

Vacancies at Future Earth

The Future Earth Secretariat is seeking a Science Officer
on Synthesis & Foresight for the Montreal Global Hub

Location

Future Earth Global Hub – Montreal, Suite 1020, 1250 Guy Street, H3H 2T4 Montreal, Quebec, Canada; employer: Future Earth International

Closing date and start of contract

Open until a suitable applicant is found; interviews will start on 15th February, so candidates are encouraged to submit their application before this date - Start immediately

The Future Earth initiative

[Future Earth](#) is the international research platform providing the knowledge and support to accelerate our transformations to a sustainable world. Bringing together and in partnership with existing programmes on global environmental change, Future Earth coordinates new, inter- and trans-disciplinary approaches to research on three themes: Dynamic Planet, Global Sustainable Development and Transformations towards Sustainability. It is also a platform for international engagement to ensure that knowledge is generated in partnership with society and users of research. This international initiative was developed under the auspices of the Science and Technology Alliance for Global Sustainability including the following international organisations: UNESCO, UNEP, UNU, WMO, ICSU, ISSC, WMO and the Belmont Forum.

Future Earth is served by a globally distributed Secretariat that uniquely encompasses five Global Hubs (Boulder in Colorado, Montreal, Paris, Stockholm, Tokyo) connected through a dynamic, networked structure. This also includes Regional Centres and partners. The distributed model unites a diversity of perspectives, stakeholders and geographical locations. The Secretariat works through virtual teams that ensure that this diversity of perspectives and global reach are a daily reality.

The Montreal hub was established under the auspices of a consortium including the following members: Fonds de Recherche du Québec, Montreal International, Concordia University, École de Technologie Supérieure, Institut national de la recherche scientifique, McGill University, OURANOS, Polytechnique Montréal, Université de Montréal, Université du Québec à Montréal. The office of the Montreal hub is hosted at Concordia University and also hosts the Executive Office of Future Earth. This hub is responsible of two main functions of the Future Earth Global Secretariat: overall Coordination and Synthesis & Foresight.

The Montreal Global Hub is seeking a Science Officer to contribute to the development of the Synthesis and Foresight function of Future Earth. The Synthesis & Foresight function develops projects in three main domains:

- 1) Supports integration and trans-disciplinary development of strategies and approaches to synthesize research on Earth system, global environmental changes and sustainability issues;
- 2) Identifies emerging scientific and societal challenges in these fields of research;
- 3) Supports science-policy interfaces, including intergovernmental assessment processes: connect the scientific community to main policy processes (e.g. UNFCCC, CBD, WHO, IPBES, IPCC, SDGs), identify policy needs, and provide sound scientific knowledge to these policy fora.

The Future Earth Synthesis & Foresight Team also works with the Communication Team to create material that interfaces with multiple stakeholders, including policymakers and civil society.

Position Description

We seek an individual with a strong scientific background (PhD level) in policy, institutions or governance science in the field of sustainable development and/or the environment; with experience in stakeholder engagement, and project coordination. Experience in interdisciplinary projects will be an asset.

The Synthesis & Foresight work at the Montreal Global Hub will include activities related to synthesis, foresight and science-policy interfaces, with an emphasis on the last two domains. This work will cross upon all domains related to the environment and sustainability involving multi-disciplinary teams from the natural, social, and humanities sciences.

The Science Officer will co-lead Future Earth activities on Synthesis & Foresight with the Paris Global Hub, and will be the point of entry, exchange, dialogue and feedback between the Secretariat, the research communities, and the stakeholders' communities in their joint pursuit of the Future Earth agenda. She/He will support and work under the supervision of the Montreal Global Hub Director.

Candidate qualifications and key competencies

- PhD in the field of policy, institutional or governance science
- Experience with interdisciplinary projects will be an asset
- Minimum of 3 years' experience in leading assessment, synthesis, or foresight work
- Minimum of 3 years' experience with engagement of stakeholders communities and international organizations (science, policy, NGOs, etc.) in the field of the environment and sustainability, and especially in science-policy interfaces
- Minimum of 4 years' experience in research project coordination and management
- Excellent spoken and written English is required; French and/or Spanish are highly desirable
- Sound judgment, strong sense of confidentiality, tactful and sensitive to diverse cultures and constituents
- Superior communication, organizational and interpersonal skills with ability to multitask are essential
- Ability to work independently and in collaboration with an international team are essential
- Must be available to regularly work outside normal working hours
- Must be available to extensively travel.

Salary scale

Based on qualification and experience (permanent position).

Application procedure

Applicants to this position are requested to submit a *curriculum vitae*, together with a cover letter describing their interest in the position, and how their skills and experience would help them meet the requirements of the role. Please also include the name and contact details of two referees. Applications - **in English and in one combined PDF file** - should be sent via email with "**Science Officer-Synthesis & Foresight-Montreal hub**" in the subject line to **montrealhub@futureearth.org**. Further information on Future Earth and this position: Dr Anne-Hélène Prieur-Richard, Global Hub Director-Montreal (email: montrealhub@futureearth.org; Phone: +1-514-848-2275; website: www.futureearth.org).