IDEA Spark Cantabria 2019

Reference #	12947090
Status	Complete
Login Username	lmiralles
Login Email	lmiralles@ecohydros.com
Project Title	eDNA for monitoring biodiversity in aquatic ecosystems
Short project title (max 20 alpha-numeric characters)	aquaticDNA
How long have you (or your team) been working on this project?	Since November 2018
How many people are on your project team? (Count only those who will be involved in doing the work of the program and/or those you would like included on any email communications from the program. Note that each person will need to submit a registration form; instructions will be provided after this application is submitted.)	2
Applicant name:	Laura Miralles
Applicant E-mail address (when you submit, a copy of your entry will be sent to this email)	lmiralles@ecohydros.com

Project Description:
Provide a brief overview of your project. Please comment on the problem you propose to solve and the potential societal impact of solving it. This should be understandable and compelling to someone not skilled in the art.

Ecohydros is launching a new line of business related to the development and application of different services based on environmental DNA (eDNA) techniques for monitoring biodiversity in aquatic ecosystems.

The european regulations for the protection of aquatic ecosystems require the establishment of surveillance and monitoring procedures. However, the current monitoring techniques of species and biological communities in water bodies are highly conditioned by many factors.In aquatic ecosystems there are external factors that can limit the access to information, for example depth, changes of flow, floods, droughts, farming or factory's discharges, pollution, etc. It greatly limits the amount of information that it can be obtained, that in turn generates critical deficits in the management capacity.

The development in recent years of new methodologies, such as genetic identification, is helping to provide new biodiversity information. The recent alternative of eDNA identification is emerging as the best option for large-scale detection and monitoring of threatened or protected species, as well as invasive species, also even for monitoring the ecological status of different types of water bodies.

The innovation provided by eDNA techniques is to offer species detection and monitoring services using highly sensitive, efficient, non-invasive or harmful techniques to monitor protected or threatened species, as well as ver sensitive methods for early detection of invasive species.

The present project will give the possibility of setting a novel, pioneering technique, in international grow, scientifically validated that offers multiple added values in its application in the monitoring of species.

Have there been any previous approaches to solving this problem (or answering the question)? **Please describe how your idea is original.**	eDNA is a novel technique that is growing recently. It was developed and firstly used by the scientific community ten years ago. Despite its tiny history, many researchers support it and it's been considered as a future management technique worldwide. However, no many companies around the world decide to use it due to technical limitations such as the need of highly qualified personal y laboratory. Ecohydros is the first company to employ eDNA in Spain. We are pioneers in the development of this methodology for management of aquatic ecosystems.
Tell us something interesting about yourself (and your team)	We are a multidisciplinary team made up of great professionals, which includes biologists, engineers and environmental technicians. I'm a doctor in molecular biology. I think I´ll really appreciate this program because after ten years as a researcher in the academia, I decided to start in business. I joined Ecohydros just five months ago to develop this new line of highly sensitive detection based in eDNA. Since its foundation, Ecohydros has carried out more than a hundred projects in the field of environmental consultancy and monitoring. The team is very well connected and we all enjoy doing our job especially, field work. We love novel techniques and we are pioneers in many projects in our country. For example, in the use of cyber- bio-technologies for the detection and monitoring of aquatic biodiversity.

Why do you want to participate in the program and what do you hope to gain from the program?	We want to participate because it is a great opportunity for networking at international level, for improving our skills with the best professionals (MIT) and learning how to present better our product to the public. Therefore, what we expect from this program is an improvement in our sales communications in the national and international markets, acquiring new contacts at both the regional (SODERCAN) and international (MIT) level, and especially the acquisition of specialized knowledge to be able to develop everything in a professional way.
Last Update	2019-04-12 10:17:47
Start Time	2019-04-12 06:01:10
Finish Time	2019-04-12 10:17:47
IP	93.156.93.193
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OS	Mac
Referrer	https://fs24.formsite.com/res/formLoginNew

Registration for IDEA Spark

Reference #	12956552
Status	Complete
Short Project Title (use title from IDEA Spark Application)	aquaticDNA
First Name	Agustín
Last Name	Monteoliva
Preferred name (for name tags)	Agustín
Institution or organizational affiliation	Ecohydros
Degree	PhD
Role in Institution	• Other: • General manager
City	Santander
Country (if US, enter State)	Spain
Phone Number	+34660512456
Email Address	apmonteoliva@ecohydros.com
In what way will you be participating in IDEA Spark?	e-communication access only (not participating)
Last Update	2019-04-12 10:22:38
Start Time	2019-04-12 10:20:25
Finish Time	2019-04-12 10:22:38
IP	93.156.93.193
Browser	Safari
OS	Mac
Referrer	N/A