Research Associate – F-gas Data Analysis & Projects Support

About us

Founded in 1908, the International Institute of Refrigeration (IIR) is an independent intergovernmental organisation committed to advancing refrigeration science and technology for a sustainable future through the development of science-based energy-efficient, low-impact refrigeration solutions. By fostering global collaboration and building knowledge on all aspects of refrigeration and heat pump technologies, the IIR plays a crucial role in tackling pressing issues such as food security, healthcare, and climate change. Through its extensive international network, expert commissions, and scientific initiatives, the IIR bridges the gap between knowledge and action, highlighting refrigeration's role as critical infrastructure for all life forms on our planet.

Job description

Job Summary

We are seeking a Research Associate to lead and support IIR's technical contributions in the F-MAP (F-gas Mitigation Assessment and Pathways) project. IIR is the lead partner for a Work Package on data collection on F-gas use, emissions, and case studies and coordinates policy dialogue and recommendation activities within the F-MAP consortium — a multiple partner Horizon Europe project developing an open-source modelling tool to assess mitigation pathways for Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) and F-gases across the refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pump (RACHP) sector.

The Research Associate will lead and support IIR's technical contributions in F-gas data collection, emissions analysis, and evidence-based policy engagement. This role sits at the intersection of environmental data science and international climate policy.

The Research Associate will be affiliated to the EU and International Programmes Department. In addition, close collaboration with F-MAP technical partners and stakeholders are required.

In addition to the F-MAP project, the Research Associate will also contribute to other projects beyond F-MAP.

Key Responsibilities:

Data Collection & Emissions Analysis

- Conduct an in-depth critical review of existing F-gas mitigation models and tools, assessing their data structures, sources, strengths and limitations, to inform F-MAP tool design.
- Review global and regional emissions databases, refrigerant inventories, and energy-use datasets; identify the most appropriate methodology per sector and region for building stock models.

- Identify data gaps and develop strategies to address them (e.g., proxies, modelled parameters, targeted stakeholder outreach).
- Map data collection mechanisms used by other international bodies (e.g., FAO, WHO, WOAH) to inform sustainable, long-term data reporting mechanisms beyond the project's lifetime.
- Systematically collect, structure, and harmonise data on F-gas consumption, emissions, and associated by-products (e.g., TFA), with particular focus on both EU and Article 5 (A5) countries.
- Estimate the contribution of illegal trade in high-GWP refrigerants to national markets and emissions.
- Contribute to data collection on SF6 use and emissions in electric switchgear.
- Coordinate and consolidate case-study-specific data collection (energy consumption patterns, RACHP system inventories, policy/regulatory frameworks, socio-economic parameters) in cooperation with regional partners.
- Contribute to the development of a methodology to collect and analyse refrigerant stock data.

Contribution to additional Tasks and IIR Projects

- Involvement in additional activities of the F-MAP project, i.e. in policy dialogues and recommendations to develop training materials, including user manuals, guides, and tutorials, and demonstrations of the tool, such as by the assessment of global best practices in F-gas phase-down and phase-out policies or the organization and facilitation of stakeholder dialogues.
- Contribute to additional IIR projects related to for example energy efficiency, cold storage and leveraging smart solutions for industries with high cooling energy demand.
- Participate in proposal development and technical concept creation.
- Provide technical expertise across IIR initiatives.

General Project Coordination and Reporting

- Contribute to project deliverables and reports.
- Participate in project meetings and consortium coordination.
- Support stakeholder communication from a technical perspective.
- Monitor progress of technical activities.
- Contribute to dissemination and technical publications.
- Contribute to fund raising.

Qualifications

Required:

- Advanced degree (minimum Masters' degree) in environmental science, chemical/mechanical engineering, environmental policy, or a related field.
- Strong technical knowledge of refrigeration and cooling systems.

- Demonstrated experience working with GHG/F-gas emissions data, inventories, or environmental databases.
- Familiarity with the Montreal Protocol, Kigali Amendment, and/or EU F-gas Regulation (EU).
- Strong analytical skills and experience handling large, heterogeneous datasets from multiple international sources.
- Strong management and coordination skills.
- Experience engaging with policymakers, regulators, or intergovernmental bodies.
- Willingness to travel internationally for stakeholder workshops and consortium meetings.
- Excellent professional working proficiency in English (required).
- Excellent communication and presentation skills.
- Ability to translate technical information for non-technical stakeholders.
- Computer literacy and excellent use of MS Office applications.
- Ability to work independently and within an international team.

Desirable:

- Prior involvement in Horizon Europe or other EU-funded research projects.
- Knowledge of refrigerant stock modelling methodologies (top-down/bottom-up approaches).
- Experience with illegal trade/market surveillance analysis in environmental or customs contexts.
- Familiarity with SF6 emissions reporting in the power/grid sector.
- French proficiency preferred.
- Interest in sustainability, climate action and cooling technologies appreciated.

Working location and conditions

- Place of work: Institut International du Froid Head Office - 177 bd Malesherbes - 75017 Paris (metros Wagram, Pereire, Pont Cardinet, Villiers).
- Ideally the candidate will be working from the Paris office with working remotely one day per week. For outstanding candidates additional remote or fully remote positions (within the EU) can be discussed. Occasional international travel is needed for this position.
- The salary will be between 35-40k/annually.

Application process and expected start date

- Deadline of application: 26 July 2026.
- Interviews will be held mainly during the last week of July and occasionally on a rolling basis before the application deadline for outstanding candidates.
- Expected start date: Beginning of September.

How to apply

Send your CV (max 2 pages) and a cover letter (max 1 page) to m.edl@iifiir.org with the subject line: “Application – Research Associate”.