Deadline: 04 December 2026



APPLY 22-2026

# Researcher - Waste, Wastewater and Circular Economy

## POLLUTION MANAGEMENT (PM) RESEARCH GROUP

**The Energy, Climate, and Environment Program (ECE) at IIASA is offering an opportunity for a Researcher in the Pollution Management (PM) research group to support its work on solid waste, wastewater and circular economy. The successful candidate will mainly support the BioCover4CH$_4$ project and will work closely with researchers in the development and application of the GAINS model for other projects.**

## BACKGROUND

The **Researcher** will support research activities related to waste and wastewater management, methane emissions, mitigation technologies and circular economy strategies. Tasks will include literature reviews, extensive data collection and analysis, development and maintenance of research databases, preparation of model inputs, and support for quantitative assessments of emissions, mitigation potentials, costs, and technology applicability.

The position will also contribute to the preparation of technical reports, scientific publications, presentations, project deliverables, and policy relevant materials.

## MAIN TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Support research on waste and wastewater management, methane emissions, mitigation technologies, resource recovery, and circular economy strategies.
- Conduct literature reviews and synthesize scientific, technical, and policy relevant information.
- Collect, clean, harmonize, and document national, regional, and technology specific datasets.
- Develop and maintain structured global databases for waste and wastewater management, emissions, technologies, costs, applicability, and mitigation performance.
- Support the preparation of model inputs, assumptions, scenarios, and quantitative analyses for the GAINS model and related assessments.
- Assist with the assessment of mitigation potentials, technology applicability, costs, uncertainty, and sensitivity.
- Contribute to the preparation of figures, tables, technical documentation, reports, scientific publications, presentations, and project deliverables.

- Assist with stakeholder and expert consultations, including preparation of background material, documentation of discussions, and follow-up on data and information requests.
- Provide general analytical and research support across ongoing and emerging projects in the areas of waste, wastewater, methane mitigation, circular economy, and environmental policy.

## SKILLS, QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

**Education and Background**

- A master's degree in environmental science, environmental engineering, circular economy, economics, data science, or a related field

**Essential skills and competencies:**

- Experience with quantitative data analysis, literature reviews, and scientific or technical information.
- Strong skills in R (preferable) and/or Python.
- Strong analytical, organizational, and writing skills.
- Fluency in English and good presentation skills

**Desirable skills:**

- Experience with waste or wastewater systems, methane emissions, emission inventories, environmental modelling, circular economy analysis would be an advantage
- Previous experience with landfill systems and landfill methane management would be considered an asset.

## APPOINTMENT TERMS

The successful candidate should be available to take up the position **as soon as possible - No later than January 2027**.

The place of work is IIASA in Laxenburg, near Vienna, Austria (home office options available).

The successful candidate will be appointed as a researcher (**R1**) in accordance with the IIASA profiles for research careers.

## WE OFFER

- **1-year** full-time fixed-term contract (100%, 40 hrs/week). Flexible arrangements on duration can be discussed, and part-time arrangements will also be considered.
- An attractive annual salary starting at **EUR 43,730**, exempt from income tax in Austria (social insurance deductions still apply)
- The possibility to contribute to environmental sciences for sustainability and global wellbeing.
- An international atmosphere and pleasant working environment in a historic market town surrounded by green areas.

IIASA salaries are:

- Not directly comparable with other employers in Austria, due to the unique legal status and privileges granted to IIASA.
- Subject to the principle of income aggregation (Progressionsvorbehalt in German).

## ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- Educational subsidies for children of school age enrolled in private schools in Austria.
- A generous annual leave entitlement.
- Relocation allowances and paid home leave for employees who are hired from international locations.
- Assistance for newcomers to Austria with visa, work and residency permit applications.
- Support finding accommodation in Austria.

Further details here.

## About IIASA

IIASA is committed to a working environment that promotes equality, diversity, tolerance and inclusion within its workforce. This is reflected in our IIASA core values. We encourage qualified candidates from all religious, ethnic, and social backgrounds to apply. In the case that candidates are equally qualified, preference will be given to applicants from countries where IIASA has a Member Organization.

## Further Information

For further information about this opportunity please contact:

KLIMONT Zbigniew - Research Group Leader and Principal Research Scholar (PM)

MARCOS Carmen - Program and Project Officer (ECE, PM)

GOMEZ SANABRIA Adriana - Senior Research Scholar (PM)

## Applications

**In order to apply for this opportunity, you will need to provide the following documents in English:**

- A cover letter outlining your motivation for and fit to the position.
- A detailed Curriculum Vitae and a recent example of your research work
- The names, addresses (including e-mail), and telephone numbers of two reference givers.

**Deadline for receipt of applications: 04 December 2026**

APPLY