



2019-IPR-F-000-013372

Feasibility of a microplastics repository

<p>Position for:</p> <p>Trainee</p>	<p>As the science and knowledge service of the Commission, the mission of DG Joint Research Centre is to support EU policies with independent evidence throughout the whole policy cycle.</p> <p>The JRC is located in 5 Member States (Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain). Further information is available at: http://www.jrc.ec.europa.eu</p> <p>Short description of activity:</p> <p>The Consumer Products Safety Unit (F.2), part of Health, Consumers and Reference Materials Directorate-F at the JRC in Ispra (Italy), is looking for a trainee working in the unit's microplastics area of activities.</p> <p>The European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy requires a better understanding of the fate and effects of microplastics on the environment and in man. However, the lack of harmonised methods and representative test materials (let alone reference materials) hinders the comparability of data produced. In this context, the JRC intends to establish a repository of microplastic material for use by the scientific community.</p> <p>The successful candidate will work on a project to investigate the feasibility of a microplastic materials repository, which includes the identification of relevant materials properties, current approaches for test material sourcing and stakeholder needs. In addition, the project will encompass to conceptualise the repository and it may include some practical work linked to the investigation of suitable processing (e.g. size reduction) of obtained (raw) material.</p> <p>The trainee will be introduced to the topic of microplastics, including associated data gaps and measurement challenges. He/she will gain practical experience in scientific working methods, such as literature search, structured planning, analysis of use cases, survey design & evaluation. He/she will learn (or deepen knowledge, as appropriate) about documentation needs, essential requirements for materials sourcing and storage, quality assurance aspects and strategies for conceptualising such a project. The trainee will have the opportunity to write a report and present his/her results to a JRC-internal audience.</p>
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	<p><u>Qualifications:</u></p> <p><u>Essential</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University degree or near completion in chemistry, physics, material sciences, or a related discipline. • Basic knowledge in polymer chemistry. • Basic knowledge about properties, processing, treatment, applications and/or testing of plastic materials. • Good knowledge of spoken and written English (level B2). • Good knowledge of Excel and other IT Office tools. <p><u>Advantages</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work experience in polymer chemistry and/or applications would be a useful qualification. • Experience in the microplastics area and/or with reference or representative test materials would be an asset. • Experience in the evaluation of scientific literature, designing surveys and/or drafting of work instructions would be an advantage. • Ability to work independently would be beneficial. <p><u>For general eligibility requirements, please read the rules governing the traineeship scheme of the JRC:</u></p> <p>https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/working-with-us/jobs/temporary-positions/jrc-trainees</p>
Unit/Directorate	<p>Directorate F - Health, Consumers and Reference Materials</p> <p>Unit F.2 – Consumer Products and Safety</p>
Indicative duration	5 months
Preferred starting date	As soon as possible
JRC Site	Ispra
Country	Italy
<u>JRC contact details</u>	<p>For any technical problems with your application, please contact: HR-AMC8-RECRUITMENT-TOOLS-SUPPORT@ec.europa.eu</p>