

Position : Postdoctoral Researcher

For research coordination on nutrient recovery (focus P) AND community coordination of a PhD network on nutrient recycling (all nutrients)

Introduction

Ghent University (Belgium) is internationally one of the leading institutes in resource recovery and renewable resources. It is home to the BioRefine Cluster Europe (www.biorefine.eu), a network of international research and development projects with dedicated focus of guiding innovation towards applied market implementation.

IRTA (Spain) is a research institute owned by the Government of Catalonia adscribed to the Department of Agriculture. IRTA's mission is to contribute to modernising, improving, boosting competitiveness, and fostering sustainable development in the sectors of agriculture, food, agroforestry, aquaculture, and fishing, as well as in all areas of activity directly or indirectly related to the supply of healthy, high-quality foodstuffs to end consumers, while also contributing to food safety and safe processing of foodstuffs and in general enhancing the health and well-being of the population.

UGhent is coordinator of the H2020 project NUTRI2CYCLE, IRTA is coordinator of the H2020 project CIRCULAR AGRONOMICS. In addition, both institutes are involved in numerous other European and national projects and international collaborations dealing with nutrient recovery.

Job content

Building on the international collaborations in frame of EU projects, the Biorefine Cluster Europe is setting up and deploying a Community on Nutrient Recycling (<https://www.biorefine.eu/nutrient-recycling-community>). For this, we wish to set up a network of PhD researchers across projects in Europe.

The postdoctoral researcher will become part of the Biorefine Cluster Europe management structure, coordinating an international PhD network and related events / activities for this network. The postdoctoral coordinator will (i) coordinate PhD network oriented activities (e.g. summer schools; links to international conferences, social media interactivity,...) and (ii) will expand on research collaborations in this field between IRTA, Ghent Uni and other European institutes.

The postdoc will deploy a dedicated research line on Phosphorus recovery techniques and assessment of novel fertilising products based on recovered P.

Your profile

- You are interested in and motivated by the research topic,
- Over the last 3 years, you have been working outside Belgium for at least 12 months
- You have mastered the English language, both in writing skills and oral presentations
- You enjoy a good academic output and wish to further increase your output
- You have the required communicative skills to interact independently with scientific community and stakeholders to research (business, policy community and agriculture)
- You have a keen interest in setting up further research collaborations in the field of Phosphorus, a.o. via EU project applications
- You have a relevant degree – PhD level in applied biological sciences (agriculture, environmental technology,...)

We offer

- Full-time employment for a period of 4 years, of which the first 2 years at Ghent Uni followed by 1 year at IRTA (with an optional extension by +1 year again at Ghent University OR another partner institute (to be discussed))
- Starting date depending on applicants running contract, but proposed to start as of 1/1/2019 or at earliest convenience thereafter
- Being embedded in a team of young dynamic experts from academia and industry
- Involvement in a European projects with research partners across the EU
- The possibility to develop a broad network

How to apply

Send the following documents to: victor.riau@irta.cat and erik.meers@ugent.be before November 23, 17h (Central European Time) (put „NUTRIENT NETWORK-POSTDOC“ in the email title). Selected candidates will be invited for an interview in the first two weeks of December.

(A) Professional résumé (CV), including a list of publications

(B) Motivation letter,

(C) Confirmation of 1 year of residence and professional activity outside of Belgium within the last 3 years

(D) Documentation regarding your PhD and relevant activities thereafter

(E) Vision statement (1 pager) on how you would address the challenges of coordinating an international research community and deploy a research line on Phosphorus recovery