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Announcement  
for the attribution  
of 1 Research  
Scholarship

## UNIVERSIDADE DO MINHO

### Centro de Biologia Molecular e Ambiental (CBMA)

#### Announcement for the attribution of one Research Scholarship BI3/SOILRECON-CBMA/2024

A call for tenders is now open for the attribution of one Research Scholarship within the scope of the R&D project "SOILRECON - Soil ecosystems in the 21st century: pressures, conservation and future scenarios." reference PTDC/BIA-CBI/2340/2020 with financial support by the budget of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P. (FCT, IP) in its OE component, under the following conditions:

- 1. Scientific Area:** Biological Sciences
- 2. Recipients:**
  - i) Candidates with an MSc in Ecology or related areas, enrolled in a Doctoral Programme.  
  
Preferential factors:  
Preference will be given to candidates who have some familiarity in the analysis of soil nematode communities.
- 3. Eligibility of applicants:** applicants must meet the eligibility conditions established in article 9 of the FCT I.P Research Grant Regulation (2019).
- 4. Work plan:**

The candidates will carry out R&D activities under the context of the project, aiming at the consolidation of their scientific training.

The candidate will participate in the analysis and integration of data collected in the SoilRecon Project on the biodiversity and distribution of soil nematodes, further participating in the development and supervising the edition of the nematode section in the Soil Biodiversity Atlas of the North of Portugal.
- 5. Applicable legislation and regulations:** Law No. 40/2004, of 18 August (Statute of Scientific Research Fellows); amended by Decree-Law 202/2012 of 27 August, by Law no. 12/2013 of 29 January 2013, by Decree-Law no. 89/2013, of 9 July, and by Decree-Law no.123/2019 of August 28; Regulation of Research Scholarships of the University of Minho and the Foundation for Science and Technology I.P, in force.  
<https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/regulamentos.phtml.pt>.
- 6. Host institution and scientific supervision:** The work will be developed at the Centre of Molecular and Environmental Biology, Campus de Gualtar-Braga, supervised by Dr. Sofia Costa.
- 7. Duration of the Research Scholarship:** The research scholarships will last 4 months, starting on November 2024.
- 8. Monthly Maintenance Allowance:** The monthly maintenance allowance corresponds to the basic value of 990,98 euros, according to the table of scholarships of FCT, I.P. in the

country (Appendix I - Table of monthly maintenance allowances for the FCT I.P. Research Scholarship Regulation): <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores>. **Other benefits:** Reimbursement of the Voluntary Social Insurance, corresponding to the 1st tier of the contribution base (for scholarships of 6 months or more) and Personal Accident Insurance. Payments are made by bank transfer to the account identified by the scholarship holder.

## 9. Jury:

President: Sofia dos Santos Rocha Costa, Researcher, Centre of Molecular and Environmental Biology, School of Sciences, University of Minho and

Effective members:

Rui Manuel Peixoto Tavares, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, School of Sciences, University of Minho

Isabel Rodrigues Fernandes, Researcher, Centre of Molecular and Environmental Biology, School of Sciences, University of Minho

Substitute members:

Maria Teresa da Silva Craveiro Martins de Almeida, Retired Professor, Department of Biology, School of Sciences, University of Minho

If the President of the Jury is unavailable, he shall be replaced by the first effective member. The first substitute member will replace the effective member.

The Jury, including the President, undertake the commitment to respect a set of responsibilities essential to the evaluation process, such as the duties of impartiality, of stating any potential situations of conflict of interest and confidentiality.

**10. Evaluation and Selection Process:** The evaluation of the applications will focus on the merit of the applicant, by applying the following criteria on a scale of 1 (insufficient) to 5 (excellent):

- (30%) Academic record of the candidate (including performance in related courses, and past experience in research projects).
- (30%) Research experience and interest for the following areas of research: nematode identification and ecology, analysis of factors affecting soil organism distribution.
- (30%) Motivation letter.
- (10%) English language level.

**The jury may also decide not to assign the Scholarship if none of candidates meets the minimum required conditions (final grade above 4).** Documents proving the ownership of academic degrees and diplomas, or their respective recognition when foreign higher education institutions have awarded them may be dispensed with at the application stage, being replaced by a declaration of honour by the candidate, with the verification of this condition occurring only in phase of contracting the scholarship. This statement must attest facts that occurred on a date prior to the application. In situations of divergence between the information contained in the declaration and the documentation submitted for the purpose of contracting a grant, only the information contained in the latter will be considered. If it is verified that the documents proving the ownership of the academic degree and diploma, or the respective recognition under the terms of Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16, do not correspond to the classifications awarded in the evaluation of the academic path and may, consequently, changing the candidate's ranking, the scholarship will not be contracted.

*Note: Applicants with degrees obtained abroad must present proof of recognition of qualifications in Portugal and conversion of the final classification obtained in them to the*

*Portuguese classification scale or declaration under the terms indicated in the previous point. Candidates who do not comply with one of these provisions, the jury will assign the minimum grade in the grade of the degree and/or master's course, according to the defined scale of values. of a higher education institution, in the area or area related to that requested in notice.*

- 11. Communication of results:** The project evaluation results, based on the minutes, will be sent to candidates by email, within 90 working days after the deadline for submission of applications. If the result is unfavourable to the granting of the requested scholarship, the candidates have a period of 10 working days to comment, if desired, in the context of a prior hearing to interested parties, pursuant to articles 121 and 122 of the Code of Administrative Procedure (DL nº 4 /2015 of January 7th).
- 12. Complaint and appeal procedures:** The final results of the evaluation will be publicized through an ordered list (alphabetically, by final grade obtained), by email to all candidates, attaching, for that purpose, the minutes with the deliberations of the jury. The selected candidate must state in writing their intention to accept the scholarship. In case of non-acceptance, the scholarship will be awarded to the next candidate in order of final ranking, provided the final grade remains above 3. A complaint may be filed against the final decision, within 15 working days, addressed to the President of the Jury. Interested parties may also present an optional hierarchical appeal, addressed to the Pro-Rector for Scientific Projects and Research Management, Professor Dr. Sandra Paiva.
- 13. Deadline for application and form of submission of applications:**  
The application is open from 11 to 25 September 2024.

Applications must be formalized, obligatorily, through the following documents: i) Detailed curriculum vitae (pdf form), including the telephone and email contacts of the candidate; ii) official academic degree certificate or declaration of the candidate; iii) Detailed list of grades (pdf form); iv) Motivation letter explaining the interest in the position (pdf form); v) Name of two personal references (pdf form).

Applications must be sent to the e-mail [sofia.costa@bio.uminho.pt](mailto:sofia.costa@bio.uminho.pt) with the documents stated above and in pdf form.  
The application email should clearly state the reference B13/SOILRECON-CBMA/2024 in the subject.

- 14. Conditions for formalizing the contract:**  
On the contract signing date, the selected candidates must prove enrolment in course that confer an academic degree integrated or prove enrolment in non-degree course in the educational project of the institution (UMinho).