establishment of others in the future;

- Start date in office for the **Scientific Data Specialist**: **May 2026.**

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

[1] According to Spanish Privacy Protection Law (Ley Orgánica 3/2018) any resume not mentioning explicitly the following wording: 'I authorise the use of my personal data in accordance with RGDP and Ley Orgánica 3/2018 will be automatically deleted from our database and consequently not taken into consideration.