

## Postdoc position

**Postdoctoral researcher on Bioresource recovery and Community coordinator of an international network on Biobased resources-** Department of Green Chemistry and Technology, Ghent University, Belgium

**Last application date** Jan 28, 2022 17:00

**Department** LA24 - Department of Green Chemistry and Technology

**Contract** Limited duration

**Degree** a relevant PhD degree in biobased sciences or bio-engineering

**Occupancy rate** 100%

## **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 (BCE) ([www.biorefine.eu](http://www.biorefine.eu)), a network of international research and development projects with a dedicated focus on guiding innovation towards applied market implementation, as well as the headquarter of the International Thematic Network RE-Source.bio ([www.re-source.bio](http://www.re-source.bio)). The focus of the ITN-RE-Source.bio lies in bioresource recovery from by-products and waste streams in the agro-food value chain. Both the cluster and network addresses 6 topics in the domain of resource recovery, particularly with a very active community in the topics related to nutrient recycling. In the heart of that RE-Source.bio is the international community on joint PhD researchers across EU, most of them link to European projects.

Our research group at UGent consists of 40 enthusiastic researchers led by Prof. Erik Meers. We are currently actively involved in 15 running European projects, several of which deal with nutrient recovery. For a fluent organisation of the management and execution of the research, the team relies on a management structure consisting of postdocs (research line managers) and other supporting functions. To support the growing activities we enjoy in the frame of circular economy research, we are looking to expand our R&D management structure.

## **Job description**

We are looking for a dynamic postdoctoral researcher with **management skills** to support our growing team and management group on Bioresource Recovery. The new postdoc will be responsible for **coordinating the ITN Re-source.bio and developing his/her own research line within the topic of bioresource recovery**. The job includes the following tasks: (i) supervising (joint) PhD students developing their thesis; (ii) writing national/European projects; (iii) coordinating, as project manager, research projects linked to the nutrient research line. Thus, hands-on experience in EU projects – ideally including managerial tasks in such projects – is appreciated.

Specifically connected to coordination of the international community, the new postdoc activities will include tasks such: (i) Organization of summer schools and specific sessions at international conferences, (ii) Organization & participation in scientific events, workshops and science communication, (iii) Coordinating and facilitating PhD recruitment into the joint PhD network, (iv) Coordinating and reviewing joint PhD agreements and providing orientation for new PhD students, (v) Managing communications between the community associates, both new and future members, to make strategic choices for partners selection, (vi) Timely and accurate submission of required reports from the network activities, (vii) Serving as a conduit of information between the Joint PhD students and the members of the community, (viii) Timely conveying network news, information, events, and opportunities for the PhD students, (ix) Strengthen the EU-Asian collaborations through funding acquisition, visiting researchers etc., and (x) Collaborate with the Biorefine Cluster Europe management structure to coordinate the international related events on nutrients both in the BCE and the RE-Source.bio network.

## Job profile

- Over the last 3 years, you have been living outside of Belgium for at least 2 years
- You are interested in and motivated by Bioresource Recovery in the broad sense and biobased value chains related to residues & wastes from agro & food wastes.
- You have mastered the English language, both in writing skills and oral presentations
- You are a team-player with good networking skills and a passion for international networking in general
- You have the required communicative skills to interact independently with scientific community, the business community and the farming community
- You have a relevant doctoral degree in the domain of bio-based sciences or bio-engineering
- You have a keen interest in setting up further collaborations via EU-funding applications
- You have experience coordinating and managing community activities such as summer school, conferences, workshops.

## We offer

- An attractive salary as a postdoctoral manager
- Full-time employment for a period of 2 years, potentially extendable, starting as soon as possible from March 2022
- Possibility to further develop your academic output in alignment with the projects you manage & support
- Embedding in a research group of young, dynamic applied experts, consisting out of >30 motivated people
- Integration in a strong, sociable management team of young, highly skilled professionals
- Involvement in European projects with research partners throughout Europe
- An innovative hot-topic research scope with straightforward, practical applications
- The possibility to develop a broad network
- Stimulation to self-improvement by encouraging participation in courses, workshops and conferences
- After your Postdoctoral position in our group, you will have gained experience in EU project management, including interaction with EU officials and EU associations, considering our proximity to the capital of Europe
- Continued collaboration after your position at UGent: we maintain strong ties with all researchers coming and leaving our group, creating networking and collaboration opportunities for your further career

## How to apply

Send the following documents before **Friday, January 28, 17h** (Central European Time) to [sylvie.dewerte@ugent.be](mailto:sylvie.dewerte@ugent.be) and [ana.roblesaguilar@ugent.be](mailto:ana.roblesaguilar@ugent.be) (put "POSTDOC - RESOURCE" in the e-mail subject).

- (A) Professional résumé (CV), including a list of publications
- (B) Motivation letter, highlighting (European) project management experience and community coordination activities
- (C) Confirmation of 2 years of residence and professional activity outside of Belgium within the last 3 years
- (D) Documentation regarding your PhD and relevant activities thereafter

Selected candidates will be invited for an interview in the course of February with foreseen to start at the earliest convenience from March 1st (based on candidate availability)