

Project & Policy Officer CPMR Intermediterranean Commission

JOB TITLE	Project & Policy Officer at the CPMR Intermediterranean Commission
GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE JOB	The Project & Policy Officer will be working in the framework of the CPMR Intermediterranean Commission and its team, particularly supporting the implementation of the H2020 SOLAQUA project (short description available in Annex).
PROFILE	2-3-year minimum experience in EU cooperation projects/programmes (experience or knowledge related to renewable energy; solar irrigation; photovoltaic and hydraulic technology is an asset, knowledge about EARDF a strong asset and H2020 a plus). Skilled, autonomous and very dynamic person with high predisposition to teamwork in a multilingual context.
DURATION OF THE CONTRACT	34 months
LOCATION	Barcelona (or smartworking depending on sanitary situation)
TYPE OF CONTRACT	34-month fixed contract (under Spanish regulation).
GROSS ANNUAL SALARY	28-30k € to be further defined according to experience + benefits
REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS	This position reports to the Executive Secretary of the Intermediterranean Commission of the CPMR and in coordination with the Project and Policy Officer in charge of Energy issues.
DEADLINE TO APPLY	January 6, 2021 23.59 CET.
INTERVIEWS	Interview will be planned around mid-January 2021.
STARTING DATE	End-January-February 2021 (to be discussed)

1. Presentation of the organization

The Conference of Peripheral and Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR – www.cpmr.org) is a network of 160 Regional authorities from 28 States (from the EU and its Neighborhood). It operates both as a think tank and as a lobby for Regions, being a unique organisation subdivided into six Geographical Commissions corresponding to the EU maritime basins. The CPMR covers three main domains - maritime affairs, cohesion and accessibility – but is also active on other related policies (e.g. Climate, Migration, among others).

The CPMR Intermediterranean Commission (IMC – https://cpmr-intermed.org) is one of these six Geographical Commissions. It gathers around 44 Member Regions from 9 different EU members states and other countries from the Neighborhood South. The IMC focuses on the development of the Euro-Mediterranean dialogue and territorial cooperation, concentrating its efforts on Transport and Integrated Maritime Policy, Economic and Social Cohesion, Water and Energy, Territorial cooperation and Macro-Regional Strategies, also mobilizing partners from the southern rims of the basin. The CPMR IMC is currently involved in several EU cooperation projects with its regions and territorial partners. The IMC Secretariat is fully integrated in the CPMR General Secretariat and has a small team working from Barcelona, Marseille and Rennes.

2. Job summary

The Project Officer will be working in the framework of the Intermediterranean Commission and its team, particularly supporting the implementation of the H2020 SOLAQUA project.

SOLAQUA aims to increase the share of renewable energy (RE) consumption in Europe by facilitating the market uptake of solar irrigation (SI) in the farming sector. The position will also foresee the support to the related CPMR-IMC day-to-day activities on related topics and linked to the project.

3. Main responsibilities

- Ensure the smooth running of the SOLAQUA project and related activities
- Relate efficiently with team members, projects partners and other parties
- Report to and constantly coordinate with the CPMR-IMC Executive Secretary and Project-Policy Officers on the development of projects' activities
- Report to the CPMR financial department on projects' budget elaboration and implementation
- Actively support the connection between the projects related activities and the overall CPMR-IMC action contributing to advocacy efforts on the project topic, and hence improving relation with member regions
- Represent the CPMR-IMC during related external events, organized by projects partners and funders mainly, as necessary

4. Tasks & duties

The above activities will involve the following tasks:

- Contribute to the coordination and daily implementation of the SOLAQUA project
- Report to the Executive Secretary, team and membership through periodical or ad hoc briefing notes and updates
- Monitoring the activities of European and Euromed institutions in relevant fields;
- Liaising, as necessary, with CPMR-IMC Members, partners and representatives from the EU Institutions to capitalize on relevant projects
- Frequent travel within Europe and Mediterranean will be required (if sanitary situation allows).

5. Qualifications and skills required

- A Master's or Ph.D. degree in a relevant field (Engineering in solar and/or irrigation technologies, Renewable Energy, Water management, Agro-studies, European or Mediterranean affairs, International relations, Territorial and or decentralized cooperation, Project management, etc.);
- At least 2-3 years of experience in EU cooperation programs/projects, especially Horizon 2020 among other programs of interest (Interreg, ENI CBC MED, Europeaid, Erasmus+, Life+, etc.).
- Knowledge of the Common Agricultural Policy, and on the functioning of the EARDF is key, territorial (and decentralized) cooperation dynamics and cooperation programs is a plus;
- Previous experience (including project or program management) for or in close relation with local and regional authorities will be especially valued;
- Specific knowledge or previous experience of one or several of the following thematic fields will be an asset: renewable energy, solar irrigation, photovoltaic and hydraulic technologies;
- **General knowledge of one or several EU and Euro-Mediterranean policies** dealt within the CPMR-IMC global action plan will be a plus;
- **Proficiency** in **English** is essential (C1 level **at least**) sanctioned by a diploma/test evaluation or proven years of experience with the language;
- **Good level** of **French** and/or **Spanish** (B2 level **at least**) is a strong asset;
- **Knowledge** of **any other Mediterranean language** will be valuable (Italian, Greek, Arabic...);

• Strong interpersonal skills, diplomacy, resilience, autonomy and sense of responsibility in task delivery, dynamism and high predisposition for teamwork in a multilingual context.

6. Location

The position is based in **Barcelona**, at the premises of the Catalan government (CPMR-IMC delegation in Barcelona). Depending on the sanitary situation, part of the work will be performed through smartworking.

7. Terms of recruitment

The position is offered as **one-year contract**, with **possibility to be renewed twice**. Ideal start: **end-January 2021-February 2021**.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Please send an email with the subject: "Application Project Officer 'SolAqua' - CPMR Intermediterranean Commission" to the evaluation committee email imcjob@crpm.org, including the following documents:

- your **CV** (3 pages max, detailing the experience in EU cooperation projects),
- a **brief cover letter in English** (1-2 pages max.)

Candidates could (it is not compulsory) send **recommendation letter(s)** from a previous job/position(s) related to this offer (or to give references/contacts of previous employers).

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

<u>NB</u>: interviews – **for shortlisted candidates only** – will take place beginning of January 2021 **indicatively** in Barcelona or by Skype/TEAMS, based on the availability of the selection committee and the candidates.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you require further information on the position and tasks you are welcome to contact:

- Elodie Nunes: elodie.nunes@crpm.org
- Flora Leroy: flora.leroy@crpm.org



The CPMR Intermediterranean Commission gathers around 40 Member Regions from 9 different EU members states and other countries (Albania, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Spain and Tunisia). It is open to all the different sub-national levels in all Mediterranean countries.

The gathering of the Intermediterranean Commission Members Regions represents a bond of peace, stability and development between three continents, Europe, Africa and Asia.

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ANNEX

Short description of the SolAqua project and the role of the CPMR-IMC

SolAqua will increase the share of renewable energy in Europe by facilitating market uptake of solar irrigation (SI). By combining photovoltaic and hydraulic technology with high efficiency irrigation, SI can provide energy for irrigation with 0 emissions and at a cost of up to 70% lower than existing fossil-fuel based solutions.

The potential of SI to change the energy model of European farming is huge as irrigation demands large amounts of energy for pumping water to crops. Alongside a €4 bn energy bill, the current fossil-fuel based energy model of irrigation also has a high environmental cost; it produces 16 million tons of CO₂ every year, approximately 15% of the EU's total CO₂ emissions from agriculture.

Nevertheless, despite its potential benefits, market uptake of SI is being prevented by a number of non-technological barriers. Also, there is a lack of awareness and skills regarding SI among irrigators and other stakeholders, such as local SMEs and public authorities. SolAqua is the answer from a coalition of relevant stakeholders to overcome this situation.

In a first stage, SolAqua will produce 7 key enabling materials and tools (KEMT) needed for SI market uptake but which are currently missing, such as quality standards and economic and environmental assessment methodologies. In a second stage, SolAqua will carry out a far-reaching dissemination and communication plan in order to attract more than 300,000 stakeholders in Europe and North Africa to SI in general and, in particular, to SolAqua's exploitation plan. This exploitation plan will allow for the triggering a well-functioning SI market by producing a joint SI promotion of at least 100 MW (more than €120 M in investments) which will act as a flagship for the solution. Also, in order to support SI investments, the public authorities within SolAqua will produce a SI-suited supporting instrument and will allow for its replication throughout Europe.

The CPMR-IMC is particularly in charge of the following deliverables, in relations to key tasks of the project (the list of activities is non-exhaustive):

• <u>D2.12. Legal analysis and best practices (report)</u>

 Description: Report containing an analysis of the legal and administrative barriers to SI introduction with special reference to the Common Agrarian Policy and best practices in the use of EAFRD financial instruments. The report will be oriented to support decision making and legal planification at the level of RDP managing authorities in issues related to SI introduction.

• D2.13. EARDF Financial instrument (report)

 Description: Document containing the description of an EAFRD Financial instrument for SI including a methodology of ex ante assessment. The document will be oriented to be used by RDP managing authorities that are interested in promoting SI and will provide a framework for producing a common standardized instrument to support SI, compatible with the quality standards and business models.

• <u>D3.3. Report on dissemination activities for Public authorities (report)</u>

- In relation to Task 3.4. of SolAqua, organization of 6 conferences addressed to public authorities (PAs) on SI and SolAqua results in high-reaching forums.
 workshops for PAs will be organized by CPMR with the collaboration of partners to equip the PAs (including 20 Managing Authorities) for informed policy on SI and in using the SI-EAFRD financial instrument. Common information and dissemination activities to increase the visibility and synergies between H2020 supported actions are planned with the partners as well.
- Description: A report describing the execution and results of the dissemination activities for public authorities. It will include a detailed description of each activity and the impact achieved including photographic documents and other relevant elements.

• D4.3. EARDF Financial instruments ex ante evaluation (websites, patents,...)

 Description: Report containing 2 ex ante evaluations of an SI-oriented EAFRD financial instrument. The ex ante evaluations will be produced using the standards demanded by DG-AGRI with the objective of supporting the implementation of a supra-regional EAFRD financial instrument for irrigation.

• D4.5. Solar irrigation policy-action (report)

 Description: Report containing 3 plans to improve regulatory framework and supporting schemes. The report will present 3 specific plans (for the three Managing authorities in the SolAqua consortium) oriented to facilitate SI introduction and the development of a well-functioning market by implementing specific actions by managing authorities and related public authorities.

• D4.7. EARDF Solar Irrigation-Financial instruments introduction (report)

 Description: Report containing the introduction of an EAFRD instrument in regional development plans. The document will describe and analyse the entire process and will include specific suggestions for improvement and guidelines for replicators.