



I am an Environmental Biotechnologist....

I am **Fiona Bunn**, a Research Student at the University of Edinburgh.

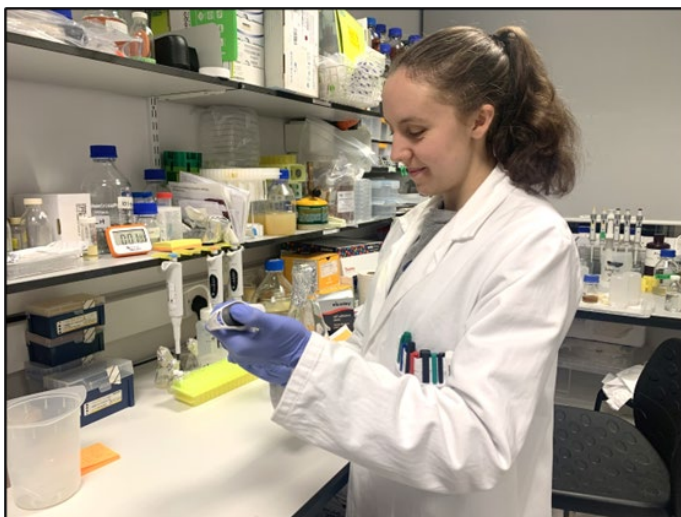
I investigate the factors affecting the efficiency and selectivity of fungal and bacterial leaching of Rare Earth elements from a range of sources. Selectivity and low energy inputs are the key benefits that biology can offer for recovering trace resources over traditional hydrometallurgy. I am motivated to harness the potential of the microbial world to find solutions to global challenges, and I think biotechnology offers a great opportunity for a sustainable future that we have only just started to explore.



Fiona works on the circular economy of critical metals.



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I am environmental biotechnologist because...

‘My research aims to reduce harmful/energy intensive mining practices and enhance recovery of rare earth elements from waste sources using bioleaching.’