

PhD post in Environmental Engineering at Imperial College London

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Supervisor: Professor Evina Katsou

About the Post

Applications are invited for a PhD scholarship in the area of environmental engineering at Imperial College London. The research focuses on the circularity assessment of biobased products and their value chains. The research aims to address the complexities in dynamic circularity assessment and the challenges of track and traceability across these value chains. Biobased products, considered a cornerstone for a resource-efficient circular economy, encompass a multifaceted network of processes and stakeholders, bringing socio-economic growth, environmental advantages, and technological innovations. However, the intricacies of their value chains, defining criteria for "end of waste," and assessing the cascading use of biotic resources present significant challenges. The selected candidate will explore these areas, contributing to the broader discourse on sustainable circularity in biobased systems. The student will benefit from world-class facilities, a world-leading and friendly research environment and industrial support.

Requirements

1. Educational Background:

- A First-Class Degree (or International equivalent) in environmental engineering or closely-related disciplines
- A Master's level degree qualification, preferably with a focus on sustainability, life cycle assessment, or bio-based products.

2. Research Experience:

- Prior experience or coursework related to life cycle assessment (LCA), sustainability assessment, or circular economy concepts.
- Familiarity with methodologies and tools for circularity assessment, track and traceability, and value chain analysis.

3. Technical Skills:

- Proficiency in data analysis tools and software relevant to circularity assessment.
- Knowledge of systems modelling or similar computational tools can be an advantage.

4. Soft Skills:

- Strong analytical and critical thinking abilities.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team.
- Organizational skills and the capacity to manage multiple tasks concurrently.

5. Language Proficiency:

- English language requirements (e.g., IELTS 6.5 overall, minimum 6.0 in all components) or equivalent.

6. Desirable Qualifications:

- Publications or conference presentations on related topics.
- Experience with stakeholder engagement or fieldwork related to bio-based products and their value chains.
- Familiarity with track and traceability systems or technologies.

7. Personal Attributes:

- A strong passion for sustainable development and circular economy concepts.

- Flexibility to adapt to evolving research needs.
- A proactive attitude and eagerness to engage in collaborative research.

About the Funding

The studentship will provide funding for up to 3.5 years, including home tuition fees (3 years) and a tax-free stipend at the standard UKRI London rate, £20,062 for the 2023/24 academic year, for 3.5 years. Full funding is available to Home students. The funding can also be used to partly support an international student.

Other scholarships can be found on the university website:

www.imperial.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding/scholarships-search/

How to Apply

Applicants wishing to be considered for these opportunities should send the information listed below to Professor Evina Katsou via e.katsou@imperial.ac.uk

- Cover letter, explaining their motivation and suitability by addressing the requirements.
- CV, including UG and MSc transcripts with average grades, class ranking and research experience (if any).
- English testing results, i.e. IELTS or TOFEL (if any).
- Contact details of two referees (including name, affiliation, phone number and email address).

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled. Application via the Imperial College Registry is not necessary at this stage.