

#4383

Public Notice - International Selection Procedure

PhD Scientific Researcher Recruitment (Initial Stage Researcher)

FCiências.ID/2023/DL57/cE3c/6

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 a Scientific Researcher with a PhD degree, in the category of Initial Stage Researcher, of the FCIências.ID Scientific Research Career, within the scope of the project OCELOT: One Health empiriCo-mEchanistic modeLing of antimicroBial resisTance (Ref. 2022.01539.PTDC), financed by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P./MCTES through national funds (PIDDAC), 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 Biology, Biotechnology, Biochemistry, or related areas, with specialization in microbiology, molecular biology, synthetic biology, computational biology or associated fields, and fully comply with the following requirements:

- a) The PhD degree must have been obtained at least 2 years ago;
- b) Proven experience in microbiology, including culture and isolation of microorganisms, from different biological matrices - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter;
- c) Proven experience in molecular biology and genetic engineering techniques for detection, identification and characterisation of microorganisms and biomarkers in different biological matrices - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter;
- d) Proven experience in genome sequencing and computational analysis of microbial whole genome sequences, population genetics, and/or microbial phylodynamics - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter;
- e) Research experience in the area of infectious diseases - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter;
- f) Proficiency in programming languages associated with computational biology, *e.g.*: R and Python - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter.

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 area of veterinary microbiology or clinical microbiology, genomics, phylogenomics and/or phylodynamics of microorganisms applied to the study of transmission processes of infectious agents, in the last five years - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter;
- b) R&D activity in the area of epidemiology of transmissible agents, in the last five years - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter;
- c) R&D activity in the area of synthetic biology and development of biosensors and diagnostic systems - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter;
- d) R&D activity in the area of antimicrobial resistance, in the last five years - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter;
- e) Participation in national and/or international scientific projects in the areas mentioned from a) to d), in the last five years - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter;

- f) Scientific experience demonstrated by at least five publications as 1st author in international scientific journals in the area of veterinary/clinical microbiology, genomics and/or microbial genetics, molecular epidemiology, synthetic biology and/or phylodynamics - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter;
- g) Experience in integrative approaches in the One Health area - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter;
- h) Scientific and/or professional training relevant to the development of the work plan underlying this call - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter;
- i) Proficiency in Portuguese and English language (written and spoken) - information provided in the CV and/or in the motivation letter.

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 work plan tasks are as follows:

- 1) Microbiological sampling and analysis of animal and environmental biological matrices, including culture, isolation, identification and differentiation of selected microorganisms;
- 2) Molecular identification of microorganisms by PCR and real-time PCR;
- 3) Antimicrobial susceptibility testing and molecular identification of resistance determinants;
- 4) Whole genome sequencing of selected microorganisms and phylogenomic and phylodynamic reconstruction of genomes, through the application of advanced computational biology tools;
- 5) Empirical and phylogenetic modelling, including integrative analysis of metadata with phenotypic and phylogenomic data generated in the project;
- 6) Preparation and participation in project meetings and subsequent actions;
- 7) Preparation of manuscripts for publication in scientific journals and other media;
- 8) Participation in dissemination, communication and stakeholder engagement activities of the project.
- 9) Planning and development of laboratory work and collaboration in the guidance of postgraduate and advanced training students.

The work plan is included in task 1-7 of the project OCELOT.

V. Composition of the Jury

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

- President – Dr. Mónica Vieira Cunha;
- 1st Member of the jury – Dr. José Lima Lourenço;
- 2nd Member of the jury – Dr. Artur Bastos Lourenço;
- 1st Alternate Member of the jury – Dr. Ana Maria Reis;
- 2nd Alternate Member of the jury – Dr. Francisco Dionísio.

VI. Place of work

Work will be developed at the facilities of Research Center cE3c – Centre for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes, in Campo Grande, Lisboa, Portugal.

VII. Contract Duration

The full-time indefinite duration fixed-term employment contract, on an exclusive regime, is expected to start in September 2023, and will last until the Work Plan referred to in section IV is completed. It will have an expected duration of 18 months, will not exceed the limits set in the RCD.

VIII. Monthly Allowance

The gross monthly salary is stipulated in clause 1 a) of article 15 of the RCD, corresponding to level 33 of the Single Remuneratory Table, as approved by Government Order No. 1553-C/2008, of December 31st, in its current version, being 2228,11 Euros, on an exclusive regime, on which legal discounts will apply, 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 (5) years, taking into consideration the quality and relevance of the scientific production, and the professional activity indicated as more relevant by the candidate, within the scope of the project OCELOT.
3. Based on the assessment of the candidates' scientific and curricular background in the last five (5) years, each member of the jury presents a justified proposal for admission (final classification equal to or greater than 70%) or exclusion (final classification below 70%) for each candidate, according to the evaluation criteria referred to in no. 5.
4. The final classification of candidates is given on a scale of 0 to 100%.
5. Evaluation of the relative merit of candidates, will rely on the following criteria:
 - a) Participation in relevant scientific projects in the area of microbiology, synthetic biology, and computational biology, focused on the analysis of whole genome sequences, microbial genetics, molecular epidemiology and/or phylodynamics - 30%;
 - b) Scientific publications in the field of microbiology, synthetic biology, and computational biology, focused on the analysis of whole genome sequences, microbial genetics, molecular epidemiology and/or phylodynamics - 50%;
 - c) Pedagogical, outreach and knowledge dissemination activities, namely in the context of the promotion of scientific practices, organisation of courses, seminars and conferences to promote and disseminate knowledge in the area of computational biology, molecular epidemiology, microbial genomics and/or microbial genetics - 10%;
 - d) Appreciation of the motivation letter - 5%;
 - e) Appreciation of the reference letter(s) - 5%;
 - f) Interview, if deemed necessary by the jury - 10%.
6. The jury may decide to interview the 3 best ranked candidates [in criteria a) to e) of no. 5], 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 e) will correspond to 90% of the final classification and the interview will correspond to 10%.
7. The jury shall deliberate by means of a roll-call vote based on the evaluation criteria.
8. Minutes of the jury meetings are drawn up, summarizing all relevant elements considered by jury members, as well as their individual votes and justifications.
9. After completion of the evaluation process, the jury will draw up a ranking of successful candidates with their classifications.

10. Hiring will be decided by the Chairman of the Board of Directors of FCiências.ID, based on the final jury recommendation.
11. 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.
12. With the notification referred to in the no. 11, the hearing phase of interested parties referred to in Article 121 *et seq.* of the CPA will begin, and last for ten working days.
13. 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.
14. 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.
15. 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 no. 13 - 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. Processing of personal data

1. FCiências.ID - Associação para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Ciências, as the responsible for processing the personal data, in accordance with the [General Data Protection Regulation](#), collects and processes the personal data requested in the context the job application, under paragraphs b) and c) of Article 6.1 of the General Data Protection Regulation (RGPD).
2. The personal data shall be kept for the period necessary for the execution of the purposes for which they are intended, and the processing and protection, in an appropriate and diligent manner, of the confidentiality and integrity of such data shall be ensured through appropriate technical and organisational measures.
3. Personal data may be transmitted to third parties, namely the entity funding the research project, solely for the purposes specifically established. In this sense, whenever necessary the transfer of personal data to countries outside the European Union and/or international organizations, compliance with the applicable legal provisions shall be ensured.
4. You have the right to request access, rectification, erasure, limitation of processing, the right to object and also data portability (if technically feasible) by sending an e-mail to: dpo@fciencias-id.pt. You also have the right to lodge a complaint with the National Data Protection Commission.
5. For more information, we recommend that you consult the Internal Rules of Data Protection of FCiências.ID - Association for Research and Development of Sciences at <https://fciencias-id.pt/>.

XI. 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 3rd, 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.

XII. Submission of Applications

1. The present call will be open from the 28th of July 2023 to the 21st of August 2023.
2. The application and all the required documents must be submitted in Portuguese or English.
3. Applications will be submitted online, through the electronic platform of FCIências.ID (<http://concursos.fcencias-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* in PDF format - *mandatory*;
 - 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. Reference letter(s) (maximum 2) - *mandatory*;
 - v. 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*;
 - vi. Other documents that candidates consider relevant for the assessment of their scientific merit, or to declare the personal situation in the cases covered in section XI-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 no. 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 the 27th of July 2023.