Funded by the European Union

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TO BE PUBLISHED ONLINE

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

(For submission of proposals for the conclusion of a project lease contract)

The Research Committee (Special Account for Research Funds) of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (ELKE AUTh), in the framework of the project "**Soil-hydrology data cube for EU -** HydroDataCube4EU, A soil-water-climate modeling platform to support mitigating flood, drought, wildfire events and help raise awareness of soil biodiversity's relevance" funded by the European Union under HORIZON 2021-2027, with Academic Head Dr. Maria Tsiafouli, Special Teaching Fellow (E.DI.P.) AUTh, invites candidates to submit proposals for one (1) position as described below, through the award of a project contract, starting from the signing of the contract until 29/02/2028 and with a total anticipated remuneration **22.000,00** € (VAT and taxes included).
The contract can be extended until the end date of the project 31/08/2030 (in case of extension until its completion) and within the approved limits of its budget and up to the amount of 8.000,00 €.

1 person / Biologist with a PhD / until 29-02-2028 / up to 22.000,00€ (and in case of extension up to 8.000,00€)

1. Project Description

The **HydroDataCube4EU project** aims to develop an integrated modelling system of soil–hydrology–climate interactions at the pan-European level, with the aim of supporting efforts to address floods, droughts and wildfires, as well as raising awareness of the importance of soil biodiversity for the management of European landscapes.

The project will investigate, through different modelling approaches, the contribution of soil biodiversity to soil hydrological properties. Next-generation pan-European geospatial datasets (GIS layers) for soil and hydrology will be developed, and models incorporating soil biodiversity indicators will be generated. The accuracy of the models will be validated in six (6) pilot areas.

More specifically, the work will include:

Work package 4. Methods, libraries & protocols for soil-waterclimate modeling — RP1: Inventory of existing datasets and models related to soil biodiversity, with a view to integrating them into soil hydrology modelling. Modelling of the relationship between soil diversity and hydrology.

Work package 7. In-situ data & pilots — RP1: Design of sampling strategies and harmonised data collection protocols for soil, soil biodiversity and hydrology. Development of a sampling strategy, monitoring protocol and guidelines for the analysis of samples collected from the pilot areas.

The successful completion of the project will contribute to the development of an integrated approach to understanding and modelling the relationships between soil, hydrology and climate, soil biodiversity and crop yields, while predicting their future conditions under different climate scenarios.

2. Required Qualifications

- University degree (Bachelor's level) in Biology.
- PhD in the field of Biology or Ecology.
- Twenty-four (24) months of experience* in ecological and/or complex systems/networks modelling, as well as in geospatial analysis and environmental data management.
- Knowledge of the English language (Good level– B2 level).
- Three (3) publications in international scientific journals in the field of Ecology.

3. Additional Qualifications

- Postgraduate (Master's) degree from a university in the field of Environmental Studies, Bioinformatics or Complex Systems.
- Additional experience* in ecological and/or complex systems/networks modelling, as well as in geospatial analysis and environmental data management.
- Additional knowledge of the English language.
- Additional publications in international scientific journals in the field of Ecology.
- Interview

4. Qualifications Assessment

	Qualifications criteria	Credits (Researchers)
1	Bachelor's degree mark	mark * 40
2	Master's degree	200
3	Experience (per month) - 60 months max *Note: only months beyond the Required Experience are graded*	7 (per month)
4a	English language (Level C2)	70
4b	English language (Level C1)	50
5	Publications in scientific journals (per publication) – 3 max	40 (per publication)
6	Interview	≤150 maximum

All the qualifications listed above are in relevance with the project requirements and objectives.

5. <u>Required Documents:</u>

1. Submission of Proposal - Statement (see appendix)
2. Detailed table data for the proof of experience (see appendix)
3. Detailed Curriculum Vitae
4. Copies of the Degrees

   Special cases:

   a) In cases where the degree grade is a qualification/criterion and is not indicated on the relevant copy of the degree, the transcript of records should be submitted in addition, otherwise the specific qualification requested will not be marked.

   b) Postgraduate and PhD students should submit a recent certificate (within the last three months) from the relevant University Department, showing that they have the relevant status (postgraduate/PhD student) at the time of submission of the proposal,

   c) If the scientific field/specialisation is not evident from the degree:
   - For bachelor's and master's degrees, the transcript of records should be submitted,
   - For PhD candidates, if the scientific field/specialisation is not evident from the subject of the doctoral thesis, as indicated on the registration certificate from University's Department Secretariat, any other certificate documenting the above, signed by the Secretariat or the supervisor or the three-member committee, should be submitted.
   - For PhD holders, if the scientific field/specialisation is not evident from the doctoral degree, the electronic address of the doctoral thesis from the National Archive of Doctoral Dissertations should

be included in the Curriculum Vitae. If the doctoral thesis was obtained from foreign institutions, the title and an abstract should be included in the Curriculum Vitae.

5. Copies of certificates and certifications of previous experience, as well as any other document that will certify the information mentioned in the CV and which are related to the Required or Additional qualifications-criteria of this call for expression of interest.
6. In order to prove that the criterion of publications in journals and/or conference announcements has been fulfilled, the candidate should include the required minimum information in the detailed CV, for journals, the title of the journal, the issue, the date of publication, the title of the publication, the authors, and for conferences, the title, the date and venue and a copy of the programme.

*** Proof of Experience:**

Certificate of employment or/and employment contract, detailing the duration and the job duties and responsibilities.

All the above concerning the experience apply if the candidates during their participation held the required basic qualification or the required professional license or other professional license or certificate.

6. Interview

Candidates who meet all the conditions and required qualifications of the call will be invited for an interview (after written information by e-mail). Candidates who do not attend the interview will be rejected . It is not necessary to hold an interview if all the conditions and required qualifications of the call are met by a single proposal .
The topics of the questions and the marking system to be used are shown in the following table:

Nr.	Interview topic	Level of Knowledge Units for Grading	Scoring range
1	communication skills	Basic 10-20 Good 21-35 Excellent 36-50	10-50
2	Organisational skills	Basic 10-20 Good 21-35 Excellent 36-50	10-50
3	Understanding job requirements, project objectives and critical success factors	Basic 10-20 Good 21-35 Excellent 36-50	10-50

7. Submission of proposals

Proposals and required documents should be submitted either via e-mail to **tsiafoul@bio.auth.gr** or in person or by post to the following address School of Biology, Secretary of the School of Biology, University Campus of Aristotle University, 54124 Thessaloniki within hours 12:00-14:00. no later than 7/12/2026 at 14:00 Proposals will be attributed a reference number from the Secretariat of the Department of the Academic Head of the project.

8. Publication – Information

This Call will be published on the website of ELKE AUTh https://rc.auth.gr/proskliseis-gia-apasholisi-se-erga and on the website of "Diavgeia".

For more information and questions regarding the position, candidates may refer to ***00302310-998997***. For information on the proposal submission process candidates may contact ELKE AUTh at ***00302310-994052,53,55,82***

9. Evaluation

Submitted proposals will be evaluated by a three-member Evaluation Committee in accordance with the procedure provided for in article 244 of Law 4957/2022 and in article 20 of the Funding and Project Management Guide of ELKE AUTh as applicable.

10. Objection

Candidates are informed of the results through the website of the ELKE AUTH (https://rc.auth.gr/proskliseis-gia-apasholisi-se-erga) in the online posting of this call, as well as through the program Diavgeia. The candidate has the right to submit an objection against the results of this call (Decision of acceptance of results) within an exclusive period of five (5) calendar days from the day following the posting of the decision of acceptance of results on the website of the ELKE AUTH. The objection must be in writing and legally signed, accompanied by a photocopy of the objector's identity card and must be submitted either electronically at prosk@rc.auth.gr, or in person, or by post to the Special Account for Research Funds (ELKE) of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (KEDEA Building, 3rd September - University Campus, Thessaloniki, P.O. Box 54636, 1st floor, Office 101). No objections may be raised on the grounds of interview or skill test.

The procedure for objections is defined by article 245 of Law 4957/2022 and article 20A of the Funding and Project Management Guide of the ELKE AUTh as applicable.

If the objection concerns the qualifications of one or more candidates, it is communicated to the latter by e-mail, at the discretion of MODY. Each of them has the right to submit their opinion by electronic or paper submission to the MODY within three (3) calendar days of the notification. All the above shall be forwarded to the Objections Committee. Candidates who will not submit any opinion in accordance with the procedure as described above, may not submit an objection to the new Decision on the acceptance of results of the Research Committee, which will be issued after the approval of the recommendation of the Objections Committee on the acceptance of the objection.

For the effective exercise of the right to submit an objection, candidates have the right to access the data of their individual candidature file and the evaluation-scoring documents, both of themselves and of their other candidates, upon written request within the objection submission deadline and under the conditions of articles 5 of Law 2690/1999, 42 of Law 4624/2019 and 6 par. 1(f) of the GDPR (EU 2016/679). The application shall be submitted in the same way as the objection.
Taking into account that the data of the candidates' individual files submitted for participation in this Call for Expression of Interest constitute personal data within the meaning of Article 4 of the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679, the access of the other candidates to these data is possible under the terms of the legislation on personal data and Article 5 of the Code of Administrative Procedure, as well as in accordance with the conditions consistently accepted by the Hellenic Data Protection Authority (decision 28/2018). In any event, by submitting their application, candidates accept that the documents and supporting documents they submit may be issued to their fellow candidates, subject to the above conditions.

Both objections and requests for access to candidate file data must be legally signed, i.e. either with an electronic-digital signature (gov.gr or other legally granted digital signature), or with a handwritten signature. A photocopy of a document with a handwritten signature (scanned pdf file) will be given a same-day incoming file number but will be examined only if the original document will be submitted within five (5) calendar days.

Requests for access to data and objections that do not meet the above requirements will not be examined.

11. Personal data

ELKE AUTh takes all appropriate measures for the protection of personal data during the evaluation process and it is strongly recommended that you read about the data protection policy and your rights on the AUTh website https://www.auth.gr/gdpr.

OTHER CONDITIONS

1. From all the proposals submitted according to the above specifications, the one that best meets the project's requirements will be selected and awarded a work contract on the basis of contractual freedom.
2. Only proposals / objections that will be received by the set date and time will be considered. In the case of postal submission, the deadline is judged on the basis of the date mentioned in the shipping file, provided that it will be received by ELKE AUTh no later than the approval of the results. ELKE AUTh bears no responsibility for the content of the candidacy files that will be sent.
3. Changes to the proposals (replacements, corrections or submission of additional documents) are not allowed after the expiration of the deadline.
4. For the employment of teaching, research and scientific staff, the recognition of academic qualifications awarded by foreign institutions that are not accompanied by DOATAP - Hellenic National Academic Recognition and Information Center (Hellenic NARIC) recognition certificates, is based on the National Registry of Foreign Recognized Higher Education Institutes and the National Registry of Foreign Recognized Academic Title Types, https://www.doatap.gr/anagnorish/mitroa. If the degree is awarded by a foreign institution included in the list of article 307 of Law 4957/2022 (list of foreign institutions with a franchise agreement with private institutions in Greece), the candidate must submit a Certificate of Place of Study from the foreign institution. If the place of study or part of the studies is confirmed as the Greek territory, the degree is not recognised, unless the part of the studies undertaken in the Greek territory is in a public higher education institution. In addition, if the call for applications has a grading/marking scale for the degree, candidates must provide a certificate of the Overall Mark from the foreign institution. The matching of marks is carried out according to the system of matching marks of domestic and foreign qualifications as defined by the decisions of the Plenary Board of the DOATAP (Proceedings 144/7.2.2014 and 145/14.2.2014) https://www.doatap.gr/anagnorish/systima-antistoichias-vathmologisis-imedapon-kai-allodapon-titlon-spoudon/. In case of failure to provide a certificate of the overall final grade, the proposal will not be rejected, but the specific qualification requested will not be marked.
5. For the employment of administrative, technical and other staff, academic qualifications, if they are required or taken into account and have been awarded by foreign institutions, must be accompanied by certificates of recognition of DOATAP-Hellenic National Academic Recognition and Information Center (Hellenic NARIC). In addition, if the call for applications has a grading/marking scale for the degree, a certificate of equivalence issued by the DOATAP is required. If the certificate of equivalence of marks is not provided, and only the certificates of recognition issued by the DOATAP are submitted, the candidate's proposal will not be rejected, but the specific qualification requested will not be marked.
6. It is pointed out that the procedure for submitting proposals for the conclusion of a project lease contract is not competitive, while the selection of a contractor has the character of accepting the proposal and not "recruitment". The evaluation process will be completed by compiling a ranking list and / or a list of excluded, while those selected will be notified individually. In case of a tie, the proposal of the interested person is selected in order a) with the longest experience, b) with the highest bachelor's degree mark, c) with the highest master's degree mark.
7. The proposal that is first in the ranking table and has the highest score in all the scoring criteria will be the one that will be selected. In case of obstruction of the person who submitted it, the next proposal is selected until the ranking order is exhausted.
8. Any submitted proposal that does not meet the criteria of the call of the expression of interest will not be examined any further and will be automatically rejected.
9. Throughout the execution of the project and according to the terms of the contract, following a relevant decision of the Research Committee, the selected person may be replaced by the next candidate in the ranking order, either due to his/her resignation or due to improper execution of the contract, following a written notice of termination of the contract that will be duly served on him/her and after the deadline for compliance set in the same document has expired without effect.
10. The contract may be extended without restriction, following a decision of the competent body of ELKE AUTh and if the required budget of the project allows it, without a new invitation, until the end date of the project (and in case of extension of the project until its new end date).
11. ELKE AUTh does not undertake any commitment to conclude a contract, as it is left to its full discretion to conclude or not contracts, as well as their number, excluding any claim of the interested parties.
12. The project assignment will take place in accordance with the provisions of the Program Implementation Guide.
13. The knowledge of foreign languages is certified in accordance with the provisions of the Presidential Decree 85/2022 "Determining the qualifications for appointment to positions of public sector" (A΄232/17.12.2022), especially according to the articles 10, 14 par. 3 and 15 par. 7.
14. Foreign documents must be accompanied by photocopies of their official translation into the Greek language except for English, French, German, Italian and Spanish language certificates which, if they meet the conditions of the P.D. 85/2022, are accepted without requiring their translation.
15. For candidates, computer skills shall be certified according to the Presidential Decree 85/2022 "Determining the qualifications for appointment to positions of public sector" (A΄232/17.12.2022), especially according to the article 9.
16. It should be noted that the project assignment to candidates employed in the Public Sector, in Public and Private Bodies, etc. is subject to the prohibitions/restrictions imposed by national legislation, the regulatory framework of the project management and the Funding and Management Guide of ELKE AUTh.

The Legal Representative

Ioannis T. Rekanos
Vice – Rector for Research & Innovation AUTH
Professor, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL - STATEMENT*
(with consequences of law on false/inaccurate statement)

Name: …… Surname: ……

Mobile phone: …… E-mail: …… VAT or password number: ……

Please note in this proposal - statement and outside of the postal file the following

(To be completed by the candidate):

1. The reference number of this call

I affirm that:

a. I have read and understood all the terms of this Call, which I accept unconditionally,
b. the information given in all the forms in this proposal is accurate and true,
c. I give my explicit and unconditional consent to the collection and processing of my personal data, as indicated in this proposal and in the documents submitted with it, exclusively for the purposes of implementing this Call for expressions of interest, including the posting of the results thereof on DIAVGEIA, in accordance with the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Law 4624/2019.

SIGNATURE

Date : ___/___/_____

Find attached : 1.
2.

Incomplete filling of the proposal – statement constitutes a criterion for exclusion

DETAILED TABLE DATA FOR PROOF OF EXPERIENCE

(The person concerned records all relevant experience to the subject of the call)

a/a	From	To	(a) Months of Employment	(b) Days of Employment	Institution of Employment - Employer	Employer Category (1)	Task of Employment
TOTAL			.....	.....	**GENERAL TOTAL MONTHS OF EXPERIENCE (2)**		

(1) Complete as appropriate with 'PR' or 'PU' depending on the category of the Employment Office, where PR: Private sector, individuals or private legal entities (corporations, etc.) • PU: Public sector, government agencies or public entities or local authorities of first and second degree or private entities in the public sector of par. 1 of Art. 14 of Law. 2190/1994 as in force or bodies of par. 3 of Art. 1 of Law. 2527/1997. In the case of self-employed, complete with the indication "SE".

(2) Complete the GENERAL TOTAL MONTHS OF EXPERIENCE. When, in Column (b) shows experience, the total days of employment divided by 25 (if the experience has been calculated as the number of wages) or by 30 (if the experience has been calculated as the period from the start day until the expiration date of employment) and the resulting integer is added to the total months of employment of the column (a).