

Position Description

1. General information

Position reference	RMIT/AZ-PF1: Nature-Based Wastewater Treatment Systems
Research area	Nature-based systems to reduce the presence of relevant chemical and biological contaminants from wastewater treatment plant effluents
Research fields	Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology
Supervisors	• Albert Anducas Riba (AstraZeneca) • Victor Matamoros Mercadal (IDAEA-CSIC) • Vincent Pettigrove (RMIT)
Available research capabilities	Access to Rubí WWTP's NBS system, analytical chemistry laboratory (UPLC-HRMS, GC-HRMS), molecular biology and toxicological laboratory (qPCR and daphnia/fish test)
Find out more about the research groups	• https://www.idaea.csic.es/research-group/exposomics-pollution-and-agriculture • https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/schools-colleges/science/research/research-centres-groups/aquatic-environmental-stress
Position funded by	• COFUND, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), Horizon Europe, European Union • RMIT • AstraZeneca Spain • Institute of Environmental Assessment and Water Research, Spanish National Research Council (IDAEA-CSIC)
Employing entity	RMIT Europe
Sponsoring entity	AstraZeneca
Seconding entity	RMIT University
Collaborating entity	IDAEA-CSIC
Foreseen start date	June 2026
Gross annual salary	37,125 EUR plus complements defined below

2. Expected Candidate Profile

The expected candidate profile for the position is as follows:

- Strong background in Environmental chemistry and toxicology (5 years or more).
- Minimum of 6 publications.
- Minimum of 3 publications as first author in relevant journals in the field.
- Proven ability to work within a team.

- Experience mentoring students, excellent presentation skills, independent thinking.

3. Employment Conditions

RMIT Europe offers a 36-month (3-year) postdoctoral full employment contract in Barcelona, Spain as part of the AuSpire researcher training program, co-funded by the European Commission under the MSCA COFUND scheme. The total working hours per week are 37 and there is a probation period of 5 months.

The Postdoctoral Fellow will be based primarily at the IDAEA-CSIC facilities to conduct their research using its laboratories, while regular visits to RMIT Europe and AstraZeneca's premises are also foreseen. In addition, the position provides access to the Rubí WWTP (located 10 km from Barcelona), where a nature-based system (NBS) is available, allowing to run tests.

The remuneration, in line with the European Commission rules for Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant holders, will consist of a gross annual salary of 37,125 EUR. The definite amount to be received by the Postdoctoral Fellow is subject to Spanish tax legislation.

The position will be jointly supervised by RMIT, AstraZeneca, and IDAEA-CSIC. The Postdoctoral Fellow must undertake a secondment at RMIT premises in Melbourne, Australia, for up to 12 months.

Additionally, the program includes compulsory annual in-person workshops at various locations across Spain, along with online training and networking activities.

Benefits include

- 4,000 EUR relocation for employment stipend to cover costs associated with taking up employment (flights, visa, insurance, etc.), to be distributed monthly as a top-up to the gross salary.¹
- 9,000 EUR relocation for secondment stipend to cover compulsory project-related travel and accommodation costs (flights, visa, insurance, accommodation, etc.).¹
- 3,000 EUR travel stipend to cover flights and accommodation for participating in compulsory AuSpire training and networking events in Spain over the 3 years.¹
- 314 EUR monthly family allowance offered to candidates who meet the criteria.^{1 2}

¹ The definitive amount to be received by the Postdoctoral Fellow may be subject to Spanish tax legislation.

² According to MSCA-COFUND requirements, Fellows with family obligations are entitled to a family allowance (i.e. persons linked to Postdoctoral Fellow by (i) marriage, or (ii) a relationship with equivalent status to a marriage recognised by the legislation of the country or region where this relationship was formalised; or (iii) dependent children who are actually being maintained by the Postdoctoral Fellow).

- Becoming a Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellow and be invited to join the [Marie Curie Alumni Association](#).
- 22 days of paid holiday leave.
- 4 personal leave days.
- Christmas closure (between Christmas and New Year) – 4 working days of leave (not discounted from holidays).
- Spanish Social Security coverage.
- Sick leave.
- Parental leave.
- Hybrid work scheme.
- Two weeks per year remote work from anywhere.
- Flexible salary benefits (meals, transport, healthcare, kindergarten).
- Free coffee and fruit.
- Access to research and training facilities (analytical chemistry and ecotoxicology laboratories).