

Call for expression of interest for Seconded National Experts (ECDC/2025/SNE)

Applications are invited for the secondment at the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). The aim of secondment is to enhance and develop the relationship between ECDC and national institutions throughout Member States of the European Union.

General description of the tasks and role of the ECDC

The mission of the Centre is to identify, assess and communicate current and emerging threats to human health posed by infectious diseases. Within this broad mission statement, the main objectives are:

- search for, collect, collate, evaluate and disseminate relevant scientific and technical data;
- provide scientific opinions and scientific and technical assistance including training;
- provide timely information to the Commission, the Member States, Community agencies and international organisations active within the field of public health;
- coordinate the European networking of bodies operating in the fields within the Centre's mission, including networks that emerge from public health activities supported by the Commission and operating the dedicated surveillance networks;
- exchange information, expertise, and best practices, and facilitate the development and implementation of joint actions, following a One Health approach.

See also the Centre home page at <http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/Pages/home.aspx>

The Centre is especially looking for candidates in the following areas:

- **European and International Cooperation**
- **Policy coordination and strategic affairs**
- **Risk communication and community engagement:** The Seconded National Expert will bring valuable national-level experience and perspectives to strengthen the Centre's ongoing work in risk communication and community engagement (RCCE). The role will complement existing activities and support in filling gaps by helping to ensure that

strategies, tools, and guidance are adapted to the realities and needs of Member States, and by facilitating closer coordination and exchange between ECDC and national counterparts working in this area.

- **Eurosurveillance:** Eurosurveillance the scientific journal established 30 years ago and published by the ECDC, is looking for an expert with interest and experience in (i) infectious disease epidemiology, prevention and control and (ii) science communication/translation to support evidence-based public health action and decision-making. The expert should have a background in the field of infectious diseases, public health/epidemiology, medicine or a related discipline. They should be proficient in critically appraising the quality of scientific articles and have a strong interest in publication ethics to strengthen trust in science. Furthermore, they should have an aptitude for language and basic knowledge of editing/writing scientific texts and be comfortable adopting new software and database usage.
- **Evidence and Knowledge translation:** The Seconded National Expert will contribute expertise and country-level experience to strengthen the Centre's work on evidence and knowledge translation, in close collaboration with other units/section of the Centre, ensuring that epidemiological and research findings are effectively synthesised to support evidence-informed decision-making, focusing on semi-technical audiences such as public health officials, programme managers, advisors, practitioners etc. The expert will enhance the Centre's ability to promote the uptake and use of evidence by developing innovative, user-centred approaches that make evidence easier to interpret and apply in diverse Member State contexts, thereby complementing the existing media and public communication functions.
- **Burden of Disease (BoD):** Supporting communicable-disease BoD estimates across Europe by further advancing ECDC's BoD programme. This may include: updating and developing disease progression/outcome trees; conducting and synthesising literature reviews to refine severity distributions, sequelae parameters and disability weights; curating and validating model inputs; designing transparent, reproducible DALY pipelines in R with rigorous QA and documentation; triangulating surveillance with registries/sero-studies and deriving multiplication factors; conducting uncertainty and sensitivity analyses; integrating age–sex life tables; harmonising methods and reporting standards across Member States; and embedding a regular BoD reporting cycle to inform prioritisation, preparedness and evaluation. Experience in evidence synthesis, epidemiology, modelling or related health-metrics initiatives would be particularly relevant.
- **Behavioural Observatory Social and Behavioural Sciences:** The Seconded National Expert will support the Social and Behavioural Science team at ECDC in setting up the Behavioural Observatory (BOBy), which will serve as a repository for behavioural data. The core activity of BOBy will be to conduct surveys to measure behavioural indicators (e.g., people's knowledge, attitudes, trust, self-reported practices, literacies), with a pilot study planned towards the end of 2026 and the first full survey round for all EU/EEA countries in 2027. ECDC is looking for a data scientist to support the data management, basic statistical analysis and data visualisation of BOBy.
- **Directly transmitted and Vaccine-preventable Diseases**
 - Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Immunisation and Respiratory Viruses sections:
 - (1) Supporting the establishment of a system and methods for monitoring vaccination coverage in the EU. The system should be acceptable to Member States while providing actionable information for public health policy makers.
 - (2) Contribution to the development of scientific advice for the prevention of a major public health threats such as respiratory infections in older individuals, children and risk groups.
 - (3) Contribute to the Centre's activities for tackling vaccine-preventable cancers, implementing the corresponding Council Recommendation.
 - (4) Controlling the impact

of major ongoing threats in the EU such as measles, pertussis, RSV, and invasive bacterial infections, by carrying out surveillance, investigating surveillance signals and supporting the implementation of control measures in Member States.

- STI, Blood-borne Viruses and TB section: (1) Controlling the impact of major ongoing threats in the EU such as those posed by STI, hepatitis and HIV/AIDS, by carrying out surveillance, investigating surveillance signals and supporting the implementation of control measures in Member States. (2) Contribution to the development of scientific advice for the prevention of a major public health threats such as STI and HIV/AIDS, by a combination of pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical interventions. (3) Issuing guidance on the safety of SoHO, implementing the corresponding Regulation (EU) 2024/1938.
- **AMR and Healthcare-Associated Infections:** The Seconded National Expert would work on surveillance of healthcare-associated infections, including the point-prevalence surveys of healthcare-associated infections in acute care hospitals, and the further development of surveillance of bloodstream infections based on electronic health records.
- **Food-, Water-, Vector-borne and Zoonotic Diseases:**
 - Food- and Water-borne Diseases: We are looking for professionals who can work on disease surveillance and outbreak response. This includes developing surveillance objectives and standards, supporting data collection and validation, analysing surveillance data, and communicating the results. Additionally, the role involves supporting the detection and assessment of multicounty outbreaks and contributing to activities aimed at assessing the impact of climate change on infectious diseases.
 - Vector-Borne Diseases: We are seeking experts in vector-borne diseases and/or entomology. The ideal candidate would support activities on disease surveillance, scientific advice, and outbreak response. Furthermore, the role includes supporting the development of activities related to vector monitoring and vector control.
- **General Surveillance:** 1) Support the production of the Surveillance Atlas of Infectious Diseases and the Annual Epidemiological Reports; (2) Support routine and ad-hoc disease-specific surveillance data collection, management, analysis and visualisation; (3) Support the overhaul of the European Surveillance System (TESSy); (4) Support projects aiming to set up routine use of electronically stored health data for surveillance purposes.
- **Epidemic Intelligence:** (1) Support routine global epidemic intelligence (EI) gathering, processing and output production and the automation of these processes; (2) Contribute to the response duty system and the 24/7 EI duty system of ECDC.; (3) Contribute to international collaborations in EI around sharing information on emerging threats; (4) development of novel EI methods and research; (5) Contribute to assessing the risk of public health events.
- **Microbiology and Molecular surveillance:** (1) Define, implement, and carry out disease specific surveillance with integrated genomic typing, including defining surveillance objectives, designing surveillance protocols and developing analysis plans; (2) Analyse, interpret and communicate genomic typing data both from routine surveillance systems and in the context of multinational outbreak investigations. This entails issuing surveillance and outbreak reports and recommendations for disease control and prevention; (3) Contribute to and coordinate microbiology projects, both disease specific and with a cross-disease dimension. Such projects aim at supporting diagnostic and genomic typing capacity building in Member States, improving, and standardising the quality of diagnostic methods (e.g. through EQAs), providing trainings in specific areas, and increasing the value and impact of microbiology outputs.

- **Emergency Preparedness and Response:** (1) Support EU/EEA and third countries, and the European Commission in emergency preparedness and response related activities, especially through simulation exercises, In and After Action Reviews, trainings and further targeted capacity building; (2) Coordinate Public Health Emergency Assessments (PHEPA); (3) assist with assignments of the EU Health Task Force (EUHTF); (4) Support the timely production of rapid risk assessments and other related outputs in response to potential communicable disease threats and outbreaks; (5) Support cross-border outbreak investigations with particular emphasis on data collection and analysis; (6) Contribute to the response duty system of ECDC.
- **Public Health Training:** The aim is to provide public health professionals across the EU/EEA with the necessary knowledge, skills, and competencies to effectively address current and emerging health threats and provide instructional design advice and support to ECDC experts to develop high-quality engaging and interactive learning activities for the public health professionals in the Member States. This includes guidance on tools and methodologies, learning needs assessments, curriculum development, facilitation techniques, monitoring and evaluation of trainings, develop training material in areas such as preparedness, surveillance, microbiology, one health, epidemiology, outbreak response, antimicrobial resistance and risk communication.
- **EPIET and EUPHEM Fellowship:** (1) Provide technical and mentoring support of EPIET and EUPHEM fellows, contributing to monitoring their progress; (2) Support quality improvement and curricular updates of the ECDC fellowship programme; (3) Networking activities; and (4) Contribution to support countries when developing their strategies for workforce development, including the establishment of national field epidemiology training programmes.
- **Information Technologies** with experience in software development, IT service management or administration of IT infrastructure, preferably in the Public Health sector.

Qualifications and experiences required

In order to qualify for secondment at ECDC, you need to meet the following criteria:

- Current employment in the national, regional or local public sector or international civil service (alternatively candidates may be employed in non-profit or voluntary sector) for at least 12 months before the start of secondment and guarantee to remain in the service of the current employer throughout the period of secondment;
- Thorough knowledge of English (ECDC's language of daily operations); and a satisfactory knowledge of another EU language;
- Preferably nationality of one of the EU Member States or the EEA/EFTA Member States or an accession country; exceptionally candidates with another nationality can be considered for secondment;
- At least three years' relevant experience in an administrative, advisory, scientific, technical or public health functions related to the above mentioned areas.

General conditions of secondment

During the period of the secondment, the national expert remains in employment by the respective national institution and is paid by the employer including the continuation of social security and pension rights coverage. Therefore, before application is considered, the employer needs to be in full support of possible arrangement with ECDC for a secondment.

The initial duration of secondment is from six months up to two years (to be agreed between the current employer and ECDC). The secondment is renewable once or more; however, the total duration of secondment cannot exceed four years. Please note that secondment does not lead to subsequent employment at the ECDC.

For any further information, please refer to the Rules applicable to National Experts on the secondment to ECDC, which are available at the following link:

<http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/aboutus/jobs/Pages/seconded-national-expert.aspx>

The place of secondment will be Stockholm, where the Centre has its activities.

Declaration of commitment to serve the public interest independently

The seconded national experts will be required to make a declaration of commitment to act independently in the public interest and to make a declaration in relation to the interests that might be considered prejudicial to their independence. The seconded national experts may be asked to divest themselves of any interests deemed by ECDC to pose a potential conflict of interest.

Equal opportunities

ECDC applies equal opportunities and accepts applications without any distinction on the grounds of age, race, political, philosophical, or religious conviction, gender, or sexual orientation and regardless of disabilities, marital status or family situation.

Protection of personal data

Please note that the personal information ECDC requests from applicants will be processed in line with REGULATION (EU) 2018/1725 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC. The purpose of processing of your personal data is to support the selection procedures at ECDC. This processing may involve distribution of this data to other Community institutions. For further information or exercise of your rights (such as the right to access or the right to correct my data), contact can be taken with the Human Resources section.

Application procedure

For application to be valid you must submit **ALL** required documents by e-mail:

- A detailed Curriculum Vitae in **European format** (available on <https://europass.europa.eu/en>);

- A letter of motivation indicating areas of interest and possible time frame of secondment;
- A supporting letter from the employer confirming the wish to second the candidate as well as confirming the employment of the candidate for the last 12 months and during the whole period of secondment at ECDC.

Applications, preferably in English, should be sent by e-mail in Word or PDF format to Secondment@ecdc.europa.eu. The application will be rejected if the dossier is incomplete.

The closing date for the submission of applications is **14 November 2025, 11:59:59** (midday) **Stockholm time**.

We welcome your application!