Reference: BI-1/CESAM/ODESSA/2025

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

A tender is hereby opened for the award of *1* **Research Grant** (RG) in the scope of R&D projects 'ODESSA – An open-source collaborative platform linking air quality and health using state-of-the-art machine learning algorithms', with reference *2024.07293.IACDC*, under the following conditions:

1. Scientific Area*:* Environmental Engineering and related fields, Meteorology, or Computer Science.

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

3. Admission Requirements: Students enrolled in doctorate.

Preferential selection factors include having prior knowledge in the environment area, using Python programming language, R, and/or statistical data analysis, knowledge of machine learning, and oral and written comprehension of the English language.

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 doctoral program.

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 scholarship aims to support activities within the ODESSA project, specifically in processing and interpreting air quality and health data, as well as assisting in the drafting of project documents. The tasks to be carried out include:

 i) Developing scripts for processing air quality and health data;

ii) Communication and dissemination of the project;

iii) Supporting the preparation of scientific articles and reports.

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 Department of Environment and Planning (DAO) of the University of Aveiro, under the scientific supervision of Doctor Hélder Alexandre Relvas Paulo.

8. Duration of the grant: The grant duration will be 6 months, starting in June of 2025, and may be renewed for additional periods up to the 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 €1,309.64, 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 Evaluation (CE):
       1.1. Curriculum Vitae (20%);
       1.2. Academic qualifications and respective classification (20%);
       1.3. Experience in using programming tools for data analysis (e.g., Python, R) (30%);
       1.4. Knowledge in the field of air quality modelling and assessment (30%);
Final evaluation = CE (100%)
Candidates who obtain a final score lower than 10 points on a scale of 0-20 points in the final evaluation will be excluded from the present scholarship selection. The jury reserves the right not to award the scholarship if none of the candidates meet the desired profile.

11. Composition of the Selection Jury: The selection committee will be composed of the Chair, Professor Amadeu Soares (Full Professor), and the effective members, Doctor Hélder Alexandre Relvas Paulo (PhD Researcher – Level 1), Professor Ana Isabel Couto Neto da Silva Miranda (Full Professor), and Doctor Diogo José Sousa Lopes (PhD Researcher – Level 1). Additionally, Professor Myriam Alexandra dos Santos Batalha Dias Nunes Lopes (Assistant Professor) and Doctor Carla Gama (PhD Researcher – Level 1), all from the University of Aveiro, will also be part of the committee.

12. Deadline for applications and how to submit applications: The call is open from **March 31 to April 18, 2025**, and only applications submitted within this period will be considered.
Applications must be formalized by sending a letter of application accompanied by the following documents:
1) Application form for research grants, available at Research fellows – sgrh – Universidade de Aveiro (ua.pt);
2) Curriculum Vitae;
3) Certificate of qualifications;
4) Proof of enrolment in a doctoral program or Declaration of honor;
5) Other supporting documents deemed relevant. 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 email to cesam-bolsas@ua.pt, with a Copy to helder.relvas@ua.pt, and include the reference number of this Public Notice (BI-1/CESAM/ODESSA/2025) in the email subject.

13. Form of publication/notification of results: The final results of the evaluation will be published through an ordered list by final mark obtained posted on the University's website, within 90 working days after the final date of submission

of the application, and the candidates 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 September 30, 2025, to constitute 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).