

**Announcement of a RESEARCH GRANT (BI)**  
**Reference: IIA – Mestre – TRANSFORM: Melhor Floresta**

An open call for a research grant is being launched under the project "**PRR 02/C05-i01/2022/34 - TRANSFORM WP1 Management of Resilient Forests, Programa melhor floresta**", of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, financed by the Recovery and Resilience Plan under the following conditions:

**Generic scientific area:** *Forestry*

**Specific scientific area:** *silviculture and forest management*

**Admission requirements:**

According to Article 3 of the Research Fellowship Regulation of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra approved through Dispatch No. 5963/2020, published in "*Diário da República*", 2<sup>nd</sup> serie of June 1, 2020, candidates must:

- Holders of a Master's degree;
- Be enrolled in a doctoral or non-degree program in order to begin the scientific training;
- If the candidate holds a higher education degree obtained abroad, he/she must have the respective degree recognition, if applicable;
- Oral and written fluency in Portuguese and English;
- Knowledge in the area of installation of projects/demonstration plots of good forestry practices;
- Knowledge in carrying out inventories in irregular and mixed stands;
- Proficiency in the use of Geographic Information Systems;
- Experience in participating in demonstration and public participation activities in forest resource management;
- Driver's licence.

**Work plan:**

The work plan to be developed includes the following components:

- 1) Selection of plots to integrate a network of demonstration plots.
- 2) Multi-resource inventory of the plots
- 3) Organization and monitoring of demonstration actions
- 4) Preparation of reports, scientific articles and other material to disseminate the results of the project.

**Duration of the scholarship:**

The scholarship has a term of 6 months, renewable for identical period on an exclusive basis, according to the Research Grant Regulation of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra in force, starting on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Monthly Maintenance Allowance:**

1144.64 euros, according to the table of values of the Research Grants in the Country awarded by FCT, I.P. ([www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores](http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores)), being the payment made monthly by bank transfer.

To this amount is added the voluntary social insurance corresponding to the first level, if the candidate opts for the respective registration. There is also a personal accident insurance.

**Host institution and scientific supervision:**

The work will be carried out at ESAC – Coimbra Polytechnic Agriculture School, and several field places in forest stands located in the central region, under the scientific supervision of Professor Raúl Salas González.

**Selection criteria:**

The evaluation, focused on the merit of the candidates, will be assessed through the weighted linear sum of a set of criteria evaluated on a scale of 0 to 10, and using the vector of weights indicated below:

- 1- Oral and written proficiency in Portuguese and English (weight 0.1);
- 2- Knowledge in the installation of projects / demonstration plots of good forestry practices (weight: 0.3);
- 3-Knowledge of conducting multi-resource inventories in irregular and mixed forest stands (weight: 0.2 points);
- 4- Proficiency in the use of Geographic Information Systems (weight: 0.2);
- 5- Participation in demonstration activities and public participation in forest resources management (0.1);
- 6- Interpersonal skills and experience in organizing and carrying out teamwork with different types of public (0.1).

In the case of a tie between the best ranked candidates in the evaluation of the previous criteria, an interview will be held to refine the evaluation of the criteria: motivation of the candidate; verbal and written fluency in English; autonomy and spirit of initiative; analytical capacity and critical thinking.

**Composition of the Jury:**

The jury responsible for the selection process will have the following composition:

President: Prof. PhD Raúl Salas González (President); Vogals: Prof. PhD Maria Beatriz Machado Fidalgo, PhD Érica Geraldes Castanheira; Substitutes: Prof. PhD José de Jesus Gaspar; Prof. PhD José Manuel Serras Tavares.

**Documents to be submitted:**

Applications must include the following information:

- Identification, identification document number and tax identification number;

- Documents proving that the candidate meets the conditions defined in the admission requirements, namely, 1) certificate of qualifications of the Bachelor's degree and Master's degree 2) certificate of registration or enrolment in courses not conferring an academic degree of initiation to scientific research;
- Applicants with foreign qualifications must provide proof of their foreign degree and diploma in accordance with Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of 16 august;
- Curriculum vitae of the candidate;
- Motivation letter;
- Reference or Recommendation letter(s), including the contact details of the authors of the recommendations.

**Deadline for receipt of applications:**

The call is open during 10 working days from 02/08/2023 to 16/08/2023.

Applications must be sent exclusively by e-mail to [bolsas.investig@ipc.pt](mailto:bolsas.investig@ipc.pt), with the subject “**IIA – Mestre – TRANSFORM: Melhor Floresta**”.

**Legislation and applicable Regulation:**

The award of this scholarship is based in the Law 40/2004, of the 18<sup>th</sup> of August (Statute of the Scientific Research Fellow), changed and republished by the Decree-Law 202/2012, of the 27<sup>th</sup> of August, updated by: Decree-Law 233/2012, Law 12/2013, Decree-Law 89/2013 and Decree-Law 123/2019; the Regulation of the research scholarships from the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I. P. and the Regulation of the Research Scholarships from Coimbra Polytechnic no. 12709/2016, published on the DR, 2<sup>nd</sup> serie, of 21/10/2016.

The model of the scholarship contract, as well as that of the final reports to be prepared by the scholarship holder and the scientific supervisor, are those set out in the annexes to the above-mentioned Statute for Scientific Research Scholarship Holders.

**Information of Results:**

The results of the evaluation will be published within 90 working days from the deadline for submission of applications, by sending a communication to the candidates, via email. After the results have been published, candidates will be notified to, if they wish, give their opinion in a prior hearing within a maximum of 10 working days after that date. After this deadline, the selected candidates will have to declare their acceptance in writing. Unless a justifiable reason is provided, failure to make the declaration within the deadline will be considered as a waiver of the scholarship. In case of resignation or withdrawal of the selected candidate, the immediately best ranked candidate will be notified.

For more information contact: the President of the Jury, by e-mail: [rsalas@esac.pt](mailto:rsalas@esac.pt).

Coimbra, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023