

Research Fellowship

Reference: LTER/BIA-BEC/0004/2009

Link to the call:

<http://www.eracareers.pt/opportunities/index.aspx?task=global&jobId=46315&lang=pt>

CIBIO (Research Center in Biodiversity and Genetic Resources) is seeking a graduate student to conduct research in “Sabor-LTER –Sabor fragmentation experiment: understanding long-term ecological consequences of infrastructure development and compensatory mitigation” (Reference LTER/BIA-BEC/0004/2009), funded by Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, with state budget.

1. Duration and working conditions: Duration of 4 months, not renewable, starting in 1 September 2014, in a regime of exclusivity, following the regulations for advanced training of Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT)

<http://alfa.fct.mctes.pt/apoios/bolsas/normasbolsasemprojectos>) and the internal regulations of ICETA/CIBIO.

2. Scientific area: Ecology

3. Research objectives: The LTER-Sabor project uses the building of the Baixo Sabor dam in NE Portugal as an opportunity to set a long-term and large-scale habitat fragmentation “experiment”, whereby the ecological consequences of infrastructure development and its associated biodiversity offsets can be analysed in detail over a range of spatial and temporal scales.

4. Description of work: The successful applicant will join the research group developing the LTER-Sabor project, collaborating in the development of fragmentation ecology studies, whereby predictions will be tested on the expected relationships between patch attributes (size, isolation) and species occurrences, species diversity and population connectivity, examining further how these relationships are affected by patch dynamics and matrix attributes. Activities will include: (i) field work; (ii) data analysis; (iii) collaboration in the publication of results; and (iv) collaboration in the preparation of the final report. The field work will mostly be carried out within the Site of Community Importance of the Rivers Sabor and Maçãs (Trás-os-Montes, NE Portugal).

5. Scientific supervision: Pedro Beja (<http://www.researcherid.com/rid/A-7851-2008>)

6. Candidate profile: The successful candidate should have:

1. A M.Sc. degree in Biology, Ecology or related fields.
2. Be proficient in at least two of the following areas: ecology; zoology; and GIS and statistical analysis,
3. To have background expertise in at least one of the following vertebrate groups: amphibians; reptiles; birds; mammals.
4. Excellent domain of English language (spoken and written) being able to present her/his research in scientific and policy arenas.
5. To have a good publication record in ISI journals.
6. Be autonomous, creative and a critical thinker.

7. Contractor: ICETA – Instituto de Ciências e Tecnologias Agrárias e Agro-Alimentares.

8. Host institution: CIBIO – Centro de Investigação em Biodiversidade e Recursos Genéticos, Lisbon Unit

9. Fellowship: The fellowship includes:

- a) Monthly maintenance allowance (4 months) in accordance with the amounts paid by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT - <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores2009.phtml.en>);
- b) Amount to be paid by the student to subscribe the voluntary social security regime (Scientific Research Grant Recipient Statute; <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/estatutobolseiro.phtml.en>);

10. Application documents:

1. Curriculum vitae (academic courses and grades; publications, participation in research projects, non-academic interests);
2. Motivation letter (including suggestions for the work plan according to the student's research interests);

11. Application deadline: The call is open between July 15 and July 30, 2014.

12. Application submission: Applications should be sent by email to bolsas.cibio@cibio.up.pt.

13. Selection of candidates: Selection will be based on academic excellence (50%), adequacy to the profile intended to the LTER project (30%), and motivation of the candidate (20%). If necessary, this will be complemented by a personal interview (call

or video conference, if necessary) to a short list of the most adequate candidates. No candidate will be selected if there is no applicant meeting the call requirements.

14. Selection panel: Pedro Beja (President), António Mira and Hugo Rebelo (Vogal) and Ana Filipa Filipe (Vogal Suplent)