

## Call for 1 Research Fellowship (master's degree holder)- Biological Sciences

### Ad summary

A call is now open for 1 Research Fellowship (master's degree holder; call reference: **MARE/020/BI/2023**) in the scope of the project with ref. UIDP/04292/2020 MARE - Marine and Environmental Sciences Centre, ISPA – Instituto Universitário.

### 1. Scientific Field: Biology

**2. Funding Source:** Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia) – FCT, I.P./MCTES, through national funds (PIDDAC); (2022. 03898. PTDC) - project reference: UIDP/04292/2020.

### 3. Applicant's Profile

#### Mandatory requirements:

- (1) Master's degree in Biology;
- (2) Previous experience working in the field for prolonged periods in remote locations with limited comfort.
- (3) Knowledge and practice of using Geographic Information Systems and processing light data provided by Geolocators.
- (4) Experience working in ornithology, including demonstrated experience in handling, and ringing wild birds.

#### Preferred factors:

Preference will be given to candidates with a ringing license. Preference will be given to candidates with experience handling medium to large bird species. Preference will be given to candidates with scientific publications in the field of ornithology.

Candidates who do not meet all 4 mandatory requirements may have their applications automatically rejected.

### 4. Requirements for admission to the competition

#### **The following documents must be submitted:**

- a) master's degree certificate with the final classification.
- b) Detailed Curriculum Vitae.
- c) Motivation Letter.

Only applicants who supply proof to have completed the study cycle leading to a master's degree by the end of the application deadline will be admitted. If applicants do not yet have the certificate of completion, a declaration of honor will be accepted stating that they have completed the qualifications required for the call and that the Master's diploma/certificate will be dated within the

application period. The fellowship award is always contingent upon the presentation of the mandatory proof of academic qualifications.

If the academic degree has been conferred by a foreign higher education institution, it must be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution, and the final classification must be converted into the Portuguese evaluation scale, under the terms of the provisions of Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of August 16th, which approves the legal regime of recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of Higher Education, attributed by foreign higher education institutions, and of paragraph e) of no. 2 of article 4 of Decree-Law no. 60/2018, of August 3rd.

If the candidate has already requested but is waiting for the recognition of the academic degree conferred by a foreign higher education institution to be issued, he/she can submit a declaration of honor clarifying that the recognition was requested and will be dated within the application period.

The recognition of foreign academic degrees and diplomas and the conversion of the final classification to the Portuguese classification scale may be requested in any Portuguese public higher education institution or at the Directorate-General for Higher Education (DGES, for automatic recognition only). Please consult the DGES portal for details: <http://www.dges.gov.pt>.

## **5. Requirements for signing the fellowship agreement.**

The candidate must be enrolled in a PhD degree, or enrolled in a course that does not award an academic degree, in a Portuguese higher education institution. This registration must be completed by the time of contracting the research fellowship.

In the case of diplomas issued by foreign higher education institutions, the recognition of these academic degrees must be presented until the time of contracting the research fellowships and the date of recognition must fall within the application period (as indicated in 4.).

To sign the contract, a form with personal information, Ciência ID, a copy of the identification document, and a declaration on the exercise of the exclusive functions might also be requested.

False declarations are reasons to cancel the candidacy without prejudice to the application of other sanction measures.

## **6. Work plan**

This scholarship is part of long-term studies on the ecology and demography of birds and sea turtles in different parts of the Atlantic Ocean. The work will include field missions, namely on the Selvagens Islands, for field work with seabirds (ringing, deploying tracking devices, collecting biological samples) and potentially with sea turtles (in West Africa). However, the work will have an office

component (which will represent most of the activity time) involving processing data from geolocators, managing databases, managing tissue collections, supporting laboratory work (genetics, stable isotopes), and supporting the management of ongoing projects and collaboration in the production of scientific outputs.

## 7. Applicable legislation

- Law No. 40/2004, of August 18th, as amended by the Decree-Law No. 123/2019, of August 28th, in its current wording (Research Fellowship Holder Statute/Estatuto do Bolseiro de Investigação - EBI).
- Regulation No. 950/2019, of November 29th, published in Diário da República, No. 241, Series II, of December 16th (FCT's Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships/Regulamento de Bolsas de Investigação da FCT - RBI).
- Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16th (Legal regime of recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of higher education awarded by foreign higher education institutions).
- Regulation for Scientific Research Fellowships of ISPA – Instituto Universitário; and other applicable legislation.

## 8. Workplace and scientific supervision

The research fellowship contract will be signed with ISPA, CRL (contracting entity). The place of work is located at MARE - Marine and Environmental Sciences Centre, (host institution), located at ISPA – Instituto Universitário, Rua Jardim do Tabaco, 34, 1149-041 Lisboa, Portugal and/or other locations necessary for the implementation of the planned activities (namely on the Selvagens Islands), under the scientific supervision of Professor Paulo Catry.

## 9. Duration of fellowship

The fellowship will have a duration of 3 months, eventually renewable for periods not exceeding the eligible period of the project, conditioned by the project's budget, and by the maximum period for research fellowships as indicated in points 4 and 5 of Article 6 of FCT's Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships.

The fellowship is expected to start in January of 2024.

## 10. Remuneration and other components

The monthly stipend is 1199.64 euros according to the table of monthly maintenance, set by FCT for activities in the exclusive dedication regime

([https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/docs/Tabela\\_de\\_Valores\\_SMM\\_2023.pdf](https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/docs/Tabela_de_Valores_SMM_2023.pdf)), subject to any updates that may apply, to be paid monthly through bank transfer. The fellow is also entitled to the applicable voluntary social security system (Seguro Social Voluntário, Decree-Law No. 40/89, of February 1st; EBI – art. 10<sup>o</sup>), and personal accident insurance.

## 11. Submission of applications

The call is open from **12th December to 26th December 2023**, 2 PM (Lisbon time).

Only applications received within the specified application period will be considered.

Applications must be formalized via e-mail to [candidaturas.investigadores@ispa.pt](mailto:candidaturas.investigadores@ispa.pt), cc. to [paulo\\_catry@ispa.pt](mailto:paulo_catry@ispa.pt), and [mare\\_ispa@ispa.pt](mailto:mare_ispa@ispa.pt) and must clearly state the reference of this call in the “Subject” of the e-mail: **MARE/020/BI/2023**. Alternatively, applications can be sent via post to ISPA – Instituto Universitário – MARE - Marine and Environmental Sciences Centre – Rua Jardim do Tabaco 34, 1149-041 Lisboa, Portugal, and received at ISPA within the specified application period.

Applications must include the following mandatory documents:

- a) Master’s degree certificate/diploma with the final classification.
- b) Detailed curriculum vitae.
- c) Motivation letter.

All documents must be submitted in PDF format. All documents must be in Portuguese or English. The non-compliance with these requirements may determine the rejection of the application.

## 12. Evaluation and selection criteria

### Curriculum Evaluation (CA)

Candidates will be evaluated and ranked by their curriculum, according to the following criteria, each having the indicated weight:

- a) Master’s final classification (20%)
- b) Previous experience in handling wild birds (25%),
- c) Experience in geographic information systems and geolocator data processing (25%),
- d) Experience working independently in remote locations (20%), according to the candidate's CV;
- e) Motivation and interest in the area, according to the candidate's motivation letter (10%).

Applications will be evaluated, and candidates ranked, on a 0,00 – 100,00 scale. The final classification will result from the formula:

$$\text{Final classification (CA)} = (\text{Criterion a}) \times 20\% + (\text{Criterion b}) \times 25\% + (\text{Criterion c}) \times 25\% + (\text{Criterion d}) \times 20\% + (\text{Criterion e}) \times 10\%$$

If none of the candidates presents the appropriate and/or necessary skills and competencies required for the position and respective work plan, despite fulfilling all the requirements for admission, the Evaluation Panel has the right to not attribute the fellowship.

Note for the evaluation of Criterion a):

1 – The final average of a Master's in a pre-post-Bologna course results from the simple arithmetic average of the final classification obtained in the 1st cycle (bachelor's degree) and the final classification obtained in the 2nd cycle (master's degree).

2 – In the case of Integrated Master's degrees awarded by institutions that do not issue certificates with discrimination of the final classifications of the 1st and 2nd cycles, the final classification indicated in the Integrated Master's degree certificate after the completion of the cycle of studies will be considered.

3 – In the case of submission of an Integrated Master's certificate and a pre-Bologna or 2nd cycle master's degree, the final classification of the Integrated Master's will be considered.

4 – When candidates submit more than one equivalent Master's, or Integrated Master's, degree (equivalent number of ECTS), the Evaluation Panel will decide which academic degree is best suited for the pursuit of the research plan and which should, therefore, be considered for Criterion A. Other course(s) presented by the candidate can eventually be considered for Criterion B.

5 – The Evaluation Panel will award the minimum score (10 points on a 0 – 20 scale) required for obtaining a degree in Portugal when the submitted Portuguese certificates do not mention the final classification.

6 – The Evaluation Panel will award the minimum score (10 points on a 0 – 20 scale) required for obtaining a degree in Portugal when candidates submit a declaration of honor indicating they have completed the cycle of studies leading to a master's degree by the application deadline but do not present the concomitant certificate (as indicated in point 4 of the call for applications);

7 – The Evaluation Panel will award the minimum score (10 points on a 0 – 20 scale) required for obtaining a degree in Portugal when degree certificates/diplomas issued by foreign institutions are not recognized in Portugal and/or do not have the respective final classifications converted to the Portuguese evaluation scale (as indicated in point 4 of the call for applications).

### 13. Evaluation Panel

The evaluation panel will consist of:

- Professor Doutor Paulo Catry (MARE, Ispa - Instituto Universitário; President).
- Professor Doutor José Pedro Granadeiro (Faculdade de Ciências de Universidade de Lisboa – Effective member).
- Doutora Ana Rita Patrício, (Faculdade de Ciências de Universidade de Lisboa – Effective Member).

- Professor doutor Manuel Eduardo dos Santos, (MARE, ISPA – Instituto Universitário; Alternate Member).
- Doutora Joana Robalo (MARE, ISPA – Instituto Universitário, Alternate Member)

#### **14. Communication of results**

The results will be notified no later than 90 working days after the closing date for submission of applications to the e-mail address provided by the applicants.

#### **15. Deadlines and procedures for preliminary hearing, complaint, and appeal**

After communicating the provisional list of the results, applicants who want to dispute the results have a period of 10 working days to request a preliminary hearing, by Articles 121 and following of the Administrative Procedure Code (CPA). The final decision will be communicated after the examination of the arguments presented at the preliminary hearing. After this communication, the selected candidate has 10 working days to accept, in written, the awarded fellowship. Otherwise, withdrawal or renouncement of the fellowship will be considered, unless a proper justification is presented.

After the final decision, a complaint may be placed within 15 working days or an appeal within 30 working days, both counting from the notification date. Applicants who wish to submit a complaint or an appeal should address their complaint to the Board of the funding agency.

In case the selected candidate renounces or withdraws from the fellowship, the Evaluation Panel can notify and attribute the fellowship to the candidate(s) in the subsequent position(s), if applicable, and according to the final ranking list.

#### **16. Templates for the research fellowship contract and the final reports by the fellow and the supervisor**

The template for the research fellowship contract as well as the template for the final reports to be created by the fellow and by the supervisor, and concomitant evaluation criteria, can be found in the ISPA – Instituto Universitário's Regulation for Scientific Research Fellowships (Appendices 2, 3, and 4) at:

[https://intranet.ispa.pt/sites/default/files/users/531/rg102\\_bols\\_invest\\_cient\\_v4.0.pdf](https://intranet.ispa.pt/sites/default/files/users/531/rg102_bols_invest_cient_v4.0.pdf)

#### **17. Non-discrimination and equal access policy**

ISPA, CRL actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefited, impaired, or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt from any duties based on ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, education, origin or social conditions, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, origin territory, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership.

**18. Disabled candidate:** According to DL nº. 29/2001 of February 3rd, disabled candidates have a preference in an equal classification situation, which supersedes any legal preference. Candidates must declare, on their honor, on their application form during the selection period under the regulations above, their respective disability degree, the type of disability, and the communication/expression mean to be used.