

SECONDED NATIONAL EXPERT- JOB PROFILE

Research Officer

Research and Innovation Unit, Capacity Building Division

**CAPACITY BUILDING DIVISION**

The Capacity Building Division (CBD) operates in line with the mandate of Frontex and contributes to security of the EU external borders by managing pooled human and technical resources, providing training and contributing to border management-related research and innovation activities. It develops harmonised standards at the European level to ensure interoperable border management capacities, monitors and helps implement new technologies for technical equipment, trains border and coast guard officers as well as other relevant staff. The Capacity Building Division also provides technical support to the European Commission in its respective areas of responsibility, such as the implementation of research programmes delegated by the European Commission to the Agency which are aimed at technologies related to border control and surveillance. Moreover, the Division is involved in the sharing of best practices with non-EU countries and international organisations. Activities are conducted in close cooperation with other EU agencies in the field of Justice and Home Affairs.

The Capacity Building Division is structured around three Units: Pooled Resources, Training, Research and Innovation.

**RESEARCH AND INNOVATION UNIT**

One of the three main areas of activity for the Capacity Building Division is handled by the Research and Innovation Unit (RIU). The Unit proactively monitors and contributes to research and innovation relevant for European integrated border management disseminating the results to the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Member States, as well as for being integrated into the operational support provided by the Agency. It supports the European Commission with the implementation of the EU funded border security research, serving as a platform to bring together Europe's border management authorities and the world of research and industry in order to bridge the gap between technological advancement and the needs of the border control community. RIU drives the exploration of the potential offered by new border management technologies (to meet the dual objective of enhancing security while facilitating travel) and facilitates the development of common working practices and technical standards for equipment to ensure interoperability at Union and national level. The Unit provides technical assistance to third countries as well.

**Tasks and responsibilities:**

**Reporting to the Head of the Research and Innovation Unit the Research Officer shall:**

- Follow research and developments relevant to border security;
- Assess research and technology against user needs;
- Take part and assist in the development and implementation of studies and (research) projects;
- Provide technical and operational expertise related to border security for the development and implementation of research and innovation activities;
- Cooperate with national experts and other external contributors;

- Disseminate results of activities of the Unit to end-users and the stakeholder community;
- Promote best practices and knowledge-sharing;
- Assist in preparation of reports, project templates, situation assessments, letters, briefing notes and responses to enquires;
- Assist in the organization of meetings, workshops, seminars and network cooperation in the field of the Unit's activities;
- Provide the Head of Unit and other team members with practical advice and expertise.

**Professional qualifications, competencies and experience required:**

**Essential:**

- Professional experience and expertise related to the activities described in the tasks and responsibilities of the post;
- Experience in (working with) law enforcement and/or the research sector, preferably including the assessment of technologies in defence and/or security applications;
- Experience in participating in working groups and/or research projects related to (the study of) new technologies, preferably including experience in international working groups;
- Good knowledge of research methods;
- Experience in (assisting in) meetings, workshops and/or conference organisation;
- Experience in working/cooperating with the European public administration;
- Thorough knowledge of English, both spoken and written ( level C1 );
- Strong drafting/editorial skills.

**Assets:**

- Experience in capability analysis and planning in a security environment;
- Experience in the development of technical and/or operational specifications for technical equipment.

**Personal skills & competencies required:**

- Very good analytical and organizational skills;
- Very good networking, presentation, interpersonal and communication skills in English;
- Professional and ethical behaviour, strong sense of initiative and responsibility;
- Ability to work effectively both independently as well as within a diverse team in a multicultural environment.