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## Short Bio:

Dr. Sara Abalde-Cela graduated in Chemistry at Universidade de Vigo (Spain) in 2008. After her graduation, she started a PhD in Colloid Sciences and Technologies at the [Colloid Chemistry Group](#) (Vigo) under the supervision of Prof. Luis Liz-Marzán. During her PhD she developed hybrid plasmonic materials as substrates for surface-enhanced Raman scattering (SERS) spectroscopy for ultrasensitive detection in different fields. In 2013 she moved to the University of Cambridge (UK) as a Postdoctoral Research Associate to work at the [Microdroplets Group](#) lead by Prof. Chris Abell. During three years she was involved in a FP7 project ([DEMA](#) – Direct Ethanol from MicroAlgae) aiming for the high-throughput screening and sorting of bioethanol high-producers microalgae using microdroplets technology. After her postdoctoral experience she moved to a Research Centre in Spain, [AIMEN](#), in where she was working at the Department of Advanced Materials as Senior Researcher. At AIMEN, Sara was responsible for the implementation of nanotechnology approaches in the automotive and aeronautics sectors and in project proposal writing, as well as being coordinator of European projects. She has recently joined INL to develop sensing platforms for liquid biopsy based on SERS detection and microdroplets. Her research efforts are focused at the integration of nanotechnology, SERS and microdroplets in microfluidics driven by her interest in biomedical research tools. Sara won several funding, research awards and recognitions along her career, she has around 25 contributions to conferences and 11 peer-reviewed publications. Sara performs peer-review assessments for several scientific journals such as Langmuir, Sensors or Journal of Nanomaterials among others. She has also being involved in science dissemination at schools and startup programmes in Cambridge, London and Vigo.