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Nationality: Spanish

Orientation: Integrated Management of the Sea
Specialization Area: Analysis and Environmental assessment
Research Area: 3.6 Pollution and environmental impacts

PhD project: Toxic effect of emerging aquatic micropollutants on marine microalgae by analyzing biomarkers of cytotoxicity

Supervisors: Dr. Ángeles Cid Blanco (University of A Coruña)

Summary: The natural aquatic systems are sink of numerous substances coming from the industry, agricultural tasks and urban nuclei, among others. All these chemical compounds reach the marine ecosystems and may affect the structure of biological communities and, ultimately, man.

This project is based on the application of flow cytometry in the search for sensitive markers and rapid response to assess the potential cytotoxicity of emerging contaminants, such as drugs and personal care and hygiene products, in marine microalgae. These microorganisms are used as indicators of pollution due to their fundamental role as primary producers in aquatic ecosystems and their great sensitivity to different compounds.

