

Call for Application N.º 11/2022

ATTRIBUTION OF A RESEARCH GRANT ON NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS AND URBAN TRANSFORMATIONS

The **Institute of Social Sciences of the University of Lisbon** (ICS-ULisboa) opens a call for 1 (one) position for a PhD scholarship to be held outside Portugal. S/he will be working under the coordination of Dr. Olivia Bina, from the Institute of Social Sciences of the University of Lisbon, providing support towards research on nature-based solutions (NBS) in urban context, critically exploring NBS' relevance or role in changing conceptions of human-nature relationships, and in rising calls for transformative change. S/he will also collaborate to the assessment of NBS in urban contexts, as part of the research project CONEXUS (<https://www.conexusnbs.com/about> funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 under grant agreement no. 867564), under the supervision of Dr. Bina who is ICS's PI for the project.

The successful candidate will be co-supervised by Dr Bina.

An easy-to-read version of this call is available at [ICS website](#).

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1. Scientific Area:

Social Sciences, or other fields and scientific areas relating to conceptions of human-nature relationships and to the practice of nature-based solutions in the context of urban transitions and transformation.

2. Eligible criteria:

2.1. Candidates should possess as mandatory requirements: Candidates for a PhD scholarship will hold an undergraduate degree or a Masters degree in the scientific areas noted above (item 1)

2.2. Candidates should have the following preferential requirements:

2.2.a) Have a strong **research interest and experience** within **two or more** of these research fields: (i) nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem services and/or green infrastructure interventions; (ii) indicator systems for one of the fields listed in (2.2.a.i); (iii) changing conceptions of human-nature relationships; (iv) urban transitions and transformation studies; and (v) urban socio-ecological sustainability;

2.2.b) Have the following **research management skills and experience**: (i) Proven ability to work independently and to self-organize; (ii) Experience in exploring research fields in (a) from multi- and/or inter-disciplinary perspectives; (iii) Experience in collecting and in critically reviewing literature, secondary data, grey literature); and (iv) Knowledge in processing and analyzing qualitative and quantitative data;

2.2.c) Have **experience in writing academic papers** and research project **reports**. An international publication record in the field, as documented by own (can be as co-author) publications would be an asset for applicants for the PhD;

2.2.d) Have the following **language skills**: (i) English language proficiency (equivalent to Common European Framework of Reference-CEFR level C1 or higher); and (ii) Some proficiency in either Spanish and Portuguese, at least in reading and analysing text, would be an asset.

2.2.e) Applicants for the PhD should **submit a research project** linked to some of the areas listed under item 2.2.a, including: a working title, a detailed research statement where you clarify the motivation, aim and scope of the research, a succinct literature review, a proposed set of research questions and theoretical framework, a section on research methods & design enabling you to answer the research question. The proposal must specify the University and Department where you propose to register, and should be maximum 10 pages long, excluding bibliography.

3. Work plan:

Under the coordination of the PI, Dr Bina, the grant holder will carry out the following tasks:

(3.1) Contribute to the systematic review of discourses and narratives in urban transition and transformation through NBS/green infrastructure/ecosystem services; to a systematic review of human-nature relationship conceptions in relation to NBS theory and practice, and related inquiries;

(3.2) Participate in the preparation of a research project proposal at national, European or international level related to the themes in (3.1);

(3.3) Contribute to process and analyse qualitative and quantitative data linked to NBS indicators

linked to CONEXUS; and

(3.4) Support the PI in disseminating findings through co-authoring peer reviewed publications, reports, blog entries or other outputs in English, and also presenting interim findings at national and/or international meetings and/or scientific conferences.

4. Applicable legislation and regulations:

4.1. Law no. 40/2004, of 18 August, amended by Decree-Law no. 202/2012, of 27 August, by Decree-Law no. 233/2012, of 29 October, by Law no. 12/2013, of 29 January, by Decree-Law no. 89/2013, of 9 July, and by Decree-Law no. 123/2019, of 28 August (Research Grant Holder Statute).

4.2. Regulations of the University of Lisbon Research Grant Regulations, approved by Dispatch no. 6238/2020 published in Diário da República, 2.^a série, no 113, of 12 June, amended by Dispatch no 8061/2022 published in Diário da República, 2.^a série, no 126, of 1 July and, alternatively, the Research Grant Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P. (FCT, I.P.), Regulation no. 950/2019, Diário da República, 2.^a série, no 241, of 16 de December.

5. Workplace:

For candidates to a PhD Scholarship the workplace will depend on the place where you register for a PhD, teleworking arrangements, regular online meetings, and up to a maximum of three ad hoc in presence meetings in Lisbon may be agreed with the candidate.

6. Scientific Orientation:

Doctor Olivia Bina, responsible for the project under the scope of the present tender.

7. Duration of the grant:

The PhD scholarship outside Portugal will cover 12 months, with the possibility of a further 6 months depending on the availability of funding.

8. Amount of monthly maintenance allowance and Social Security:

8.1) For a PhD scholarship outside Portugal the monthly allowance will be €1,953.65 (one thousand nine hundred and fifty-three euros and sixty five cents);

8.2) All values are exempt from income tax, paid monthly by bank transfer;

8.3) The grant holder to be hired may exercise his/her right to social security by joining the voluntary social security scheme, under the terms foreseen in the Research Grant Holder Statute, with ICS-ULisboa assuming the charges resulting from the contributions foreseen in that Statute.

9. Selection methods and their evaluation:

The selection of the candidates to PhD Scholarship will be made according to the eligible criteria

listed in item no. 2 of this announcement, considering:

9.1) Curriculum evaluation, in view of the project requirements and the specific nature of the research work to be developed, valued from 1 to 10 points (worth 30%);

9.2) Letter of Motivation, referred to in 9.1, paragraph b), valued between 1 and 10 points (worth 30%);

9.3) The research project (see item 2.2.e, above) is valued between 1 and 10 points (40%).

9.4) An interview may be requested, for clarification purposes, based on the analysis of the documentation in items 9.1 to 9.3.

10. Composition of the Selection Board:

Doctor Olivia Bina (President), Doctor Roberto Falanga (1st Effective Member, who will replace the President in her absences and impediments), Doctor Lavinia Pereira (2nd Effective Member), Doctor Giulia Sonetti (1st Substitute Member) and Doctor Simone Tulumello (2nd Substitute Member).

11. Prior hearing and notification of interested parties:

All candidates will be notified of the final result of the evaluation, sent to the email address used to send their application, and/or by mail, to the address on the Personal Data Form in Annex, through a list in descending order of the final evaluation obtained. Candidates may exercise the right of prior hearing, in writing, within ten working days from the notification. For that purpose, candidates may request the minutes to be sent by e-mail or consult the procedure documents in person at the Institute during office hours.

12. Deadline for receipt of applications:

The call is open from **28th of September to 13th of October, 2022**.

13. Formalization and processing of applications:

13.1 Applications should be **sent by e-mail**, to the address recrutamentos@ics.ulisboa.pt, with the reference "Concurso de Bolsas de Investigação n.º 11/2022"), under penalty of not being considered for the competition.

13.2 The applications shall be accompanied by the following documents and failure to submit any of these will result in your exclusion from the competition (it will not be possible to submit any of the following documents after the deadline set in item 12 above):

(13.2.a) Personal Data Form and Declaration of Consent for Communication of the Results via e-mail (see attached form);

(13.2.b) Detailed and updated Curriculum Vitae; and where applicable, submit a digital copy of your publication (see item 2.2.c, above).

(13.2.c) Motivation Letter, maximum 2 pages long, that outlines: (i) your motivation for the grant; and (ii) states clearly how your career, experience and research interests can contribute to meet each of the requirements outlined in item 2.2 a to d, above;

(13.2.d) A research project (see item 2.2.e, above);

(13.2.e) Document(s) proving that the candidate fulfils the required conditions for the type of

grant being offered (see item 2.1 above). How to meet this requirement will depend on where you obtained your degree:

(13.2.e1) If you hold a Portuguese degree that qualifies you for this position, please enclose the relative certificate(s) ensuring they show a final average or overall grade;

(13.2.e2) If the degree that qualifies you for this position was not issued by Portuguese higher education institutions (i.e. obtain abroad in Europe or overseas), please enclose both the original certificate(s) of the required academic degree showing a final average or overall grade, and a certificate that proves that you have applied for an official recognition of the degree (or the actual certificate recognition, if already obtained). You can obtain such certificate of recognition here: <https://www.dges.gov.pt/recon/formulario>, or the official recognition itself if you already obtained it.

(13.2.e.3) Finally, you must also show that you have already registered for a PhD programme by sending us proof of such registration from your University,

14. Information about ICS ULisboa and the respective activities are available at:
www.ics.ulisboa.pt

ANNEX
PERSONAL DATA AND DECLARATION OF CONSENT FOR COMMUNICATION OF
RESULTS VIA E-MAIL

Full name:

Citizen Card / Identity Card / Passport no:

Valid until: / /

Nationality:

Full address

Postal Code: -

e-mail:

I consent to all such communications and/or notifications in connection with this call being made to the e-mail address used to send my application.

(Place and date) of 2022

(Signature of candidate)

Lisbon, 27th of September, 2022

The Director

Prof. Karin Wall