The Swiss Polar Institute (SPI) is searching for a Scientific Director. The institute offers targeted support to scientists based in Switzerland who work in polar regions and remote high-altitude environments. This support notably takes the shape of tailored funding to access remote infrastructure and perform fieldwork or the organisation of scientific expeditions. Additionally, the SPI offers courses, organises events and generally promotes outreach related to these environments.

Scientific Director (m/f)

max. 20% (annualised) for a period of 4 years, renewable once

→ The SPI Scientific Director works in close collaboration with the SPI Executive Director. They share the responsibility of leading the SPI and jointly report to the SPI Board of Directors. In collaboration with the Executive Director and the SPI’s Science and Technology Advisory Board (STAB), the main tasks of the Scientific Director are the following:

• initiation of scientific programmes and initiatives
• supervision of the implementation of scientific programmes and initiatives as well as of the evaluation of such programmes
• contribution to the nomination of expert committee and panel members
• initiation of partnerships and links with national and international players in polar and high-altitude research
• representation of the foundation with regard to scientific outreach and science policy activities

→ The successful applicant should be a leading scientist in polar/high-altitude research with strong research credentials anchored in the Swiss research community. You are able to develop a vision for the SPI’s scientific activities and help generate new initiatives and collaborations on national and international level.

You have a collaborative mindset, are able to create synergies and positive dynamics amongst the Swiss polar and high-altitude research community and to liaise constructively with policy and decision makers in Switzerland.

A fair and appropriate compensation is provided – including a “GA Travelcard” (first class). Travel and expenses incurred with respect to this position will be reimbursed in line with SPI guidelines.

You can rely on a strong international network in order to help consolidate the SPI’s activities.

→ For further information about the position, please contact Danièle Rod, SPI Executive Director by phone +41 21 693 7629 or by email: danièle.rod@epfl.ch (no applications) and visit our website www.swisspolar.ch.

→ Applications with a short motivation letter and curriculum vitae should be sent by 8 March, 2021 online via www.jobs.ethz.ch to: ETH Zurich, Vice President for Research Prof. Dr. Detlef Günther, Rämistrasse 101, 8092 Zurich.