



The South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON) is recruiting a scientist of international standing specialising in aspects of Earth systems science who will provide leadership in the field of environmental observation.

SAEON is funded by the Department of Science and Technology, and managed by the National Research Foundation. SAEON is mandated to create knowledge of environmental change through systematic long-term observations performed by six geographically distributed nodes (www.saeon.ac.za).

Chief Research Scientist

Reporting to the SAEON Managing Director, the Chief Research Scientist will be responsible for leading and implementing SAEON's Core Science Framework, ensuring state-of-the-art observation addressing relevant South African and global priorities, enhancing research outputs and communicating knowledge generated in relevant national and international fora.

Requirements:

- PhD
- An excellent record of scientific publications which in part reflect aspects of earth systems science
- Track record of research collaboration, integration and synthesis across environmental research disciplines
- Understanding of the National System of Innovation in South Africa
- Research leadership and management experience
- Driver's license and willingness to travel

Responsibilities:

- Continuously re-align SAEON's integrated long-term observation strategy to major science developments and administrative demands in consultation with the SAEON Node Managers and the research community
- In consultation with the SAEON Managing Director, manage SAEON Node Managers and Science Specialists, approve science plans and ensure alignment of business plans thereto
- Ensure delivery of science products of international standing
- Contribute to environmental and science policy and decision making at local and global level
- Develop research proposals for funding
- Support for information management, education-outreach and communication programmes
- Monitor, evaluate and report relevant research trends and progress
- Together with SAEON Node Managers, promote capacity development of SAEON staff and students
- Promote the reputation, objectives and values of the NRF-SAEON

Applications should include detailed *Curriculum vitae*, covering letter and contact details of at least three referees. Completed application forms **must** accompany your application. Forms can be downloaded from the SAEON webpage www.saeon.ac.za

Applications should be forwarded to leazill@saeon.ac.za or alternatively posted to SAEON, P.O. Box 2600, Pretoria, 0001, Attention: Human Resources.

Closing date for receiving applications: 10 June 2013

SAEON is committed to employment equity and redress. *SAEON reserves the right not to make an appointment to the position as advertised.*