Foras na Mara
Marine Institute

Marine Institute Job Description

Position	**Permanent Laboratory Analyst – Marine Chemistry Section, MEFSS**
Contract	**Contract of Indefinite Duration - Laboratory Analyst (subject to completion of probation and satisfactory performance)**
Service Group	**Marine Environment and Food Safety Services**
Location	**Rinville, Oranmore, Co. Galway (Noting that we are currently considering & drafting our blended working policy which may apply to this role and that the role also includes travel nationally and internationally and seagoing duties)**

Brief description of the Marine Institute:

The Marine Institute is a non-commercial semi-state body, which was formally established by statute (Marine Institute Act, 1991) in October 1992.

Under the Act, the Marine Institute was given the responsibility:

"to undertake, to co-ordinate, to promote and to assist in marine research and development and to provide such services related to marine research and development, that in the opinion of the Institute will promote economic development and create employment and protect the marine environment".

The Marine Institute is the national agency responsible for marine research, technology, development and innovation (RTDI). The Marine Institute seeks to assess and realise the economic potential of Ireland's 220 million acre marine resource; promote the sustainable development of marine industry through strategic funding programmes and scientific services; and safeguard the marine environment through research and environmental monitoring. The Institute works in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and a network of other Government Departments, semi-state agencies, national and international marine partners.

Our vision - ***The Marine Institute, as a global leader in ocean knowledge, empowering Ireland and its people to safeguard and harness ocean wealth.***

Our Mission - ***The Marine Institute, provides government, public agencies and the maritime industry with a range of scientific, advisory and economic development services that inform policy-making, regulation and the sustainable management and growth of Ireland's marine resources. The Institute undertakes, coordinates and promotes marine research and development, which is essential to achieving a sustainable ocean economy, protecting ecosystems and inspiring a shared understanding of the ocean.***

In order to achieve this vision, the MI has six service areas; (1) Ocean Climate and Information Services, (2) Marine Environment & Food Safety Services, (3) Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services, (4) Irish Maritime Development Office, (5) Policy, Innovation and Research Services and (6) Corporate Services.

The Marine Institute 5 Year Strategic Plan (2018 to 2022) is available here

Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth (HOOW) is Ireland's Integrated Maritime Plan (see www.ouroceanwealth.ie). HOOW sets out a roadmap for the Government's vision, high level goals and integrated actions to enable Ireland's marine potential to be realised. As part of the implementation of HOOW, the Government published in 2017 the National Marine Research & Innovation Strategy 2017-2021.

Brief Description of Service Group:

Marine Environment & Food Safety Services
Marine Environment & Food Safety Services provide government agencies, industry and other clients with food safety, environmental and fish health scientific services, primarily through the implementation of monitoring programmes and research programmes and the provision of advice. The successful candidate will primarily be based within the Marine Institute Marine Chemistry Section.

Overview of Marine Institute Marine Chemistry Section
This section has a team of approx. 22 chemists, analysts, researchers and support staff engaged in statutory monitoring and complementary research activities relating to the health of the marine environment and the quality of marine foodstuffs. This monitoring is required to fulfil obligations under National and EU legislation and commitments under the Oslo and Paris Convention. In the course of this work, samples of fish, shellfish, sediments and water are collected and analysed for a broad range of determinants. The results are reported to National and International bodies and presented in the scientific literature. The work involves sampling, analysis, data assessment and reporting. A fundamental requirement for all research and monitoring programmes is the production of data of the highest quality. In this regard a quality system is in operation in the section with most test methods accredited by the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB) to ISO17025 standard.

Summary of the Role:

The analyst will primarily be responsible for undertaking analysis of environmental contaminants in seafood and other environmental matrices. The primary analytical techniques used may include hyphenated mass spectrometry techniques such as Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry, Liquid Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS), Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS), Cold Vapour Atomic Fluorescence spectrometry (CV-AFS) and High Performance Liquid Chromatography. The analyst will be responsible for all aspects of analysis from sample work-up through to reporting results. The role may also involve field sampling from time to time, for example, sampling from coastal areas and potentially participating in surveys on board research vessels. This will contribute to monitoring programmes and relevant research initiatives.

All work will conform to the ISO17025 quality system operated within the Marine Institute and the analyst will contribute to the implementation of the Quality System. The analyst will assist with data management, quality assurance and may contribute to preparation of reports and other programme outputs. The work will primarily be carried out in the Marine Institute's facilities in Oranmore Co. Galway. Assignments may also be carried out at other Marine Institute locations or in the field from time to time.

Background to Requirement:

This work outlined above will provide high quality data required to fulfil human health obligations under National and EU legislation, including the Residues Directive 96/23, Commission Regulation 1881/2006, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56, Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC, and the OSPAR

Convention. The work will also contribute to addressing key policy needs and provision of scientific advice to government and other stakeholders with a view to assuring the safety of marine foods and the quality of the Irish marine environment.

Principal Tasks:

The candidate will be responsible for carrying out a range of duties consistent with the work described above.

These may include the following tasks:

- Carry out high-quality chemical analysis of trace contaminants in environmental samples (e.g. biota, sediment, seawater).
- Carry out analytical method development, optimisations and validations for the analysis of trace contaminants in relevant matrices.
- Undertake problem solving including troubleshooting analytical methods as required.
- Develop and implement ISO17025 procedures and adhere to best quality practices in the laboratory and field.
- Contribute to all aspects of the Institute's quality system as required, for example undertaking of internal audits, participation in quality team activities etc.
- Contribute to assessment of data and assist with preparation of reports and other technical outputs as required.
- Report results, update monitoring databases and assist with data reporting.
- Support monitoring and research programmes and projects
- Maintain calibrations of laboratory and field equipment and other laboratory duties.
- Maintain equipment.
- Ensure all work is undertaken in accordance with Health and Safety procedures.
- Organise and undertake fieldwork/sampling as may be required. This may involve participating on surveys on board research vessels.
- Liaise with FSAI, SFPA, EPA and other relevant organisations and customers as may be required.
- Manage your time, workspace, equipment and materials to ensure that the above tasks and quality outputs are delivered efficiently and effectively.
- Communicate with the team members in a constructive manner to ensure the team goals are achieved.
- Procurement of equipment, materials and services as relevant to the role.
- Assisting with outsourcing of testing where required.
- Any other duties as appropriate may be required from time to time.

Reporting Structure:

The successful candidate will report to the Senior Laboratory Analyst, Marine Chemistry, MEFSS.

Contacts:

Within the Marine Institute:
Director MEFS, Senior Chemist, WFD Team Leader, Senior Laboratory Analyst, Chemistry Section and Management Team & Staff of MEFS

External:

Liaison with Government Departments including Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and Department of Environment, Community and Local Government; scientists and officials from other government organisations such as the SFPA and FSAI and other laboratories.

Education, Professional or Technical Qualifications, Knowledge, Skills, Aptitudes, Experience and Training

Essential:

- A minimum of a third level Certificate in a relevant scientific subject.
- Demonstrated relevant post qualification work experience, ideally to include chemical analysis of trace substances in environmental samples.
- Excellent working knowledge of modern analytical instrumentation, for example, ICPMS, GCMS, LCMS, HPLC, CVAFS.
- Demonstrated understanding of the requirements of an ISO17025 accredited laboratory environment.
- A high level of computer literacy including with standard office software packages.
- The ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing and a constructive approach to achieving team goals.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively manage time efficiently to achieve outputs in a laboratory environment.
- Effective numerical and literacy skills.
- Experience in preparing scientific/technical reports
- Willingness to complete both field-based and work at sea on board research vessels and be sufficiently fit to pass an ENG II/Seafarers medical and related training.

Desirable:

- A degree, or post-graduate qualification, in analytical chemistry, marine science or equivalent.
- Three years of relevant analytical experience preferably in chemical analysis of trace substances in environmental matrices, such as biota, sediment and/or water, using modern instrumentation.
- Knowledge of marine/environmental science, biogeochemical processes and/or pollution issues.
- Highly skilled in problem-solving and troubleshooting analytical methods.
- Demonstrated experience in working in an ISO17025 or equivalent accredited laboratory environment and track record in achieving /maintaining external accreditation for analytical methods.
- Experience in analytical method development and validation.
- Experience of successful participation in laboratory inter-comparison exercises.
- Experience of field-based sampling.
- Experience in evaluating and analysing analytical/scientific data.
- Experience of preparation and contributions to technical and scientific publications.
- Experience in the use of laboratory, statistical, graphing and/or other software relevant to the role.
- A full driving licence.

Special personal attributes required for the position:

- Be industrious, decisive and self-sufficient with a proven ability to use own initiative while at the same time working well as a team player.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills.

- Positive outlook and constructive and collaborative approach in contributing to team goals
- Excellent time management and organisation skills, with the ability to work well under pressure in the delivery of multiple deadlines.
- Meticulous in work with attention to detail
- Have an analytical approach to problem solving

Salary:

Remuneration is in accordance with the Public Sector, Department of Public Expenditure & Finance approved Salary Scale for the Laboratory Analyst, a scale that starts at €34,741 to €58,528 per annum. This role will commence on the first point of €34,741 per annum pro-rated with time worked. You will become a member of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme unless currently working or having worked in the pubic or civil service within the past six months with access to alternate pension etc.

Annual Leave:

The annual leave entitlement for a Laboratory Analyst is 23 working days per annum prorated to reflect time worked. Annual leave entitlements are exclusive of Public Holidays. All leave must be approved by your manager or their authorised representative; in advance of being taken and in line with Marine Institute leave policies.

Duration of Contract:

This is a contract of indefinite duration upon completion of successful probation period at the discretion of the Marine Institute. The successful candidate will be on probation for the first six months of this contract.

How to Apply:

A C.V. and letter of application, summarising experience and skill set applicable to the position should be emailed to recruitment@marine.ie or posted to Human Resources at the Marine Institute, Rinville, Oranmore, Galway. All correspondence for this post should quote reference **MEFS/CID CHEM LA/ MAR202**

Closing date for applications

All applications for this post should be received by the Marine Institute in advance of **12:00 noon on Monday 21st of March 2022.** Please note that late applications will not be accepted.

Use of Data - all personal data and the information submitted for this application will be used solely for the purpose of this campaign, after which it will be deleted in line with our General Data Protection Regulation Policy and data retention schedule. All information will be treated with the strictest confidence and accessed only by those involved directly in the campaign.

The Marine Institute is an equal opportunities employer and we welcome applications from anyone interested in this role. Please do advise if there are any special accommodations required for the recruitment process.