

## CALL FOR AWARDING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS WITHIN PROJECT GRANTS AND R&D INSTITUTIONS

### One Research Fellowship for PhD Student

1 Research Fellowship(s) (BI) is(are) open at the **FCiências.ID – Associação para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Ciências**, for the project/R&D institution “RENEWAL - Promoting the resilience of agroforestry systems in drylands to a more arid future ensuring ecosystem functions and services”, PTDC/ASP-SIL/7743/2020, funded by the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P./MCTES through national funds (PIDDAC) under the programme All Scientific Domains, under the following conditions:

1. **Scientific Area:** Environmental Sciences, Ecology
2. **Requirements for admission:** Master in Biology; driving license; research experience
3. **Additional optional skills and qualifications:** Experience in 1) biology and ecology of plant species, and ecology of semi-arid areas; 2) autonomous fieldwork, including setting up field experiments and monitoring; 3) use of Geographic Information Systems, remote detection data (multispectral images from optical sensors) and statistical analysis, preferably in R environment; 4) ecological restoration trials or growth of woody species in the field; 5) collection and processing of spectral data.
4. **Contracting requirements:** Presentation of the academic qualifications and/or diplomas. Enrolment in PhD
5. **Work plan:** Within the scope of the RENEWAL project, the tasks to be developed aim to determine how the plant communities present in oak woodlands respond to drought conditions, with the ultimate objective of promoting the resilience of this semi-arid agroforestry system to climate change, and consist of: 1) Selection and characterization of study sites along an aridity gradient, including areas suitable for installing drought simulation experiments at montado LTER sites; 2) Initial sampling of the plant community composition at the study sites, for identification and quantification of plant species and their functional characterization, and collection and analysis of soil samples; 3) Installation of the drought simulation experiment in the field, including temperature and air humidity and soil humidity sensors, and quantification of the amount of precipitation excluded; 4) Annual and seasonal monitoring of the evolution of vegetation and soil and climate parameters at the study sites, analysis and processing of spectral data, and quantification of regulatory ecosystem services through field data and remote sensing information; 5) Elaboration of a database of the results obtained in excel environment and calculation of indices of taxonomic, functional and phylogenetic structure and diversity, in R environment; 6) Statistical analysis of the data, evaluating the relationship between the calculated diversity indices and environmental variables and the comparison of the results obtained in space and over time; 7) Writing of reports and preparation of publications and scientific communications based on the analysis and integration of results.
6. **Legislation framework:** Research Fellowship Holder Statute, in accordance with Law 40/2004, of 18 August, in its current version and the FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships, in its current version (Reg. 950/2019 published in DR on 16<sup>th</sup> December: <https://dre.pt/application/file/a/127230968>, or at the FCT website: <https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/regulamento.phtml.pt>), and FCiências.ID Fellowship Regulation, as approved on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 (available at [Regulamento de Bolsas de Investigação Científica da FCiências.ID](#)).

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7. **Place of work:** The work will be developed at the Centre for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes (cE3c) under the scientific supervision of Professor Alice Nunes.
8. **Fellowship duration:** This position is initially opened for 6 months due to start in March of 2022. The fellowship contract may be potentially renewed for until the end of the project, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation of Research Fellowships from the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P.
9. **Monthly allowance:** The fellowship amounts to € 1144,64, according to [table values](#) of the fellowships awarded directly by the FCT, IP. The fellowship holder will have a personal accident insurance and can ensure the right to social security through adherence to the voluntary social insurance scheme, if not covered by any other social protection scheme, pursuant to *Código dos Regimes Contributivos do Sistema Previdencial de Segurança Social*. The fellowship will be paid monthly by bank transfer
10. **Evaluation and selection process:** Candidates will be assessed by the quality of their CV (15%) and knowledge of biology and ecology of plant species and ecology of the semi-arid region (20%); driving license and experience in autonomous fieldwork, including setting up fieldwork and monitoring (20%); knowledge of Geographic Information Systems and statistics (15%); experience in ecological restoration trials or growth of woody species in the field (20%); experience processing remote sensing data, preferably sentinel 2 (10%); interview only the first 2 classified, and only in the case of <10% percentage difference between them (10%, in which case the remaining percentages will be readjusted to 90%).
11. **Selection Committee:** Cristina Branquinho (President of the jury), Alice Nunes and Helena Serrano (members of the jury) and Alexandra Oliveira (alternate member of the jury).
12. **Publication/notification of results:** All the candidates will be notified by e-mail, sent by the call holder, with the selection meeting minutes enclosed.
13. **Deadlines:** This call for applications is open from 22/02/22 to 07/03/2022.
14. **Application:** Applications should be sent via e-mail to [amanunes@fc.ul.pt](mailto:amanunes@fc.ul.pt); [cmbranquinho@fc.ul.pt](mailto:cmbranquinho@fc.ul.pt), by attaching the following documents:
- Curriculum vitae - **CV may be provided in PDF or through the [CIÊNCIAVITAE](#) system**;
  - Certificate of completion of previous degree;
  - motivation letter, indicating how the candidate's CV is suitable for the scholarship;
  - other documents or declarations of honour considered relevant that prove compliance with the requirements for admission.
15. **Time limits for the appeal procedure:** In case of negative decision, the candidates have 10 business days, after the date of announcement of the results of the candidates evaluation, to pronounce their disagreement in accordance with the *Código do Procedimento Administrativo*. Appeals against the final decision may be submitted to the Administration Board of FCIências.ID ([fciencias.id@fciencias-id.pt](mailto:fciencias.id@fciencias-id.pt)) within 15 business days after the notification date

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**Note 1:** The documents that prove the entitlement of the academic qualifications and diplomas, or the proof of registration in the academic degree or diploma requested on the call, can be dismissed during the application period and replaced by a declaration on their honour from the applicant. Their delivery is mandatory for the fellowship contractualization.

**Note 2:** Please note that - higher education degrees and diplomas awarded by foreign higher education institutions - need to be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution, pursuant to the [Decree-Law nr. 66/2018](#) (August 16) and the [Ministerial Order nr. 33/2019](#) (January 25). The presentation of the recognition certificate is mandatory for contract signature. More information can be obtained at: <https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition>.