

## 1 Vacant post for Research Grant (MSc)

**Referência:** LIFELINE/BI/MSC/2019/027

A competition is open for the attribution of 1 research Grant (MSc) in the framework of the project LIFELINE - PTDC/BIAECO/29261/2017, within the R&D Institution CIIMAR (Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research), supported by the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P., through national funds:

**1. Scientific area:** Ecology (Biodiversity and Conservation)

**2. Eligibility Requirements:**

- The candidate must hold a MSc degree in degree in Biology, Marine Biology, Environmental Sciences, or similar scientific area;
- The candidate must have training with fish and/or invertebrate ecology from aquatic ecosystems (marine, estuarine and/or freshwater);
- Expertise with functional ecology, particularly traits characterization of biological communities and their relationships with particular ecosystem functions and/or ecosystems services will also be valued; as well as proficiency in written and spoken English, and experience in computational analysis and programming in R environment.

**3. Work Plan:**

The selected candidate will join our team under the LIFELINE project. Project LIFELINE aims to greatly advance the understanding of trends in biodiversity and ecosystem functioning and services over time, progressing the field towards forecasting change. LIFELINE will investigate multiple biodiversity dimensions across different biological groups and different aquatic ecosystems and habitats worldwide. LIFELINE will (1) use time series to reveal temporal trends of taxonomic biodiversity (and their environmental drivers), and of (2) phylogenetic and functional aquatic biodiversity, whilst disentangling the role of multiple biodiversity dimensions in stabilizing ecosystems. It will (3) also use the built statistical models of biodiversity trends to reveal expected changes in biodiversity; also, develop a network approach of biodiversity effects on ecosystem functioning and services from data gathered in a literature review; and combine these approaches to reveal expected changes in ecosystem functioning and services.

The candidate is expected to participate in all project tasks, through: a) data compilation on temporal aquatic biodiversity and environmental series; b) compilation of relevant traits for identified taxa in the former data series, according to literature and public databases; c) Characterize known relationships between functional traits, ecosystems

functions and services; d) contribute for data analyses; and e) write reports and scientific papers.

**4. Legislation and official rules:** Law nº 40/2004, 18th August (Research Fellowship and Studentship Regulation) amended and republished by Decreto-Lei n.º 202/2012, 27th August; Regulations for Studentships and Fellowships of the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P. and CIIMAR Grants Regulation.

**5. Work place:** The work will be carried out at CIIMAR, Edifício do Terminal de Cruzeiros do Porto de Leixões, Av. General Norton de Matos, s/n, 4450-208 Matosinhos, under the supervision of Dra. Marina Dolbeth and Dra. Sofia Henriques.

**6. Duration of the contract:** Duration of 6 months, starting in 15 June 2019, under the regime of exclusive dedication, eventually renewable for the same period of time according to legal terms, up to the legal maximum.

**7. Monthly stipend:** Monthly stipend is € 989,70 according to the stipends established by FCT, I.P. in Portugal (<http://alfa.fct.mctes.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores>). Payment will be made by bank transfer on a monthly basis. The successful candidate will also be entitled to the reimbursement of Social Security payments (“Seguro Social Voluntário”) and work insurance.

**8. Selection criteria:** The grant will be awarded based on the candidates’ academic curriculum and technical skills. The ranking of candidates will be performed by a global evaluation of their scientific and curricular achievements (1 - 10 values):

- i. Merit of the academic curriculum and performance (appreciation taking into account the University - level degree, its appropriateness to the position as well as the performance of the candidate in such degree) – relative weight of 30%;
- ii. Experience relevant for the scientific area and the project work-plan (e.g. experience in fish and/or invertebrate ecology from aquatic ecosystems; experience in traits characterization of biological communities, evaluation of ecosystem functions and/or services, and proficiency in computational analysis will also be valued) – relative weight of 50%;
- iii. Published publications and/or number citations in the scientific area – relative weight of 10%;
- iv. Global appreciation of the motivation of the candidate and interest in the field of research, taking into account the motivation letter, recommendation letter and

any other element in the CV or transcripts that can help in this regard – relative weight of 10%;

The candidate with the highest score will be offered the position, provided that such score is above seven (7) values. In the case of a tie between the scores of the top candidates, and provided that such scores are higher than 7 values, an interview will be performed to these candidates to allow for the selection of a single candidate. Candidates can be interviewed by video conference. The jury reserves the right to not assign the grant depending on the quality of the applications.

**9. Composition of the jury selection:** Dra. Marina Dolbeth (CIIMAR, President), Dra. Rita Vasconcelos (MARE, vowel), Dra. Sofia Henriques (MARE, vowel), Dr. Ronaldo Sousa (CBMA, Substitute vowel), Dra. Sílvia Carvalho (CIBIO, Substitute vowel).

**10. Results notification:** The ranking of applications will be sent by email and available in CIIMAR website; in case of disagreement, the candidates have a 10-working day term in which to contest the decision, if he/she so wishes, as provided for in the Código do Procedimento Administrativo in a preliminary hearing setting. The jury reserves the right to not assign the contract depending on the quality of the applications.

**11. Deadline for application and presentation of applications:** The competition is open from 13-05-2019 to 24-05-2019. The applications must be formalized, compulsorily, by sending the following documents:

- detailed Curriculum vitae (including academic training and professional career, a publication list, other relevant information in the context of the project research goals, email address and copies of certificates of academic degrees);
- motivation letter (including a brief description of research experience, indication of the achievements relevant for the competition, as indicated in the selection criteria, and why the candidate is suitable for the announced position)
- Recommendation letter
- contact e-mail address and phone number

Applications must be sent by email to: [secretariado@ciimar.up.pt](mailto:secretariado@ciimar.up.pt) and [mdolbeth@ciimar.up.pt](mailto:mdolbeth@ciimar.up.pt). Applications that do not include all the elements previously indicated will not be considered.