

RESEARCH GRANT (BI) (1 vacancy)

Reference: 2024_037_BI_SAFE

A competition is open for the attribution of 1 research grant in the framework of the Project “SAFE – Smart Aquaculture for FuturE”, financed by *Horizon Europe*, reference 101084549, at the Research Unit - Interdisciplinary Research Center of Marine and Environmental, under the following conditions:

1. Scientific area: Biological Sciences;

2. Admission requirements:

- Any national, foreign and stateless candidates with a bachelor degree in the area of Biological Sciences, with a final average equal or greater than 13 points (out of 20):

- Experience in maintaining intestinal explants in a culture medium.
- Proficiency in preparing and executing ex vivo assays.
- Strong skills in fish nutrition, physiology, and immunology, including conducting growth trials with fish, analysing gene expression and enzymatic activity, and processing data with statistical analysis.
- Prior experience in biotechnological treatments of macroalgae and feedstuffs, particularly in solid-state fermentation technology.
- Expertise in nutritional characterization and determination of antioxidant capacity in by-products suitable for inclusion in aquafeeds.
- Experience in aquafeed formulation and manufacturing.
- Completion of a laboratory animal science course, category B, with certification.
- Fluency in both spoken and written English.

- able to be enrolled in a master program at the time of application, with the aim of consolidating his/her scientific training through the development of research work leading to the award of the respective MSc degree or in a non-degree course integrated in the educational project of a higher education institution, developed in association or cooperation with one or several R&D units. If the applicant is not yet enrolled, she/he must meet the requirements to register; enrolment will be mandatory and proof necessary only at the moment of scholarship contracting.



Note: In the case of enrolment in courses that do not confer academic degree, the research grant can only be awarded to those who do not exceed, with the signing of the research grant contract in question, including possible renewals, an accumulated period of two years in this type of grant, consecutive or interpolated.

Preferential conditions:

Availability to travel in Portugal and abroad within the framework of existing collaborations.

If the degree has been awarded by a foreign higher education institution, it must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law No. 66/2018 of 16 August, and any formalities established therein must be fulfilled until the signing of the contract.

3. Work plan: The work plan is centered on investigating the antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties of innovative ingredients developed by the partners involved in the SAFE project. This assessment will utilize both ex vivo methods and in vivo growth trials. The candidate will conduct ex vivo experiments and fish nutrition trials, which will entail the maintenance of tissue explants in vitro, preparation of cell culture media, rearing of experimental fish, upkeep of experimental rearing facilities, production of experimental diets, and analysis of enzyme activity and gene expression related to enzyme activity and immunology.

4. Legislation and official rules: Law n.º 40/2004, 18th August (Research Fellowship Holder Statute) in its current version; Regulations for Studentships and Fellowships of the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P. and CIIMAR Grants Regulation.

5. Work place: The selected candidate will work in the research teams *LANUCE* and *MBB*, in CIIMAR, at the Terminal Cruise of the Port of Leixões, in Matosinhos, in the metropolitan area of Porto, under the supervision of Dr. Rodrigo Ozório, Dr. Helena Peres and Dr. Fátima Carvalho.

6. Duration of the contract: Duration of twelve (12) months, under the regime of exclusive dedication, renewable up to legal terms and the projects duration.

7. Monthly stipend: The monthly maintenance allowance is 990,98 € in agreement with the monthly maintenance stipend table of the grants directly attributed by FCT, I.P. within the country (https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM_atualizacao-2024.pdf), by bank transfer payment.

8. Selection methods: An overall assessment (valued from 1 to 10) of the candidates' merit will be made through the evaluation of their scientific and curricular track record, based on 3 strands and relevance for the planned



project. The evaluation of the curriculum vitae will count 40% (CV), the motivation letter 10% (ML) and the scientific activity 50% (SA).

CV: For the global evaluation of the CV, the academic qualifications and the scientific path will be evaluated.

ML: Evaluation of the candidate's motivation and ability to innovate, based on the motivation letter describing the relevance of the scientific path to the position and personal career goals. The availability to travel in Portugal and abroad within the scope of existing collaborations will also be evaluated.

SA: The scientific activity is evaluated, based on:

- Experience in Microbiology, specifically in growing and maintaining actinobacterial strains, in performing fermentation processes and conducting antimicrobial assays;
- Experience in preparing organic extracts and conducting chemical analysis of these extracts, specifically dereplication analysis and isolation of bioactive compounds;

This global assessment will result in a pre-selection of the three best-ranked candidates, which will be communicated to the candidates.

An interview may also be carried out, in which case all of the three pre-selected candidates will be summoned to the interview. The jury will select one candidate among the pre-selected candidates to the position.

If an interview to the pre-selected candidates takes place, its objective is to clarify aspects issues related to their application, namely regarding their professional and/or curricular achievements, with a weight of 10%.

9. Composition of the jury selection:

President of the jury: Helena Peres

Vogal: Rodrigo Ozório

Vogal: Fátima Carvalho

10. Form of Advertising/notification of results: The final results of the first evaluation step (pre-selection) will be published on the CIIMAR website as a list of candidates ranked according to the assigned valuation. These results will also be emailed to candidates. In case of disagreement, candidates have a period of 10 working days to respond, if they so wish, in a prior hearing and in accordance with the Code of Administrative Procedure. After the interviews, the final results related to the pre-selected candidates will be published on the CIIMAR website and communicated to them via e-mail.



The jury reserves the right not to assign the position if none of the candidates meet all the requirements and match the desired profile.

11. Period for receiving applications: The application by email, between **3 until 16 May 2024**, to rh@ciimar.up.pt and rodrigo.ozorio@ciimar.up, with the reference of the Call (as stated in this notice) in the “Subject” field of the email. The application must be formalized by sending the following documents:

- a) Curriculum vitae, including contact data;
- b) Copy of eligibility certificates ;.
- c) Motivation letter (max 2 pages) that includes a short description of the professional activities that the candidate considers relevant for the position;
- d) Any other documents considered relevant.

Applications that do not include all of the above elements will not be considered. False statements provided by the candidates shall be punished by law.

12. Policy of non-discrimination and equal access: CIIMAR actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, whereby no candidate may be privileged, benefited, harmed or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty on the grounds, namely, of ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, economic situation, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, illness chronicle, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership. Under the terms of Decree-Law n° 29/2001, of February 3rd, the disabled candidate has a preference in equal classification, which prevails over any other legal preference. Candidates must declare in the application form, under a commitment to honour, the respective degree of incapacity, the type of disability and the means of communication/expression to be used in the selection process, under the terms of the aforementioned diploma.

