Oceanographer in charge of biology and ecosystem needs for observing and forecasting evolution

12-month fixed term contract – Full time position

About the job:

We are looking for an ocean expert in marine biology and ecosystems for a fixed term position of 12 months, renewable for an additional 6 months.

In the framework of the EU4OceanObs action on the G7 Future of the Seas and Oceans Initiative (FSOI), you will provide support for the scientific and technical coordination activities of the G7 FSOI focused on actions to enhance the global ocean observing system and data sharing infrastructures, with a specific focus on biology and ecosystem observations required to support modelling and forecasting activities and for observing system evolution. You will also provide support to develop an international collaborative focus for ocean prediction science and applications as an essential link between the G7 FSOI and GEO Blue Planet in the ocean observation value-chain ‘collect-transform-share-use’ specifically targeting collaborative efforts and synergies across the programmes of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

In this context, you will:

1) work under the direction of the Head of the EU G7 FSOI Coordination Centre to provide scientific and technical coordination support to advance collaborations between ocean observations and ocean prediction activities across G7 FSOI priority areas, including:

- Scientific and technical support to GOOS expert panels and groups for G7 FSOI priority activities including development of guidance to augment observing and forecasting capacity for marine life and development of a surface ocean CO₂ monitoring strategy
- G7 FSOI Resource Strategy Groups of G7 government representatives supporting the Global Biogeochemical Argo Array and Digital Twin Ocean Capacity, and
- In close partnership with the WMO-IOC In Situ Ocean Observations Support Centre (OceanOPS) and in support of general activities of Mercator Ocean International, establish and maintain compilations of information on the status and evolution of International and European contributions to the global ocean observing system through links and partnerships with European and International in-situ observation networks (e.g., EuroGOOS, EOOS, European Research Infrastructures, EuroSEA, EMODnet, GOOS, GEO, MBON, etc.)
2) work under the direction of the Head of the Observations for Systems Analysis and Ocean Prediction Service and the Head of the EU Office of the G7 FSOI Coordination Centre, and in close cooperation with EU4OceanObs, MOi and the Copernicus Marine Service modelling and data assimilation teams, the GOOS Expert Team on Operational Ocean Forecasting System, OceanPredict, and programmes of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development to:

- Establish a collaborative forum for Decade programmes and projects focused on ocean modeling and forecasting to share information and best practices, foster collaborations, identify knowledge and observing system gaps, and promote and facilitate collaborative approaches to meeting Decade challenges.
- Catalyse and facilitate capacity development in ocean modelling and forecasting by building on existing national and regional networks and on activities implemented through the Decade programmes; specifically, co-design capacity development, training, and educational activities in a coordinated strategy across programmes to enhance the ability of multiple stakeholders to engage in the development of and benefit from a Digital Twin Ocean.
- Contribute to the assessment of the current capacity of Global or Regional ocean observation systems to meet ocean prediction center needs, and identification of priorities to fulfill future needs.

About you:

You have a PhD or Master’s degree in oceanography with a good understanding of ocean observations, modelling, prediction, and applications, specifically for biochemistry and marine ecosystems.
You have a minimum of 2 years of experience in oceanography and experience in management / monitoring of scientific or technical projects.

Assets to succeed include:

- Good knowledge of the global ocean observing system and the G7 FSOI initiative.
- Good knowledge of the European organizations and programmes in ocean observing, modelling, and information services.
- Fluent in English (speak, read, write) with the ability to animate and lead international groups in English, including regular communications, public presentations, and reporting in a timely manner.
- Ability to build and maintain effective professional working relationships with colleagues across the organization and externally, particularly in an international team and inter-cultural context on issues of global ocean policy and large-scale ocean observations and predictions.

Who are we?
Mercator Ocean International has been a pioneer in operational oceanography activities for nearly 25 years through its public service mission to preserve the ocean. Many scientific and societal challenges need to be met to ensure a sustainable ocean, whether they relate to the environment, biodiversity, climate change, the blue economy or education. To meet these challenges, we are required to constantly and in real time describe, analyse and forecast the state of the global ocean using reliable numerical models, then make this information relevant and accessible to all — whether public or commercial services, manufacturers, policy makers, associations, NGOs, teachers or citizens.

Mercator Ocean International thus combines scientific excellence and social commitment on a daily basis. As a non-profit company under multinational governance (ES, FR, GB, IT, NO), we work in a climate of trust with our nine shareholding partners, all key players in the development of European oceanography. Mercator Ocean International has been conducting the Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service since 2014 on behalf of the European Union. CMEMS offers free, open access to scientifically validated operational information on the ocean to several thousand subscribers worldwide. To this end, the company coordinates a unique network of around 100 partners in Europe specialising in Earth observation and ocean forecasting.

Based in Toulouse in South-West France, the company’s 100 or so contributors are all committed to achieving the United Nations’ sustainable development goals.

How to apply:

Send your cover letter and a detailed CV with the following reference 2022-02/OO/OCOBE to recruitment@mercator-ocean.fr
Closing date: 07/03/2022
Publication date: 07/02/2022