

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR THE AWARD OF GRANT IN THE SCOPE OF R&D PROJECTS AND INSTITUTIONS [M/F]

A tender is hereby opened for the award of **1 (one) Research Grant (RG)** in the scope of R&D project "POLLINATE - Can biochar-engineered soils boost habitat use for pollinators in Portuguese sown biodiverse pastures?" (PTDC/EAM-AMB/1509/2021), hosted by Centre for Environmental and Marine Studies (CESAM) of the University of Aveiro and funded by FCT/MCTES, under the following conditions:

1. Scientific Area: Environmental Sciences and Engineering, Agricultural Sciences, Applied Biology, Ecology or related scientific areas.

2. Funding Source: Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P./MCTES, through national funds (PIDDAC).

3. Admission Requirements:

1) MSc holders in the areas of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, Agricultural Sciences, Applied Biology, Ecology or related scientific areas, enrolled* (or that fulfil the requisites to enrol) in doctoral program or in courses without academic degree conferencing integrated in the educational program of University of Aveiro.

2) Availability to start functions on the 3rd January 2024.

Are preferential selection factors:

- Having research experience with soil and/or plants (e.g. monitoring of plant growth or ecophysiological parameters);

- Holding a driving license (EU).

*The proof of enrolment must be made available until the contract is awarded, and the candidate may attach a [declaration of honor](#) to confirm that they meet the requirements for enrolment in an integrated master's degree or master's.

If the qualification has been conferred by a foreign higher education institution it must be **recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution**, under the terms of the provisions of article 25 of Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of August 16th, which approves the legal regime of recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of Higher Education, attributed by foreign higher education institutions, and of paragraph e) of no. 2 of article 4 of Decree-Law no. 60/2018, of August 3rd, and any formalities established therein must be fulfilled by the date of the hiring act.

4. Eligibility: Applicants are eligible if they comply with paragraph a) of no.1 of article 2, of the Research Fellow Statute as amended by Decree-Law no. 123/2019, of August 28th, as well as nos. 1 and 2 of article 6 of the Research Grant Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology. The RG(s) awarded to undergraduate or master students enrolled in courses that do not confer academic degree may only be granted to those who do not exceed, upon conclusion of the grant contract in question, including possible renewals, an accumulated period of two years in that type of grant, consecutive or interpolated, under the terms of no.5 of article 6 of the aforementioned Regulations.

5. Work plan: The selected candidate will carry out experimental work within the scope of the project that includes: i) studies of plant germination, growth and ecophysiology; ii) sampling and monitoring of endogenous flora of pastures; iii) optimization of approaches for monitoring flowering, rooting and soil mycorrhizal communities; iv) sampling and physical-chemical analysis of soils and organic substrates; v)

planning, execution, management of experimental data, statistical analysis and communication/reporting of results.

6. Applicable legislation and regulations: Statute of Scientific Research Grant Holder, as amended by Decree-Law no. 123/2019, of August 28th; Regulation no. 950/2019, of November 29th, published in Diário da República, no. 241, Series II, of December 16th (FCT, I.P. Research Grants Regulation); Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of August 16th (Legal regime for recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of higher education awarded by foreign higher education institutions).

7. Workplace: The laboratory work component will be carried out at Department of Environment and Planning (DAO) and CESAM of the University of Aveiro. The field component will be carried out at the project experimental field site (Covilhã region, Central Portugal). The grant-holder will be supervised by researchers Doctor Ana Catarina Bastos (CESAM and UA), Doctor Franciscus Verheijen (CESAM and UA) and Doctor Maria Johanna Elisabeth Jongen (MARETEC and Instituto Superior Técnico of University of Lisbon), with mentorship by Master in Science Antun Jelincic (DAO and CESAM at UA).

8. Duration of the grant: The grant duration will be 3 months starting from 15 January 2024, and may be renewed for up to 9 additional months, i.e. maximum limit of approved funding. Under no circumstances shall it exceed the limits defined in nos. 3 and 4 of article 6, of Regulation no. 950/2019, of November 29th, published in Diário da República, no. 241, Series II, of December 16th (Research Grants Regulation of FCT, I.P.).

9. Amount of monthly maintenance allowance: The amount of the grant corresponds to €1.199,64, according to the table of monthly maintenance allowance amounts set out in Annex I of Regulation no. 950/2019, subject to any updates that may be applicable, under the terms of no. 2 of article 18 of Regulation no. 950/2019, of November 29th, published in Diário da República, no. 241, Series II, of December 16th (Research Grants Regulation of FCT, I.P.). The fellow may also be reimbursed for the amount corresponding to the Voluntary Social Security, in case of adherence to this plan.

10. Selection methods: The selection methods to be used will be the following: Curriculum Vitae evaluation (CV; 40%); research experience relevant to the workplan (EXP; 30%); motivation letter (ML; 10%); and an interview (INT; 20%), all on a scale of 0-20 points.

The interview, which will take place via videoconference via Zoom, will only be carried out in the event that it may be necessary to clarify any aspect related to the documents submitted upon application or break the tie in voting for the candidates ranked in the top 2 positions; in this case, the final evaluation will result from the application of the formula indicated above, and the candidates will receive the invitation for the interview, with indication of date and time, via the email address provided at the time of application.

The final classification of the candidates is calculated using the formula: $\text{Final score} = (0,4*CV) + (0,3*EXP) + (0,1*ML) + (0,2*INT)$. If there is no interview, the final classification will be the same as the classification obtained in the documental curricular evaluation.

The Jury reserves the right to exclude candidates who do not achieve the minimum classification of 14 points on a scale of 0-20, as well as that of not selecting any candidate if it considers that none has the required profile for the intended position.

11. Composition of the Selection Jury:

President of the Jury: Doctor Ana Catarina Gomes Marcelo Bastos (Doctorate Researcher) of CESAM and University of Aveiro;

Effective jury members: Doctor Franciscus Gert Anton Verheijen (Assistant Researcher) and Doctor Isabel Maria Alves Natividade Campos (Doctorate Researcher) of CESAM and University of Aveiro;



Substitute jury members: Doctor Dalila do Rosário Encarnação Serpa (Doctorate Researcher) and Doctor Oscar Pelayo Gonzalez (Doctorate Researcher) of CESAM and University of Aveiro.

12. Deadline for applications and how to submit applications: The call is open from 13 December to 28 December 2023, and only applications submitted within the deadline will be admitted.

Applications must be formalized, mandatorily, by sending an application letter accompanied by the following documents: Application form for research grants available at [Research fellows - sgrh - Universidade de Aveiro \(ua.pt\)](#), Curriculum Vitae dated and signed, certificate of qualifications, declaration of honor (if applicable), motivation letter, copy of driving license and other supporting documents deemed relevant in view of the admission or of the selection criteria. Applicants shall also indicate the e-mail address to which by such indication they accept to be notified for all purposes within this procedure.

Applications must be sent by e-mail to a.c.bastos@ua.pt (Doctor Ana Catarina Bastos, project's Principal Investigator), with Cc to verheijen@ua.pt (Doctor Franciscus Verheijen, project's co-Principal Investigator), mentioning the reference of this Notice in the Subject.

13. Form of publication/notification of results: The final results of the evaluation will be published through an ordered list posted on the University's website-DAO, within 90 working days after the final date of submission of the application, and the successful candidate will be notified by email. For the purposes of prior hearing of interested parties, the deadline of 10 working days is set, as provided for in the Code of Administrative Procedure. At the end of the period for hearing the interested parties, and in the absence of any response from them, the list of candidates will become final. Candidates may lodge a complaint against the final decision within 15 working days, or appeal to the maximum executive body of the funding entity within 30 working days after notification of the final decision, in accordance with the provisions of article 12 of the Research Grants Regulation of the Foundation for Science and Technology.

14. Tender duration: The final ranking list of candidates will be valid until 1st March 2024 for the purpose of constituting a reserve list for selection.

The models of the grant contract and of the final report to be prepared by the grant holder and the supervisor are available at [Research fellows - sgrh - Universidade de Aveiro \(ua.pt\)](#).

University of Aveiro, 5 December 2023

Doctor Ana Catarina Bastos (project PI)

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