**Alice Limonciel wins largest European health, environment research grant award at Cefic LRI workshop**

BRUSSELS, November 19, 2015 – French researcher Dr. Alice Limonciel was awarded the €100,000 LRI Innovative Science award, one of Europe’s largest research grants for early career scientists, at the award ceremony of Cefic’s 17th Annual Long-Range Initiative (LRI) Workshop in Brussels on November 18, 2015.

Dr. Limonciel’s winning research proposal investigates cellular responses to the acceleration of chronic kidney disease progression due to chemical exposure. The project aims to identify the genes involved in cellular stress response pathways, quantify these responses in parallel with markers of cellular dysfunction and deliver a new generation of quantitative tools based on gene expression to evaluate the hazard linked to chemical exposure for use in risk assessment strategies.

Dr. Pierre Barthélemy, Cefic Executive Director of Research and Innovation commented: “It’s always a pleasure to see the enthusiasm of early career scientists and their desire to make our world safer. The LRI Innovative Science is a great opportunity for them to develop their breakthrough ideas with complete freedom, find new approaches to tackle risk assessment and help reduce uncertainty as it relates to chemicals safety”.

Dr. Limonciel studied pharmacology and toxicology at the engineer school Polytech’ Nice-Sophia in France. She completed her doctoral studies in the department of Physiology and Medical Physics of the Medical University of Innsbruck in 2013. Dr. Limonciel is currently working as a Postdoctoral researcher on molecular mechanisms of nephrotoxicity notably using the integration of multiple omic datasets such as transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics and epigenomics.

**For more information, contact:** Esther Agyeman-Budu, Cefic communication and science policy manager for research and innovation, at [eab@cefic.be](mailto:eab@cefic.be) .

**About the LRI Innovative Science Award**

The LRI Innovative Science Award worth €100.000 was first introduced in 2004 as a funding opportunity for young scientists based in Europe. Its aim is to stimulate innovative research, to foster ‘out-of-the-box’ thinking and to introduce new approaches that will advance the environmental assessment of hazardous substances. More than a decade later, it is still the biggest award of its kind in Europe and has helped numerous scientists realise their ambitions and become part of the LRI scientific network.

**About LRI**

The Long-range Research Initiative (LRI) is part of Cefic's voluntary initiatives to improve the Regulatory Framework of the chemical industry in Europe. Its mission is to identify and fill gaps in our understanding of the hazards posed by chemicals and to improve the methods available for assessing the associated risks.

For more information, visit the LRI website at [www.cefic-lri.org](http://www.cefic-lri.org)

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