

Reference: Public notice RG/CESAM/BEAUTY/2024

NOTICE FOR THE AWARD OF GRANTS IN THE SCOPE OF R&D PROJECTS AND INSTITUTIONS

A tender is hereby opened for the award of *one Research Grant* (RG) in the scope of R&D projects (*BEAUTY: Big gEnome wide Applications for an ecotoxicology soil model – a knowledge base to Unravel mechanisms (nanopesTY_cides)/ Department of Biology and CESAM*), PTDC/CTA-AMB/3970/2020, under the following conditions:

1. Scientific Area: *Biological Sciences or similar/related*

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

3. Admission Requirements: Graduates or Masters in *Biological Sciences or similar/related* (*enrolled in courses that do not confer academic degree integrated in the educational project of the University of Aveiro*).

(View Courses at: [Courses - University of Aveiro \(ua.pt\)](https://ua.pt) and [Training at UA - Universidade de Aveiro](https://ua.pt))

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, master's or doctoral program or in a course that does not confer an academic degree.

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 purpose and the grant objectives are to research on ecotoxicity of advanced materials (AdMa) such as nanopesticides, including databases on tools to assess long-term environmental effects of AdMa, including alternative tests, e.g. multigenerational testing linked to advanced gene expression, based on high-throughput gene expression analysis (microarrays, NGS) and other omics. Knowledge regarding materials characterisation techniques is an asset. The research activities are integrated in the project scope and will be performed in collaboration with other partners as deemed necessary. The fellow will benefit from working within an interdisciplinary consortium and collaboration with international research institutions.

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 work will be carried out at the Department of Biology and CESAM (Center for Environmental and Marine Studies) of the University of Aveiro, under the scientific supervision of Doctor Mónica João de Barros Amorim.

8. Duration of the grant(s): The grant duration will be 6 months, starting in April of 2024, and may be renewed for, up to the maximum limit of approved funding (2025). 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 €930,98 (degree) or €1.199,64 (Master), 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:

10.1. final degree average classification (≥ 16 , out of 20) – 35%

10.2. Experience in the area; - 10%

10.3. Number and impact of publications in scientific journals; - 10%

10.4. Interest in pursuing further research towards a PhD degree; - 30%

10.5. Team work and integration ability; - 1%

10.6. Immediate availability and flexible timetable; - 1%

10.7. Availability to spend periods abroad; - 10%

10.8. Good knowledge in English (spoken and written); - 3%

10.9. Performance in interview, if necessary, where the development perspectives will be evaluated in terms of the scientific career in the area, with particular focus on the project topic.

with the respective scoring as mentioned per point. **ATTENTION: INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ASSESSED.**

11. Composition of the Selection Jury: Mónica Amorim (Principal Researcher), President of the jury, Amadeu Soares (Full Professor), and Susana Gomes (Auxiliary Researcher), Isabel Lopes (Principal Researcher) and Susana Loureiro (Assistant Professor) vogals, all from the University of Aveiro.

12. Deadline for applications and how to submit applications: The call is open from 23rd February 2024 to 15th March 2024, and only applications submitted within the deadline will be admitted.

Applications must be formalized by sending a letter of application accompanied by the following documents:

1- Motivation letter addressed to Mónica Amorim, referring on the subject the project reference (RG/CESAM/BEAUTY/2024), and reference to the evaluation criteria mentioned in point 10 (Selection criteria) of the present announcement.

2- Detailed CV, indicating at least 2 reference contact people. The CV should clearly specify the obtained academic degrees, including year, local, thesis titles, as well as track-record of final averages of degrees, publications in scientific journals and respective impact factors, besides other important information.

3- Copies of certificates of the degrees obtained, in particular, Master's degree in the relevant area. If the degree(s) have been obtained abroad the respective documents relative to equivalence and due grades are required.

4- Work plan proposal outline (max 1 page) based on the project description (see <https://www.cesam-la.pt/projetos/bela-geenoma-com-aplicacoes-de-larga-escala-para-um-modelo-de-ecotoxicologia-de-solo-uma-base-de->

[conhecimento-para-descobrir-mecanismos-nanopesticidas-2/](#) including a) context, b) hypothesis and c) experimental strategy.

They shall also indicate the e-mail address to which by such indication they accept to be notified for all purposes within this procedure.

Applications should be sent by e-mail to mjamorim@ua.pt

13. Form of publication/notification of results: The final results of the evaluation will be published through an ordered list alphabetically posted on the University's website, 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 July 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 (6/February/2024)

(Mónica Amorim)