

**The Bioeconomy Programme of
the European Forest Institute (EFI)
is seeking a
Junior Researcher on innovative agroforestry business models**

The European Forest Institute (EFI) is an international organisation with 30 member countries and around 130 associate and affiliate member organisations. EFI undertakes forest research and policy support at pan-European and global level, with headquarters located in Joensuu, Finland. EFI has its other main offices in Barcelona, Bonn, Rome and Brussels. The Institute has app. 120 staff members and has an annual turnover of app. 15 million Euros. Further information about the organisation is available at www.efi.int.

EFI's Bioeconomy Programme addresses the need for foresight, interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral research at the interface of markets, products, policies, and forest resources. Some of the key research topics of the programme include (i) the future demand and supply of forest products, forest biomass and ecosystem services, and their implications for sustainable forest management as well as for afforestation and plantation forestry; (ii) sustainability impact assessment and monitoring of forest-based products and services value chains; (iii) the future markets of increasingly diversified and cross-sectoral forest-based products and services as a result of socioeconomic and policy changes; and (iv) the role of innovation and digitalization, and policies affecting sustainable bioeconomy development.

To reinforce its Bioeconomy Programme, EFI is seeking a Junior Researcher on innovative agroforestry business models. We look for a highly motivated team player.

Tasks and responsibilities

The Junior Researcher will work in ongoing projects and activities of the Bioeconomy Programme. Within this programme, the Junior Researcher will contribute mainly to the AF4EU project (Agroforestry Business Model Innovation Network) on research related to on improving the sustainability of food production and to manage an agroforestry innovation network. The overall objective of the project is to promote agroforestry in Europe through the development of a multi-actor interactive and innovation driven expanded agroforestry network. This will be based on the sharing of successful practical experiences and existing research knowledge connected through ICT-Tools, with a special focus on the development and implementation of new cost-effective practices, business models and extension services considering the whole food chain.

Specific tasks and responsibilities include:

- Assist the project team in setting up an Agroforestry Innovation Network in Finland and maintain the contact with the stakeholders involved in the network.
- Collect and analyse information on successful agroforestry farm business models from a sustainability perspective (economic, environmental and social)
- Contribute to research funding applications, scientific publications, and reports.
- Organise and hosts workshops and other stakeholder events
- Communication and networking; present and communicate research results to decision makers, researchers, other stakeholders, and public media.

Qualifications

- Master's degree in life sciences, economics, agricultural science or forestry, or a closely related discipline, and a minimum of 1-year relevant working experience.

- Proven skills in gathering and independently interpreting information on agricultural sector and its products.
- Experience in working with agriculture, forest/food industry, or other relevant sectors, and connections to industrial actors, are assets.
- Experience in publishing in peer-reviewed scientific journals is an asset.
- Good organizing skills and enjoys hosting workshops and interactive, participatory approaches
- Good communication and media skills, and skills for managing a network which includes different actors (farmers, foresters, farm advisors, policy and decision makers).
- Experience and readiness to work in multi-disciplinary teams in multi-cultural environments.
- Professional proficiency in spoken and written English and Finnish is required. Other languages are an asset.

Duty Station

The employee will be based at EFI's headquarters in Joensuu, Finland.

Employment Conditions

The employee will be an EFI staff member. The employment will be for two years with the possibility for further extension, dependent on project opportunities and successful candidate's performance.

The successful candidate will be expected to take up the position by April 2023.

Interested candidates are requested to submit (in English) a motivation letter, a CV including a publication list and copies of academic degree certificates/diplomas by 16th January 2023, using our [online](#) application form.

For more information about the post, please contact Dr. Michael den Herder (michael.denherder@efi.int)

EFI is an equal opportunity employer. All applications will be treated confidentially.

Please note that only candidates that have been shortlisted for an interview will be contacted.