

#3878

Public Notice - International Selection Procedure

PhD Scientific Researcher Recruitment (Assistant Researcher)

FCiências.ID/2022/DL57/cE3c/7

FCiências.ID - Associação para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Ciências, through its Chairman of the Board of Directors, hereby announces the opening of an international call for the recruitment of a scientific researcher with a PhD degree, within the scope of the project Second wave: understanding what makes wildlife susceptible to sequential invasions of emerging pathogens (Ref. PTDC/BIA-CBI/2434/2021), funded by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) I.P./MCTES through national funds (PIDDAC), in the form of an indefinite duration fixed-term employment contract on an exclusive regime, according to the Portuguese Labour Code and Decree-Law No. 57/2016, of August 29th, as amended by Law No. 57/2017, of July 19th.

I. Admission Requirements

Portuguese nationals, foreign and stateless persons may submit applications to this selection procedure, provided they hold a doctoral degree¹ in biological sciences or similar areas, have specialised skills and/or expertise in the field of emerging diseases in wildlife and co-infection systems, and fully comply with the following requirements:

- a) The PhD must have been granted at least 5 years ago.
- b) Scientific experience, demonstrated by publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals, in the topics of this call;
- c) Experience in the participation of national and/or international science projects in the scientific areas of this call, particularly in field and laboratory sample collection, processing all samples using qPCR diagnostics;
- d) Proven experience in carrying out experiments with amphibians involving exposure to infectious agents (fungal, viral or both), including the assessment of zoospore production, pathogen transmission and infection dynamics;
- e) Experience in supervision of graduate students in the scientific areas of this call;
- f) The candidate must also have excellent proficiency in both Portuguese and English language (written and spoken).

¹ Please note that Degrees obtained in foreign countries need a Portuguese Recognition issued by a Portuguese high degree Institution, according to the [Decree-Law nr. 66/2018](#), of August 16th and the [Ministerial Order nr. 33/2019](#), of January 25th. The presentation of such Recognition is mandatory for contract signature. More information can be obtained in: <https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition>.

II. Applicable Law

1. Decree-Law No. 57/2016, of August 29th (RCD), in the wording conferred on it by Law No. 57/2017, of July 19th (RCD);
2. Portuguese Labour Code, as approved by Law No. 7/2009, of February 12th, in its current version (CT);
3. Regulatory Decree No. 11-A/2017, of December 29th;
4. Administrative Procedure Code, as published in Decree-Law No. 4/2015, of January 7th, in its current version (CPA).

III. Work Plan

Three decades of research have shown that pathogens, particularly chytridiomycete fungi and ranaviruses, are responsible for infectious diseases causing catastrophic declines on all continents where amphibians exist. But despite these two pathogens being known to co-occur and share hosts, attempts to disentangle their interactions and (co-)impacts in wild populations are very limited. The work plan intends to break down their emergent coinfection dynamics into its constituent parts i) establishment/amplification and ii) disease emergence - as they operate in a multihost community. This approach will allow identifying how secondary infections interact with primary infections at each of these steps.

The specific objectives of the work plan are:

1) Determine the effects of aquatic host species diversity and *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* (*Bd*) on *Ranavirus* (*Rv*) transmission in a multihost community. To this end, the candidate will use an experimental approach, using 2 and 3 species tadpole communities.

2) Ascertain how host community compositions and *Bd* prevalence influence the likelihood of manifestation of ranavirosis in wild amphibian communities. This objective involves field surveillance at locations where *Rv* has secondarily emerged in amphibian communities and select sites with varying disease outcomes. Combined with results from the mesocosm experiment (Obj. 1), this data will be used to parameterise dynamic models that allow individual host species' contributions to a pathogen's community-level basic reproductive number ($R_{0,TOT}$) to be quantified.

The work plan is included in tasks #1, #2 and #4 of the project “The 2nd wave: understanding what makes wildlife susceptible to sequential invasions of emerging pathogens” (PTDC/BIA-CBI/2434/2021).

IV. Composition of the Jury

In accordance to article 13 of the RCD, the members of the jury are:

- President – Professor Rui Miguel Borges Sampaio e Rebelo;
- 1st Member of the jury – Professor Maria Filomena Magalhães;
- 2nd Member of the jury – Professor Maria Ana Peixe Dias;
- 1st Alternate Member of the jury – Professor Luis Miguel do Carmo Rosalino;
- 2nd Alternate Member of the jury – Tiago Capela Lourenço, PhD.

V. Place of work

Work will be developed at the facilities of the Centre for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes (cE3c), located in the Campus of the Faculty of Sciences – University of Lisbon, Campo Grande, Lisbon, Portugal.

VI. Contract Duration

The full-time indefinite duration fixed-term employment contract is expected to start on April 2022, and will last until the Work Plan referred to in section III is completed. It will have an expected duration of 24 months, will not exceed the limits set in the RCD, including an initial experimental trial period of 30 days.

VII. Monthly Allowance

The gross monthly salary corresponds to the position 1 of Assistant Researcher, being 3 230,21 Euros, on an exclusive regime, as stipulated in article 15 of the RCD, plus holiday and Christmas allowances, as well as food allowance in the amount and conditions set out for workers with a legal employment relationship under the Labour Code.

VIII. Evaluation of applications

1. Failure to comply with the Admission Requirements implies the non-admission of candidates in absolute merit.
2. According to article 5 of the RCD, the selection of the candidates approved in absolute merit will rely on the evaluation of their scientific and curricular achievements in the last five years, taking into consideration the quality and relevance of the scientific production, and the professional activity indicated as more relevant by the candidate, for the project.
3. The final classification of candidates is given on a scale of 0 to 100%.
4. Evaluation of the relative merit of candidates, will rely on the following criteria:
 - a) Scientific publications on the topic of the call - 40%;
 - b) Participation in relevant scientific projects in the topic of the call - 35%;
 - c) Pedagogical and outreach activities, particularly in the context of the promotion of scientific practices, organization of courses, seminars and conferences, in the topic of the call - 10%;
 - d) Supervision of graduate students in the scientific areas of the call - 10%;
 - e) Motivation letter - 5%;
 - f) Interview, if deemed necessary by the jury - 10%.
5. The jury may decide to interview the two best ranked candidates [in criteria a) to e) of paragraph 4)], for clarifications and improved explanations of curricular elements. If there is an interview, the sum of the classification obtained in the evaluation criteria a) to e) will correspond to 90% of the final classification and the interview will correspond to 10%.
6. The jury shall deliberate by means of a roll-call vote based on the evaluation criteria.
7. Minutes of the jury meetings are drawn up, summarizing all relevant elements considered by jury members, as well as their individual votes and justifications.
8. After completion of the evaluation process, the jury will draw up a ranking of successful candidates with their classifications.
9. Hiring will be decided by the Chairman of the Board of Directors of FCIências.ID, based on the final jury recommendation.
10. The evaluation results will be published on the website of the FCIências.ID ("Concursos" tab). The candidates will be individually notified of the evaluation results by e-mail sent to the address indicated in the "Personal Data" section of the submitted form.
11. With the notification referred to in paragraph 10, the hearing phase of interested parties referred to in Article 121 *et seq.* of the CPA will begin, and last for ten working days.
12. The possible pronouncement of the candidate in a prior hearing must be addressed to the President of the jury and submitted in writing to concursos@fciencias-id.pt. The President of the jury will convene a jury's meeting to produce the final decision, within thirty working days.
13. Within five working days of the final jury decision, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of FCIências.ID will approve it and the candidates will be notified.
14. The communication between FCIências.ID (concursos@fciencias-id.pt) and the candidates will be electronic and will comply with the following rules:

- a) At the time of electronic submission of any document - namely in the case of paragraph no 11 - the candidates must generate proof of "sent message".
- b) FCIências.ID will send an email message acknowledging documents received to the email address used by the candidates, within two working days.
- c) In case of absence of a confirmation receipt by FCIências.ID – showing the possibility of technical problems that should neither be the responsibility of the candidate nor FCIências.ID - the candidates should contact FCIências.ID, with the proof referred to in point (a), to ensure delivery and proper receipt of the documents concerned.

IX. Compliance with public policies

1. FCIências.ID actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, so that no candidate can be privileged, benefited, disadvantaged or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty due to, inter alia, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, economic situation, education, social origin or condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs and trade union membership.
2. Under the terms of D.L. No. 29/2001, of February 3, a disabled candidate has a preference in equal classification, which prevails over any other legal preference. Candidates must declare their respective degree of disability, the type of disability and the means of communication / expression to be used in the selection process, under the terms of the above-mentioned diploma.

X. Submission of Applications

1. The present call will be open from 30th March to 12th April 2022.
2. The application and all the required documents may be submitted in Portuguese or English.
3. Applications will be submitted online, through the electronic platform of FCIências.ID (<http://concursos.fcencias-id.pt>).
4. On the electronic platform, applicants will complete a *mandatory* section on Personal Data [name, address, date of birth, contact email, nationality and scientific identifiers] and upload files with the documents listed below:
 - i. Detailed *curriculum vitae* - *mandatory* - **CV may be provided in PDF format or through the [CIÊNCIAVITAE](#) system;**
 - ii. A motivation letter clearly demonstrating that the candidate has an adequate profile for the position and fully complies with the Admission Requirements - *mandatory*;
 - iii. Up to five publications relevant for the objectives of the Work Plan - *mandatory*;
 - iv. Digital copies of documents proving formal academic degrees (PhD) and/or other scientific and professional qualifications - original documents must be provided in case of actual recruitment - *mandatory*;
 - v. Other documents that candidates consider relevant for the assessment of their scientific merit, or to declare the personal situation in the cases covered in section IX-2 of this Notice - *optional*.
5. By decision of the Chairman of the Board of Directors of FCIências.ID, candidates who do not submit the documents identified in paragraph 4 will not be admitted to the call. In case of

doubts, the Chairman may also invite candidates to substantiate specific data or statements with official supporting documents, before accepting the candidates' submission.

This Public Note was approved by the jury on 29th March 2022.