



**CIHEAM
MONTPELLIER**

Service RH
AG. GK.ad.25/38

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Recruitment of a Research Engineer in Economics

Three years full-time contract

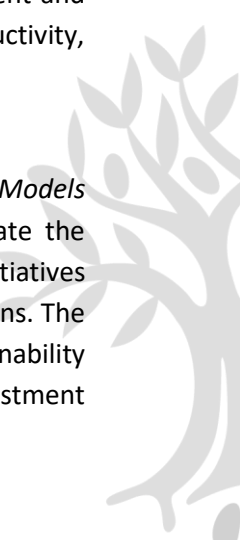
The Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Montpellier (CIHEAM Montpellier), one of the four institutes of the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM), is an intergovernmental organization whose mission is the development of higher education and lifelong learning, research and cooperation in the Mediterranean area. Within the scope of the Greencoop project, Horizon Europe n°01182021, CIHEAM Montpellier offers a position of a Research Engineer, compatible with the completion of a doctoral thesis.

CONTEXT

The challenging EU socio-economic context for the near future (land abandonment, population aging, young farmers, rural low technology access, and entrepreneurs' migration) imposes the need for developing new Rural Communities Business models (RCBM). These models will improve current rural business allowing to overcome the current situation and adopt innovative and cost-effective agroecological and digital solutions while increasing the environmental ecosystem services delivery, farmers' quality of life and rural areas revitalization. The GREENCOOP overall objective is to develop a set of 15 (EU) and 2 (China) LL communities to co-create agroecological and digital innovations (ADIs) as 12 demos to promote social economy, enhancing farmers prosperity and rural entrepreneurs by optimizing the use of in-farm resources, reducing environmental damage, improving working conditions, and inclusion (i.e. youth, women.), fostering bioeconomy and circular economy, and increasing the number of high-quality jobs and competences. ADIs will be integrated into relevant types of farming systems (farm ideotypes) selected by GREENCOOP Living Labs (LLs) and the basis for the RCBM by promoting the farmers and rural entrepreneurs' participation in the food systems. This will contribute to increase ecosystem services delivery and valorisation, improve food security, and mitigate and adapt farming systems to climate change increasing market resilience. GREENCOOP is a 4-year project that aspires to (i) create and evaluate, through a multimodal and multidisciplinary approach, a set of 12 ADIs (ii) analyse the integration of ADIs and industries interactions in EU relevant among rural business by developing RCBM and (iii) benchmark the current business models with the RCBM by assessing their economic, environment and social impacts and (iv) optimize the RCBM to enhance farming systems sustainability, productivity, rural/urban connectivity, and resilience against climate and market.

ROLE

The Research Engineer (RE) will participate in WP3 "*Current & New Rural Communities Business Models (RCBM) Sustainability Assessment*". The main objective of WP3 is to comprehensively evaluate the sustainability of new rural business models associated with innovative Agro-Demonstration Initiatives (ADIs), while also identifying bottlenecks and conditions for innovation diffusion across value chains. The RE will contribute across tasks involving LL farming-value chain ideotypes networking (T3.1), sustainability assessment (T3.2), stakeholder adaptation and diffusion analysis (T3.3), adoption and adjustment processes of ADIs in LLs (T3.4), and integrated assessment (T3.5).



The RE will play a central role in survey and data analysis, sustainability protocol development (CBA, LCA, Social LCA), participatory workshops (Q-method, focus groups), and in building the Rural Revitalization Index (RRI). He/She will also support cross-WP collaboration, ensure methodological consistency, and contribute to project deliverables and policy-relevant outputs.

ACTIVITIES AND TASKS

- Contribute to the development of LL farming–value chain systems idiotypes networking (organic, agroecological, conventional) by organizing focus groups and expert panels within the LLs (T3.1).
- Support the sustainability assessment protocol (economic, environmental, and social) using Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA), Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), and Social LCA to evaluate ADIs' impacts (T3.2).
- Design and implement Q-methodology surveys and workshops to analyse stakeholder adaptation capacities and bottlenecks for innovation diffusion across industrial chains and territories (T3.3).
- Analyse the adoption and adjustment processes of ADIs in Living Labs, considering community-level determinants, Theory of Change, and socio-economic dynamics of revitalisation (T3.4).
- Assist in the construction and validation of the Rural Revitalization Index (RRI), integrating industrial, ecological, cultural, and social dimensions (T3.4).
- Support the integrated assessment of GREENCOOP ADIs and RCBM, combining results of tasks T3.1–T3.4 to produce a set of decision indicators tailored to each LL (T3.5).

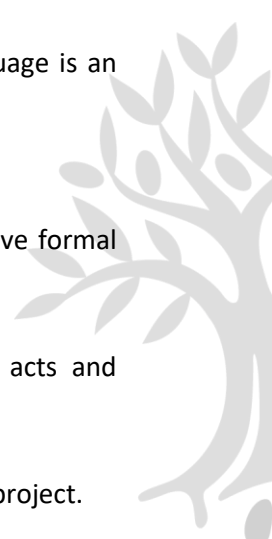
REQUIREMENTS

The ER candidate must meet the following requirements:

- Master 2 or PhD in Economics, Agricultural Economics, Environmental Economics, or related fields.
- Proven knowledge of sustainability assessment methods (CBA, LCA, Social LCA).
- Strong expertise in participatory and stakeholder engagement methods (focus groups, Q-methodology, workshops).
- Experience in value chain analysis and assessment of rural/agri-food systems.
- Familiarity with EU agricultural policy (CAP 2023–2027) and UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English; additional European language is an asset.

PERSONAL SKILLS REQUIRED

- Excellent organizational skills, ability to establish and maintain lasting and constructive formal relationships;
- Dynamism, reactivity and autonomy;
- Excellent skills of writing and synthesis (work plans, technical reports and other acts and management, ordinary correspondence, notes, messages, summary sheets);
- Good teamwork abilities, particularly in a multicultural and multi-disciplinary context;
- Ability to propose solutions to problems and critical issues that might arise during the project.



JOB SPECIFICATIONS

- Contract duration: fixed term contract of 36 months;
- Full-time (37,5h per week);
- 8-weeks annual leave;
- Salary: According to experience;
- Location: Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Montpellier (Route de Mende, Montpellier, France) with occasional travels in different partner countries.

Contact for any information on the project: kleftodimos@iamm.fr

CIHEAM Montpellier is committed to a policy of non-discrimination and gender. Position open to people with disabilities.

SELECTION PROCESS

The application must be written in English and include a CV and a cover letter concerning the missions defined in the job description.

Deadline for Submission: **15th of October 2025**

Selection Committee: **week of October 20, 2025**

Starting Date: **3th of November 2025**

The application file must be sent by email with the following object " Greencoop RE candidate Vacancy" to emploi@iamm.fr

