



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM

## **Position Details**

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### **Traineeship (Graduate level)**

**Reference** 2013-144-TRA EXT

### **Function**

The Directorate General Market Operations (DG/M) of the European Central Bank (ECB) is seeking recent graduates or students who are close to completing their studies for its Traineeship Programme 2014.

DG/M prepares the monetary policy and foreign exchange operations of the Eurosystem, executes those that are centralised and coordinates those that are decentralised. It manages the ECB's foreign reserves and own funds, and develops and maintains the framework for all financial market activities. DG/M coordinates the reserve management services that the Eurosystem provides to non-euro area central banks, monetary authorities and public financial institutions, and to international institutions. It monitors and analyses market developments that are relevant for the conduct of market operations. DG/M cooperates closely with other business areas of the ECB, the national central banks (NCBs) of the Member States of the European Union (EU) and non-EU G10 central banks. It maintains regular contacts with financial market participants.

DG/M comprises five divisions and a team of staff responsible for sovereign issues.

The Money Market and Liquidity Division (MML) is responsible for carrying out monetary policy operations, and for forecasting and analysing the Eurosystem's liquidity position vis-à-vis the euro area banking sector. It monitors and analyses short-term developments in domestic and international money markets, also in terms of the impact of the Eurosystem's operations. The Division prepares and monitors the functioning of the operational frameworks for foreign currency liquidity-providing operations, including the relevant ECB guidelines. It also calculates and publishes money market reference rates for the euro. Trainees will be expected to contribute to one or more of the following tasks: the analysis of data underlying the calculation of the Euro Overnight Index Average (EONIA); the conduct of the ECB's "Euro money market survey"; market monitoring and analysis; the analysis of the results of various Eurosystem operations and balance sheet developments; daily liquidity analysis; and the implementation of tools and models used in the context of the aforementioned activities.

The Market Operations Analysis Division (MOA), which comprises the Financial Markets and Collateral Management Section and the Market Operations Framework Section, monitors, analyses and assesses the performance of the Eurosystem's monetary policy implementation framework from an operational point of view and structural developments in the balance sheet of the Eurosystem. It prepares proposals for changes in the framework (including non-standard monetary policy measures) or for steering structural changes in the balance sheet of the Eurosystem. The Division develops and maintains the counterparty framework, coordinates the inputs of the NCBs as regards the set of eligible counterparties and analyses developments in counterparty eligibility. It develops and maintains the collateral framework, coordinates the inputs of NCBs with respect to the set of eligible collateral assets and analyses developments in collateral eligibility and use. The Division analyses structural developments that affect the functioning of the euro area financial markets and develops and maintains, where needed, catalytic actions with regard to financial products.

The Financial Operations Services Division (FOS) settles the foreign exchange and own funds

management operations and the outright monetary policy operations executed by the ECB. It manages contracts and legal documentation with regard to the ECB's counterparties and financial intermediaries for foreign exchange, foreign reserve management and own funds management operations and for outright monetary policy operations, and coordinates the monitoring, from a market operations perspective, of regulatory developments. It coordinates Eurosystem back office activities for operations involving the ECB's foreign reserve assets and ERM II operations. The Division also coordinates the reserve management services offered by the Eurosystem to non-euro area central banks, to other non-euro area monetary authorities and to international institutions, and provides correspondent banking services to EU institutions.

The Market Operations Systems Division (MOS) develops the Eurosystem's portfolio management applications for the management of foreign reserves and own funds, and for the implementation of non standard monetary policy measures. It represents the key point of contact for all those involved in issues related to the functionality of these core systems in both the ECB and the European System of Central Banks (ESCB). It supports end-users of the applications through a first-tier help desk, training and data maintenance. The Division coordinates and supports the maintenance and development of applications for all market operations, and coordinates and contributes to the introduction of new market operations processes or instruments. It also offers project management support to the other DG/M Divisions and interacts with the experts from the financial reporting team of the ECB's Directorate General Administration, from the ECB's Directorate General Information Systems and from the ECB's Directorate Risk Management.

The Bond Markets and International Operations Division (BMI) monitors, analyses and reports on developments in financial markets, especially bond and foreign exchange markets. It is also responsible for portfolio management, involving (i) the ECB's own funds and (ii) the tactical benchmark of the ECB's foreign reserves. Finally, the Division prepares and implements the ECB's (i) asset purchase programmes, i.e. the covered bond purchase programmes (CBPPs), the Securities Market Programme (SMP) and the programme of Outright Monetary Transactions (OMTs), and (ii) foreign exchange interventions.

The team of staff responsible for sovereign issues, in cooperation with other teams of DG/M, is in charge of monitoring and analysing financial sector developments in euro area countries with sovereign/bank debt issues, with a view to contributing to the work of ECB missions in programme countries, to addressing issues connected with Eurosystem market operations and to ensuring that the aforementioned country-specific issues do not impede the ability of the Eurosystem to implement a single monetary policy in the euro area.

This includes the following tasks:

- monitoring and analysing systemic issues in the financial markets and banking systems of these countries;
- assessing bank funding issues, including those related to the management of impaired assets and resolution structures;
- monitoring and analysing financial market depth and liquidity; and
- proposing general orientations drawn from the country work on issues such as the use of dedicated solutions for the funding of asset management and resolution structures.

The successful applicants will be entrusted with the following main tasks:

Money Market and Liquidity Division:

- assisting in the compilation, checking and production of the Euro Money Market Study;

- designing and updating reports on various market segments;
- writing regular summaries of market developments based on third-party feedback;
- supporting market experts in analysing financial market developments;
- supporting market experts in analysing developments in monetary policy operations and Eurosystem balance sheets; and
- developing reporting and monitoring tools.

#### Market Operations Analysis Division:

- assisting in the monitoring and analysis of the performance of the Eurosystem's monetary policy implementation framework and the Eurosystem's balance sheet;
- assisting in the monitoring and analysis of developments in counterparty eligibility; and
- assisting in the monitoring and analysis of the collateral positions of the banking system vis-à-vis the Eurosystem, including the maintenance of existing reports and the improvement of their performance and efficiency by the means of innovation that adheres to the highest IT standards.

#### Market Operations Systems Division:

- contributing to project-related tasks, i.e. supporting stakeholder communication, participating in software tests, introducing new business processes and taking ownership of specific tasks; and
- providing support to the help desk of the portfolio management system addressing end-users in the ECB and NCB front, back and middle offices, as well as the accounting functions with respect to system configuration, feasibility analysis and investigations of specific issues.

#### Bond Markets & International Operations Division:

- contributing to the regular production of various reports related to financial market developments (government and corporate bonds, foreign exchange markets, etc.) and to the ECB portfolios managed in the Division;
- maintaining existing reporting procedures and improving their performance and efficiency by means of innovation that adheres to the highest IT standards;
- contributing to the design of new regular reports to proactively seek better ways of interpreting

current financial market developments, e.g. by means of visual presentations;

- assisting in the production of ad hoc reports, analysis and presentations at the request of senior colleagues and management;
- presenting report findings to the Division and to DG/M's senior management; and
- writing summaries of internal and external meetings so as to share information within the Division.

Team of staff responsible for sovereign issues

- contributing to the preparation of regular reports and communications on specific developments in countries with sovereign debt issues;
- maintaining databases and becoming involved in small-scale IT developments related to countries' and banks' statistical information; and
- supporting experts of the team in the monitoring of, and analytical work related to, countries with sovereign debt issues.

### **Qualifications and experience**

The successful candidate must have the following knowledge and competencies:

- a bachelor's or master's degree or its equivalent (completed or close to finalisation) in economics, econometrics, statistics, mathematics, finance or other relevant discipline;
- an awareness of financial market structures, financial market developments and/or market operations and/or familiarity with statistical or mathematical software would be an advantage;
- a keen interest in participating in project activities in the field of business implementation, maintenance and development of IT applications for market operations;
- a sound knowledge of the standard Microsoft applications (Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint); some knowledge of one of these applications (Oracle SQL, VBA for MS Excel, Matlab, Bloomberg and Reuters, would be an advantage for some positions; and
- an advanced-level command of English and a good knowledge of at least one other official language of the EU.

### **Competencies**

The successful candidate will have the following behavioural competencies:

- communicates ideas effectively and works well in a team;
- is able to carry out assigned tasks without close supervision;
- is analytical, thinks conceptually and processes information effectively;
- is flexible and motivated;
- pays attention to detail and takes pride in producing high-quality work; and
- handles sensitive information in a discreet manner, respecting confidentiality.

**Closing Date for Applications:** 04.09.2013

#### **Further Information**

Traineeship of 6 months, extendable to 12 months subject to individual performance and organisational needs.

#### **How to apply**

Applications are to be made in English and submitted using our online application form. An "Applicants' Guide" can be downloaded from our recruitment pages.

The recruitment process may include a pre-screening exercise and a telephone interview.

Before applying, applicants should check that they meet the conditions set out in Article 3 of the rules governing the traineeship programme:

[http:// www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobs/pdf/traineeship\\_programme.pdf](http://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobs/pdf/traineeship_programme.pdf).

Further information on the ECB's traineeships can be found at <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/jobs/apply/html/index.en.html>.

Applicants are accepted from nationals of the Member States of the European Union.