

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE OPENING OF A CALL FOR RESEARCH GRANT

Reference: 2026_059_BI_NATUREBIOPROMO

A competition is open for the attribution of 1 research grant in the framework of the project "NATUREBIOPROMO - **Hybrid NATURE-Based Solutions as BIODiversity PROMOTers and Their Implications for Emerging Contaminants Mitigation**" with the reference Biodiversa20243-935/BiodivNBS/0006/2023, within the R&D Institution CIIMAR (Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research), financed by FCT through national funds, according to the following conditions:

1. Scientific area: Environmental Sciences

2. Admission requirements

Any national, foreign and stateless candidate(s) interested in development R&D activities to be carried out by doctoral students or by graduates and masters enrolled in courses that do not award an academic degree in the area of Biological Sciences, Environmental Sciences, or related scientific areas with a scientific and professional curriculum whose profile is suited for the activity to be performed. Candidates must be proficient in the English language.

Academic degrees awarded by a foreign higher education institution must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law no. 66/2018 of 16th August, which approves the legal regime of recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of Higher Education, attributed by foreign higher education institutions, being any formalities established therein fulfilled only by the date of the contracting act.

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.

Preference will be given to candidates with experience in:

- I) Taxonomic identification of aquatic and soil macrobenthic species;
- II) Macrofaunal diversity analyses (preferably functional diversity metrics and traits-based analyses)
- III) Invertebrates' laboratory maintenance
 - i) Molecular analyses (DNA extraction)
 - ii) Driving license experience
 - iii) Data processing and statistical analysis.

3. Work plan

The selected candidate will join the BET team of CIIMAR – Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research, under the supervision of Dr Patricia Cardoso.

The selected candidate will join a project that will investigate the ecological relevance of existent Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and their importance in the mitigation of emerging contaminants (ECs) pollution while contributing to local biodiversity and their ecosystem services.

The candidate will be involved in the implementation of a pilot-scale wetland system in a wastewater treatment plant located in Vieira do Minho and will be involved in the sampling campaigns, including water, substrate, plants and macrofauna collection; samples treatment, identification of the macrofauna species; compilation and treatment of data from WP3 (e.g. macrofauna diversity); prepare material for divulgation of results and participate in writing manuscripts. The candidate will be also involved in the preparation of a mesocosm toxicity experiment and samples processing and treatment.

4. Legislation and official rules

Law nº. 40/2004, 18th August (Research Fellowship and Studentship Regulation) in its current version; Regulations for Studentships and Fellowships of the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P. and CIIMAR Grants Regulation approved by FCT.

5. Work place



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The work will be carried out at CIIMAR, Edifício do Terminal de Cruzeiros do Porto de Leixões, Av. General Norton de Matos, s/n, 4450-208 Matosinhos.

6. Duration of the contract

Duration of 15 months, starting in September 2026, under the regime of exclusive dedication, eventually renewal up to legal terms.

7. Monthly stipend

The gross monthly stipend is 1359,64€ according to the table for fellowships - <https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM-2026.pdf>

8. Selection methods

The ranking of candidates will be based on the candidates' academic Curriculum Vitae and technical skills:

- Merit of the curriculum for the scientific area: 40% (CV)
- Scientific activity: 50% (SA)
- Appreciation of the motivation of the candidate to the position, taking into account the motivation letter: 10% (ML)

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

SA: The scientific activity is evaluated, based on: 1) Publications in peer-reviewed international journals, oral and poster presentations in international and national conferences in the working area of the project; 2) Demonstrated experience in the admission requirements mentioned in point 2; 3) Autonomy level and degree of proactivity.

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 evaluation process may include an interview with the first three graders in case of tied vote. In this case the interview weighs 30% and the previous evaluation weighs 70%.

9. Composition of the jury:

President of the jury: Dr. Patrícia Cardoso

Vogal: Dr. Cristina Calheiros

Vogal: Dr. Martina Illarri

10. Form of advertising/notification of results

The final results of the evaluation will be published through a list sorting the candidates according to their attributed mark by e-mail . The candidates have a 10-working day term in which to contest the decision, if he/she so wishes, as provided for in the "Código do Procedimento Administrativo" in a preliminary hearing setting. The jury reserves the right not to assign the research contract if none of the candidates meet all the requirements and match the desired profile.

11. Deadline for application

The competition is open from **6/7/2026 until 17/7/2026**. The applications must be formalized, compulsorily, by sending the following documents:

- Detailed Curriculum Vitae, including contact data (email and phone number);
- Copy of the eligibility certificates;
- Motivation letter, outlining past research activities and their relevance to the position (max 2 pages);

Applications cannot exceed 20 MB and must be sent by e-mail to rh@ciimar.up.pt .The applications that do not include all the elements previously indicated will not be considered.

12. Non-discrimination and equal access policy:

CIIMAR actively promotes a non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefited, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt of any duties based on their ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, instruction, origin or social conditions, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, origin territory, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership.

Pursuant to Decree-Law no. 29/2001 of 3 February, disabled candidates shall be preferred in a situation of equal classification, and said preference supersedes any legal preferences. Candidates must declare, on their honour, their respective disability degree, type of disability and communication/expression means to be used during selection period on their application form, under the regulations above.