

CALL FOR JOINT PHD – GRASS BIOREFINERIES

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.

Ghent University is the Lead Partner in the Interreg 2 Seas project GRASSIFICATION, in which a wealth of data is being generated regarding the valorization of roadside grass clippings. The project focuses on assessing technical pathways to retrieve biobased resources such as fibres, minerals and organics for the production of biobased fertilisers and biocomposite materials. The research also examines potential combination of biomass refining with bio-energy production focusing on inclusion of biogas along the value-chain. This research is conducted in collaboration with industrial and academic partners in the UK, the Netherlands and Flanders.

In order to explore the full potential of the generated data in GRASSIFICATION, Ghent University would like to propose a collaboration with either running or starting PhD with interest to develop a Joint PhD with Ghent University and help develop further the Grass Biorefinery technology. Ghent University would host incoming students (salary included) from 6 up to 24 months in frame of a joint PhD in collaboration with their respective home institutes. Within the GRASSIFICATION project, the students would be in touch with applied research at lab, pilot and full scale.

Researcher profile:

- You are involved in a running or starting PhD research that is relevant/related to the GRASSIFICATION project;
- You and your academic supervisor have an interest to develop your doctoral research into a dual degree (Joint PhD) research together with Ghent University;
- You have mastered the English language, both in writing skills and oral presentations;
- You have the required communicative skills to interact independently with scientific community, business community and farming community;
- You have a relevant degree – Master level in applied biological sciences (agriculture, environmental technology,...)

How to apply:

Send (A) CV and (B) motivation letter to marcella.fernandesdesouza@ugent.be and erik.meers@ugent.be before April 10, 17h (Central European Time) (put “GRASSIFICATION-JOINT PHD” in the email title). Selected candidates will be invited for an online interview in the second half of April.