



Innovative researcher (PhD) to develop a statistical cyanobacteria bloom model

Water Insight B.V. is looking for a highly skilled professional to develop a statistical model forecasting potentially harmful cyanobacteria blooms.

Do you have a PhD in optical remote sensing, or in aquatic ecology? Do you have proven skills in statistical modelling, and an interest in cyanobacteria growth and optical remote sensing of water quality? We have a nice opportunity for you!

You will get the chance to work abroad for one year in a very innovative commercial environment, develop yourself in business innovation and with a tailored training program, and meanwhile work on a model to forecast potentially harmful blooms in lakes.

Job description

Cyanobacteria blooms are an increasing problem in inland waters, especially because they can produce toxins that are harmful for the ecosystem and humans. Due to the smell and potential toxicity they also have a negative effect on e.g. the tourist industry. A fully operational, early warning system for forecasting cyanobacterial surface scums can help water managers in quick decision making and mitigation of blooms, risks to health and costs. However, common forecasting models are complex, they require detailed input parameters, a long processing time and still often have a relatively large uncertainty, especially in small inland waters where cyanobacteria communities are often very dynamic. Therefore, the objective of the project - INNO-CYANO - is to develop an innovative, data-driven statistical model to provide fast forecasts of cyanobacteria blooms, especially scums.

Water Insight has an extensive dataset available from previous projects. Your task will be to develop a statistical model, that is driven by our optical in situ measurement data of the last days, i.e. chlorophyll a, transparency and phycocyanin, optical satellite imagery and weather forecast. The model will be tested in hindcast mode on independent near-real time available datasets of in situ measurements and processed satellite data, and laboratory measurements provided by users. If the forecasts are proven to be sensible, the model will directly be incorporated into existing services and in the commercial portfolio by the IT department. You will be project manager of this complete development project.

Who are you?

You have a PhD in either optical remote sensing and a great interest in cyanobacteria, or you have a PhD in aquatic ecology, and great interest in optical remote sensing. You have proven skills in statistical modelling; experience with in situ (optical) methods and programming skills are a pre.

You are an EU citizen and you are willing to move to the Netherlands for one year; candidates who lived in the Netherlands within the last year are not eligible.

You are used to work independently, take initiative, and lead (your own) projects.

Who are we?

Water Insight B.V (www.waterinsight.nl) is a small, innovative company (SME). Our expertise is to retrieve water quality information from satellite data, and to develop optical in situ instruments. We have national and international customers, such as water managers and the aquaculture sector. We are involved in several collaborative EU projects.

What will you get?

You will have the chance to get an insight in the practice of a commercial company, meet with the customers of the products you help to develop. You get courses in business innovation and can develop yourself with tailored training program, for example in Python coding.



Job details

Contract Duration under the H2020 SME Innovation Associate Grant: 12 months

Type of contract: Full time (40 hours per week)

Envisaged starting date: 1st September 2017

Gross salary: depending on your experience maximum € 3200 + 8% holiday + 2% end-of-year

Other benefits: pension, social security and certain social insurances

Re-allocation costs: real costs at the beginning and at the end of the 12-month period, up to a maximum of € 5000

According to the rules of the funding schema you should be an EU citizen. Candidates who lived in the Netherlands within the last year are not eligible.

Application

How to apply: please send your motivation and CV to: info@waterinsight.nl

Evaluation of applications will start on April 1st, the position will be open until a suitable candidate has been found.