



Call for expression of interest for the vacant position of *Head of ERAIFT Research*
Station based in the Luki Biosphere Reserve (Kongo Central)

I. PRESENTATION OF THE ERAIFT

The Regional Post-Graduate School on Integrated Management of Tropical Forests and Lands (ERAIFT) was created on April 10, 1999. It is founded around the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere (MAB) project which aims at sustainable human development in harmony with the environment.

The pedagogical and conceptual basis of this ERAIFT's training is the systemic approach – an interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral, global and, therefore, integrated approach. It is the guiding principle of the UNESCO MAB program and ERAIFT's teaching and research.

ERAIFT's mission is to:

- Train high level executives in various sectors according to the real needs of the company;
- Organize applied research oriented towards solutions to specific development problems;
- Build the capacities of political actors and decision-makers in the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of land-use planning, rural development, environment, nature conservation and forestry policies; these decision-makers are in charge of policies approbation and evaluation;
- Provide policy-makers with tools and methods to help them make decisions;
- Organize continuing education for managers, technicians and practitioners of biodiversity;

Regarding regional training, ERAIFT implements 4 regional Masters, including 3 professional ones (*one on the Management of Protected Areas (GAP)*), ERAIFT also organizes *a doctoral program in integrated management of tropical forests and lands*. Since its creation in 1999 until 2022, 21 PhDs have already been trained and 28 PhDs are in training.

ERAIFT has the status of a category 2 center under the auspices of UNESCO, and has been contributing since its creation to the capacity building of managers and decision makers from 22 French and Portuguese speaking countries of Sub-Saharan Africa and the Indian Ocean region in the management of protected areas, as well as in the sustainable development of tropical forests and lands. In order to better organize its missions, ERAIFT is present in several protected areas, particularly the Luki and Yangambi Biosphere Reserves where it conducts several scientific research activities oriented towards development.

In addition, ERAIFT has concluded several partnership agreements with national, regional and international institutions, allowing international scientific supervision of researchers and doctoral students. These include the University of Lubumbashi (UNILU), the University of Kisangani (UNIKIS), the Universities of Dschang and Yaoundé¹, the School of Wildlife of Garoua, the University of Science and Technology of Masuku (USTM/Franceville), the National School of Water and Forests, the University of Liege, the University of Ghent, the University of Laval, the Royal Museum for Central Africa in Tervuren (RMCA), the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (IRScNB), the Meise Botanic Garden of (JBM), the Satellite Observatory of Central African Forests (OSFAC), OFAC, HIST, the Federal University of Pará, the Indonesian Institute of Sciences, CIRAD, and the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)

ERAIFT is also a member of the Central African Network of Forestry and Environmental Training Institutions (RIFFEAC). This platform aims to develop the skills and structures necessary for the rational



and sustainable management of biodiversity resources in Central Africa. ERAIFT and RIFFEAC consider that training and awareness are at the heart of sustainable forest and natural resource management.

II. MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the supervision of the Academic and Research Secretary (SAR), the Head of the ERAIFT Research Station in Luki is responsible for:

Welcoming national or expatriate students and/or researchers whose institutions have signed collaboration agreements with ERAIFT;

1. Participating in the supervision of exams and/or quizzes of courses organized in-situ, either at the Luki Biosphere Research or at the Mangrove Marine Park (MMP), etc.
2. Rational management of the technical and biological materials of the Luki research station
3. Contributing to the implementation of experimental devices or ecological trails in the Luki Biosphere Reserve
4. Archiving and capitalizing in "hard and soft" versions the results of research, publications, conferences and seminars that are organized and to make the capitalized material accessible in real time (valorization of research data);
5. Ensuring the valorization of research results in credible international impact factor and peer-reviewed journals
6. Contributing to the mobilization of sustainable funding for the station by writing bankable research projects
7. Regularly **monitoring the Internet** to identify offers of grants, continuing education and other research and development activities and inform the School regularly.
8. Submitting monthly activity and/or financial reports on the operation of the research station to ERAIFT
9. Ensuring a perfect "**readability and visibility**" of the Luki research station to all researchers, research and development institutions, TFPs, national and international NGOs, etc., active in and around the Luki Biosphere Reserve;
10. Coordinating every research-training activity (including hard and virtual libraries). In addition, to capitalize on all current research activities, coordination and synergy of actions).



III. PROFILE OF THE STATION MANAGER

3.1 General competencies

- Mastery of the **"results-based management" or RBM** approach and of **the systems approach** in the conduct of their actions in the field;
- Good **communication and writing skills**, and fluency in French, basic knowledge of English is an asset
- Be **proactive and autonomous**, able to work in a multicultural and regional environment, establish constructive personal relationships in the professional environment
- Have strong **leadership skill as a Station Manager**
- Comply with the usual rules of **ethics and professional conduct** in the exercise of their functions

In short, maintaining a good collaboration between the various stakeholders working in the Luki site, including INERA, MAB, civil society organizations, the private sector, development partners, local populations, etc.

3.2 Specific competencies

- Have experience working at the regional and international level;
- **Hold a postgraduate degree** with at least **"distinction"**: DEA, DES, DESS, Master's degree or Master 2 or similar degrees;
- Be **under 40 years of age at the** time of submission of the application;
- Have at least **3 years of professional experience** (national or international NGOs, development partners, public or private sector, etc.) in managing a research structure;
- Have skills in conflict prevention and resolution;
- A few international scientific publications in the last 3 years.

IV. APPLICATION FORM

The application for the above position will include the following:

- **Handwritten letter of motivation**, in French and English, addressed to the Director of ERAIFT and President of the Academic and Research Council (CAR);
- **University transcripts and certified photocopies** (Faculty, Department or Section);
- **Updated curriculum vitae** of max 3 pages, including a summary of the candidate's professional experience during the last 3 years, a list of recent international publications, skill in data processing tools;
- **Usually required and recent certificates** (birth certificate, certificate of good conduct, physical fitness certificate, nationality certificate, etc.);
- **A detailed plan for the development of the Luki research station in the short term** (max 3 pages).

V. HOW TO APPLY

- Prepare your complete file and send it digitally to ERAIFT in a single file through the following addresses: h.mishidi@eraift-rdc.org or valimunz2005@yahoo.fr; with the subject of the letter: **recruitment for the position of Head of Research Station based in Luki**;
- The deadline for applications is **Thursday, June 30, 2022 at 15:00 (Kinshasa Time)**;



**REGIONAL POST-GRADUATE SCHOOL OF INTEGRATED
MANAGEMENT OF TROPICAL FORESTS AND LANDS
- ERAIFT -**

Category II center under the auspices of UNESCO



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- Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply for the position, provided they are equally qualified;
 - For any information, please contact: Mr. Hervé MISHIDI (IT Manager and ERAIFT Logistician) and Ms. Valentine MUNZEMBA (ERAIFT Management Secretary), call the 0812195627 and 0972601761, respectively;

NB. Candidates shortlisted on the basis of the analysis of their files will be interviewed for a final selection. Only the successful candidate will be notified.

Done at Kinshasa, June 14, 2022

The Director of ERAIFT

Baudouin MICHEL