

The South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON) is looking for pro-active and experienced environmental scientists with a passion for systems ecology to drive its science development. SAEON is funded by the Department of Science and Technology, and managed by the National Research Foundation.

SAEON creates reliable information about and understanding of environmental change through sourcing long-term data from historical, existing and new observation programmes. This is done through six geographically distributed nodes and supervised by the SAEON National Office in Pretoria.

Node Coordinators - 1 position based in Kimberley (Arid Lands) and 1 position based in Pietermaritzburg (Grasslands-Forests-Wetlands)

Responsibilities:

- Implement and coordinate a set of observing facilities to deliver long-term environmental data
- Coordinate a data management system
- Provide support to collaborating partners and research students
- Coordinate local environmental science education outreach programmes
- Oversee support staff, node finances, equipment and related facilities
- Deliver periodic business plans, reports and science products
- Actively contribute to SAEON's communication programme
- Promote SAEON's objectives.

Requirements:

- Relevant Masters degree in Science. PhD will be advantageous
- 7 years' experience in ecological fieldwork, research and data management
- 2 years' experience in research management that also includes the financial and human resources fields
- Prior experience in the respective bio-geographic regions
- A record of written outputs and other scientific contributions
- A vision for eco-systems monitoring and research
- Willingness to travel and perform fieldwork
- Self-starter and persistence
- People skills
- Demonstrable ability to network
- Valid driver's licence.

Closing date: 16 July 2010

Applications should include a comprehensive curriculum vitae as well as a letter clearly motivating the individual's suitability for this position.

Applications can be sent to leazill@saeon.ac.za or alternatively posted to SAEON, PO Box 2600, Pretoria, 0001, Attention Human Resources.

If no response has been received from SAEON within 21 days of the closing date candidates may assume that their applications were unsuccessful.

SAEON is committed to employment equity and redress

SAEON reserves the right not to make an appointment to the advertised position.