

#3798

Public Notice - International Selection Procedure

Two PhD Scientific Researchers Recruitment (Assistant Researcher)

FCiências.ID/2022/DL57/cE3c/2

FCiências.ID - Associação para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Ciências, through its Chairman of the Board of Directors, hereby announces the opening of an international call for the recruitment of two scientific researchers with a PhD degree, within the scope of the project “COLOSSUS: Control Of tuberculoSis at the wildlife/livestock interface uSing innovative natUre-based Solutions” (Ref. PTDC/CVT-CVT/29783/2017, LISBOA-01-0145-FEDER-029783, POCI-01-0145-FEDER-029783), financed by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P./MCTES through national funds (PIDDAC), cofinanced by Programa Operacional Competitividade e Internacionalização, and cofinanced by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) through the Programa Operacional Regional de Lisboa of Portugal 2020 or other programs that may follow, in the form of an indefinite duration fixed-term employment contract on an exclusive regime, according to the Portuguese Labour Code and Decree-Law No. 57/2016, of August 29th, as amended by Law No. 57/2017, of July 19th.

I. Admission Requirements

Portuguese nationals, foreign and stateless persons may submit applications to this selection procedure, provided they hold a doctoral degree¹ in Theoretical Epidemiology, Biology, Computational Biology, Mathematics, Statistics, Computer Science, Physics or related scientific fields, with the following requirements:

- a) The PhD must have been granted at least 2 months ago;
- b) Demonstrated scientific and/or professional experience in the area of epidemiological modeling and/or infectious disease ecology;
- c) The candidate must also have experience in modelling infectious disease transmission dynamics;
- d) Proficiency in programming in R, Matlab, Python, C and/or Java.

¹ Please note that Degrees obtained in foreign countries need a Portuguese Recognition issued by a Portuguese high degree Institution, according to the [Decree-Law nr. 66/2018](#), of August 16th and the [Ministerial Order nr. 33/2019](#), of January 25th. The presentation of such Recognition is mandatory for contract signature. More information can be obtained in: <https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition>.

II. Preferential Requirements

- a) R&D activity in the areas of eco-epidemiological modelling, transmission dynamics modelling, population dynamics, and/or non-linear dynamics, in the last five years;
- b) Participation in national and/or international scientific projects in the areas mentioned in a), in the last five years;
- c) Experience with data-driven models and incorporation of data from various biological scales, as parameters of dynamic models;
- d) Experience with data-fitting of dynamic models and parameter estimation methods;
- e) Scientific experience demonstrated by holding at least 2 publications as 1st author in international scientific journals in the topics indicated in a);
- f) Scientific and/or professional training relevant to the development of the work plan underlying this project;
- g) Proven experience in dissemination activities in the scientific areas of this project;
- h) Proficiency in Portuguese and English (written and spoken).

III. Applicable Law

1. Decree-Law No. 57/2016, of August 29th (RCD), in the wording conferred on it by Law No. 57/2017, of July 19th (RCD);
2. Portuguese Labour Code, as approved by Law No. 7/2009, of February 12th, in its current version (CT);
3. Regulatory Decree No. 11-A/2017, of December 29th;
4. Administrative Procedure Code, as published in Decree-Law No. 4/2015, of January 7th, in its current version (CPA).

IV. Work Plan

The candidates will be responsible for carrying out scientific research in the area of epidemiology and ecology of infectious diseases, with special emphasis on the eco-epidemiology of animal tuberculosis. The candidates will also be responsible for the development and application of advanced mathematical and computational tools, with a view to the development of predictive mathematical models of transmission, at various biological scales (e.g. individuals, environment), based on the incorporation of data already existing at national level, e.g. molecular signatures of clinical isolates of *Mycobacterium bovis*, animal abundance and distribution, etc.

The candidates will also be responsible for participating in the organization of the various activities included in the above-referenced research project, including: planning and development of laboratory and field work and writing of scientific articles; participate in the promotion of collaborations in the research area of the project; participate in outreach and dissemination activities, as well as in the scientific guidance of postgraduate and advanced training students.

The specific objectives of the work program are: 1) the development and validation of eco-epidemiological models, at various biological scales, based on the incorporation of epidemiological data, movement data, metadata and phylodynamic data of *Mycobacterium bovis*; 2) the development of a final model capable of simulating the impact and predicting the effectiveness of interventions.

The work plan is included in tasks 10-14 of the aforementioned project.

V. Composition of the Jury

In accordance to article 13 of the RCD, the members of the jury are:

- President - Mónica Sofia Vieira Cunha (PhD);
- 1st Member of the jury - Rogério Paulo Andrade Tenreiro (PhD);
- 2nd Member of the jury - José Miguel Lima Lourenço (PhD);
- 1st Alternate Member of the jury - Liliana Monteiro Salvador (PhD);
- 2nd Alternate Member of the jury - Luís Miguel Rosalino (PhD).

VI. Place of work

Work will be developed at the facilities of the Centre for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes (cE3c), in Campo Grande, Lisbon, Portugal.

VII. Contract Duration

The full-time indefinite duration fixed-term employment contract is expected to start on February 2022, and will last until the Work Plan referred to in section IV is completed. It will have an expected duration until 9/08/2022, will not exceed the limits set in the RCD.

VIII. Monthly Allowance

The gross monthly salary corresponds to the position 1 of Assistant Researcher, being 3.201,40 Euros, on an exclusive regime, as stipulated in article 15 of the RCD, plus holiday and Christmas allowances, as well as food allowance in the amount and conditions set out for workers with a legal employment relationship under the Labour Code.

IX. Evaluation of applications

1. Failure to comply with the Admission Requirements implies the non-admission of candidates in absolute merit.
2. According to article 5 of the RCD, the selection of the candidates approved in absolute merit will rely on the evaluation of their scientific and curricular achievements in the last five years, taking into consideration the quality and relevance of the scientific production, and the professional activity indicated as more relevant by the candidate, for the project.
3. The final classification of candidates is given on a scale of 0 to 100%.
4. Evaluation of the relative merit of candidates, will rely on the following criteria:
 - a) Participation in relevant scientific projects in the area of epidemiological modelling, infectious disease ecology and/or dynamic models - 40%;
 - b) Scientific publications in the area of epidemiological modelling, infectious disease ecology and/or dynamic models - 50 %;
 - c) Pedagogical and outreach activities, in particular in the context of promoting scientific practices, organization of courses, seminars and conferences, in the area of epidemiological modelling, infectious disease ecology and/or dynamic models - 5%;
 - d) Assessment of the references provided by the candidate - 5%;
 - e) Interview, if deemed necessary by the jury - 10%.
5. The jury may decide to interview the three best ranked candidates [in criteria a) to d) of paragraph 4)], for clarifications and improved explanations of curricular elements. If there is an interview, the sum of the classification obtained in the evaluation criteria a) to d) will correspond to 90% of the final classification and the interview will correspond to 10%.
6. The jury shall deliberate by means of a roll-call vote based on the evaluation criteria.
7. Minutes of the jury meetings are drawn up, summarizing all relevant elements considered by jury members, as well as their individual votes and justifications.
8. After completion of the evaluation process, the jury will draw up a ranking of successful candidates with their classifications.
9. Hiring will be decided by the Chairman of the Board of Directors of FCIências.ID, based on the final jury recommendation.
10. The evaluation results will be published on the website of the FCIências.ID ("Concursos" tab). The candidates will be individually notified of the evaluation results by e-mail sent to the address indicated in the "Personal Data" section of the submitted form.
11. With the notification referred to in paragraph 10, the hearing phase of interested parties referred to in Article 121 *et seq.* of the CPA will begin, and last for ten working days.

12. The possible pronouncement of the candidate in a prior hearing must be addressed to the President of the jury and submitted in writing to concursos@fciencias-id.pt. The President of the jury will convene a jury's meeting to produce the final decision, within thirty working days.
13. Within five working days of the final jury decision, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of FCIências.ID will approve it and the candidates will be notified.
14. The communication between FCIências.ID (concursos@fciencias-id.pt) and the candidates will be electronic and will comply with the following rules:
 - a) At the time of electronic submission of any document - namely in the case of paragraph no 11 - the candidates must generate proof of "sent message".
 - b) FCIências.ID will send an email message acknowledging documents received to the email address used by the candidates, within two working days.
 - c) In case of absence of a confirmation receipt by FCIências.ID – showing the possibility of technical problems that should neither be the responsibility of the candidate nor FCIências.ID - the candidates should contact FCIências.ID, with the proof referred to in point (a), to ensure delivery and proper receipt of the documents concerned.

X. Compliance with public policies

1. FCIências.ID actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, so that no candidate can be privileged, benefited, disadvantaged or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty due to, inter alia, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, economic situation, education, social origin or condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs and trade union membership.
2. Under the terms of D.L. No. 29/2001, of February 3, a disabled candidate has a preference in equal classification, which prevails over any other legal preference. Candidates must declare their respective degree of disability, the type of disability and the means of communication / expression to be used in the selection process, under the terms of the above-mentioned diploma.

XI. Submission of Applications

1. The present call will be open from 6th January to 19th January 2022.
2. The application and all the required documents may be submitted in Portuguese or English.
3. Applications will be submitted online, through the electronic platform of FCIências.ID (<http://concursos.fciencias-id.pt>).
4. On the electronic platform, applicants will complete a *mandatory* section on Personal Data [name, address, date of birth, contact email, nationality and scientific identifiers] and upload files with the documents listed below:
 - i. Detailed *curriculum vitae* - *mandatory* - **CV may be provided in PDF format or through the [CIÊNCIAVITAE](#) system;**
 - ii. A motivation letter clearly demonstrating that the candidate has an adequate profile for the position and fully complies with the Admission Requirements - *mandatory*;
 - iii. Up to five publications relevant for the objectives of the Work Plan - *mandatory*;

- iv. Digital copies of documents proving formal academic degrees (PhD) and/or other scientific and professional qualifications - original documents must be provided in case of actual recruitment - *mandatory*;
 - v. Other documents that candidates consider relevant for the assessment of their scientific merit, including reference letters, or to declare the personal situation in the cases covered in section X-2 of this Notice - *optional*.
5. By decision of the Chairman of the Board of Directors of FCIências.ID, candidates who do not submit the documents identified in paragraph 4 will not be admitted to the call. In case of doubts, the Chairman may also invite candidates to substantiate specific data or statements with official supporting documents, before accepting the candidates' submission.

This Public Note was approved by the jury on 5th January 2022.