



**MELiSSA PILOT PLANT**  
**at**  
**Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain)**

**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Position: Bioprocess Engineer**

***Aim of the position***

The MELiSSA Pilot Plant is a common and long term effort led by the European Space Agency and Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, focused on the development and demonstration of technology for closed Life Support system. These systems will enable future long term manned missions in Space, such as a mission to Mars. The MELiSSA Pilot Plant is part of the MELiSSA Consortium, in which several Universities and Companies from Europe and Canada are collaborating to develop the necessary technology.

The Pilot plant is the facility where all the technologies are integrated and serves to demonstrate the feasibility of its operation under controlled conditions. The MELiSSA Pilot Plant is becoming progressively an international facility, where all the advances of the MELiSSA Consortium and other related technologies are brought together. It is now recognised as the major laboratory in this field in Europe.

The activities developed in the MELiSSA Pilot Plant include the testing and operation of the different types of bioreactors/compartments as well as the associated instrumentation, and control aspects. This is an important step first to complete the knowledge of each individual compartment (characterisation), and second to achieve the connections between all the compartments (complete integration).

To reach these objectives, a Bioprocess Engineer is required to complete the technical team of the MELiSSA Pilot Plant, with a strong focus on the daily operation of the different Compartments of the facility and associated tasks. The activities of the MELiSSA Pilot Plant are carried out in an international scope, in a multidisciplinary team, and bear many challenges due to the complexity of the final goal. Among these challenges, the long term operation of pilot scale bioreactors in axenic conditions will have to be carefully addressed by the Bioprocess Engineer.

### ***Qualifications and experience required***

- BSc or MSc degree
- Consolidated background in Biotechnology, Bioprocess Engineering
- Experience in Bioprocess Engineering, during a period of 3-5 years in pilot plant installations, and bioreactor operation under sterile conditions. Knowledge on Environmental Technology will be also taken in consideration
- English, advanced level. Good writing skills
- Experience in quality aspects (ISO, GLP, GMP) will be appreciated
- Spanish knowledge, although not requested, will be also considered

***Salary (gross)***

**24.000 Euros/year**

### ***Main duties and specific tasks:***

- To have a global understanding of the MELiSSA Pilot Plant and its different compartments and associated instrumentation
- To acquire the knowledge on the operation of the different elements of the MPP, also including Quality, Safety and Environment aspects
- Participate in the definition and elaboration of the test plans for the characterisation of the compartments.
- Coordination of the tests defined in the previous point, including practical work when required.
- In the execution of the tests, and in general in the operation of the Compartments in the MPP, the Bioprocess Engineer will interact with the technicians of the MPP at two different levels: operation and maintenance. For the operation part, the Bioprocess Engineer will be responsible for the supervision of a number of tasks (i.e., analysis, media preparation, etc.) performed by the Technicians of the MPP. For the maintenance part, the Bioprocess Engineer will coordinate with the Instrumentation and Maintenance Technician of the MPP.
- Compilation of all results obtained in the tests
- Elaboration of the corresponding test reports
- Elaboration of other technical documents: quality, operation protocols, technical notes, etc. in English
- Participation in coordination meetings

### ***IMPORTANT NOTICE***

- Present your CV and motivation letter directly to Prof. Francesc Gòdia, at: [francesc.godia@uab.cat](mailto:francesc.godia@uab.cat), **no later than 10<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at 17.00 CET**
- Selected candidates should be available for a personal interview