



## ADVERTISEMENT

### Data Curator

Contract type: Permanent

Job Level: Junior

Work Location: Cape Town, Western Cape

The National Research Foundation (NRF) supports and promotes research and human capital development through funding, the provision of National Research Facilities and science outreach platforms and programmes to the broader community in all fields of science and technology, including natural sciences, engineering, social sciences and humanities.

The South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON) is a research platform funded by the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) and managed by the National Research Foundation (NRF). SAEON is mandated to establish and manage long-term environmental observatories; maintain reliable long-term environmental data sets; promote access to data for research and/or informed decision making, and contribute to capacity building.

This position will be responsible for the day-to-day management and curation of marine datasets and digital objects in compliance with established standards.

The position is within a team and involves servicing (primarily) the South African Polar Research Infrastructure (SAPRI) and the SAEON Open Data Platform, including the Marine Information Management System. The Data Curation Specialist will support the data management component of SAPRI and SAEON by assisting in the establishment and maintenance of a data infrastructure that is intended to meet the ISO 14721: Open Archival Information System standard and in formulating and implementing the policies and practices that will support its growth and sustainment.

#### Key Responsibilities:

- \* Implementation of data curation procedures: Create documentation, and update current metadata standards and standard operating procedures, to support compliance with data policies and standards for SAEON, SAPRI and any related projects.
- \* Provide guidance on marine data management that can be introduced into SAPRI/SAEON data workflows.
- \* Servicing external stakeholder requests and submissions for/of data and cataloguing services for the Marine Information Management System.
- \* Assist the SAEON and SAPRI in the selection, preservation, maintenance, collection and archiving of its digital assets. Accept, standardise and publish data and metadata obtained from data providers.
- \* Assist researchers and scientists with data management plans
- \* Promote best practices in managing marine research data throughout its life cycle.
- \* Manage data provider agreements with external data providers and collaborators.

#### Key Requirements:

##### Qualification:

- \* Post-graduate degree in Library Information Studies or Information Science with a concentration or specialisation in Digital Curation OR Bachelor of Science (Honours) in a marine-related discipline plus exposure to Data and Information Management.
- \* Minimum of 2-4 years of data and information management experience preferred.

##### Experience:

- \* Experience with Research Data Management and GIS Software (QGIS and ArcGIS).
- \* Any coding experience in Python would be advantageous.
- \* Experience with HTML and WordPress.

##### Knowledge:

- \* Understanding of international standards for metadata and information.
- \* Familiarity with the digital standards for geospatial and biodiversity metadata, e.g. ISO19115 (SANS 1878), Darwin Core, EML.
- \* Familiarity with one or more metadata aggregators: ESRI Geoportal server, CKAN, GeoNetwork, or GeoNode.
- \* Familiarity with any of the following environmental data services: OpenDAP, THREDDS, LAS, ERDDAP, ESRI (open source) geoportal.
- \* Understanding of scientific data formats such as NetCDF and HDF. Familiarity with format translation.
- \* Knowledge of XML and JSON.
- \* Knowledge of map projections and transformations.

**Additional Notes:**

Strong quantitative and qualitative skills

**Information:**

The website [www.nrf.ac.za](http://www.nrf.ac.za) provides more details on the NRF initiatives and activities.

**Applications:**

Applicants should submit a comprehensive CV by logging to <https://ess.nrf.ac.za/Account/Recruitment> and apply online. Applications should be accompanied by a letter of motivation indicating the applicant's suitability for the position. The names and contact details of at least three referees should be provided.

**Closing Date: 10 October 2022**

The NRF offers a challenging career and competitive remuneration package which is commensurate with qualifications and experience. The NRF is committed to employment equity and redress and the appointment to the position will be made in line with the NRF Employment Equity Plan.

The NRF reserves the right not to make an appointment.

Correspondence will be sent to short-listed candidates only