



Postdoctoral Researcher

Primary raw materials management in life cycle sustainability assessment

Job description

The SUPRIM project (Sustainable management of PRIMARY raw materials through a better approach in Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment) is a project coordinated by Ghent University in collaboration with Leiden University, Lulea University and industrial partners from the mining industry. It aims at improving current methods for the environmental impact assessment of primary raw material extractions in a life cycle (sustainability) assessment context. Therefore, a Life Cycle Impact Assessment (LCIA) method and related Life Cycle Inventory (LCI) datasets are to be developed that better represent a common understanding of mining operations and resource depletion aspects and better serve both industrial end-users as well as policy makers.

The tasks include: defining the state-of-the-art, methodology development, data gathering and development of a business model. The hired post-doc will be key researcher in the project, interact regularly with the project partners, organize project meetings and workshops and report towards EIT Raw Materials. The work will be mainly performed at Ghent University (BE), under supervision of prof. dr. ir. Jo Dewulf (<http://www.ugent.be/bw/doct/en/research-groups/envoc>), but partly also at Leiden University (NL), under supervision of dr. ir. Jeroen Guinée.

The SUPRIM project is funded by EIT Raw Materials (www.eitrawmaterials.eu), the biggest European innovation program ever on raw materials, consisting of > 100 partners, comprising universities, research institutes and world leading companies. The project consortium consists of leading universities in sustainability assessment (Ghent University, Leiden University) combined with top class universities (Lulea University(SE)), research centres (Tecnalia (ES)), international sector organisations (Euromines) and companies (Boliden (SE), Cobre las Cruces (ES)) in primary mining.

Job offer

A 2.5 year full-time position is offered at Ghent University, with a 6 months secondment/posting at Leiden University. A competitive salary will be offered according to the salary scales of the institution. The project offers access to a unique network of research institutes, industry and policy makers, within the project and within EIT Raw Materials.

Profile of the candidate

- You hold a PhD in environmental engineering or sciences, mining, materials sciences, geology or a related discipline
- You are familiar with life cycle assessment and sustainability assessment methods
- Affinity with raw materials, metals, minerals or the mining sector are of added value
- You are fluent in English
- You have a critical and analytical mindset
- You have clear project management and organizational skills
- You are good communicator and like interaction with researchers, policy makers and industry

How to apply?

Send your CV and motivation letter to prof. dr. ir. Jo Dewulf (+32 9 264 59 49, Jo.Dewulf@UGent.be) before October 6th 2016.