

Instituto de Tecnologia Química e Biológica António Xavier (ITQB NOVA)

Auxiliary Researcher Position

within GREEN-IT Research Unit “Bioresources for Sustainability”

SOIL-PLANT METAGENOMICS AND PLANT PHENOTYPING (Ref. 019/TRI-IAux/2020-GREEN-IT)

In accordance with the article 9 of the Regulation No. 393/2018, published in *Diário da República*, 2nd series, of June 28th, regarding the recruitment and employment contract for researchers, Prof. Cláudio Manuel Simões Loureiro Nunes Soares, Director of *Instituto de Tecnologia Química e Biológica António Xavier*, informs that an international call is now open, for a period of 22 working days, from the day of the publication of the present notice in *Diário da República*, for the recruitment of a position for one Auxiliary Investigator, under an employment contract for a non-fixed term, under private law regime, in the scientific area of Plant Sciences, subarea **SOIL-PLANT METAGENOMICS AND PLANT PHENOTYPING**.

This is an international application procedure and is ruled by the provisions of article 11 and seq. of the Decree Law 57/2016, of August 29th, altered by Law 57/2017 of July 19th for the development of scientific and research activities, under the framework of the research unit GREEN-IT, UIDP/04551/2020, funded by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (IP).

Order from the Rector:

This call is open by order issued by the Rector of UNL, on July 23.

I – Job description:

1) Work place:

ITQB NOVA and AGROTECH Campus of Oeiras

2) Job description:

- We are recruiting an enthusiastic, motivated and experienced Post-Doc researcher to implement and lead a new Laboratory to **investigate Plant-soil-microbiome interactions, to improve plant growth conditions ensuring environmental sustainability and linking soil microbiome with plant nutrition, physiology and development**. The researcher should connect laboratory experiments and field assays, profiting from collaborations with other members and collaborators of GREEN-IT Research Unit (<http://www.itqb.unl.pt/green-it/green-it-2020-2023>). GREEN-IT Research Unit was recently evaluated with Excellent by the National Science Foundation (FCT).
- We are looking for a competitive researcher with a good network of collaborations, willing to apply to ERC and other internationally recognized grants. The ITQB NOVA Institute and NOVA University provide support and encourage application to this type of prestigious grants.

- The researcher will be hired through ITQB NOVA and have the possibility of developing his/her team within the AgroTech Campus of Oeiras (<https://www.itqb.unl.pt/news/agrotech-campus>). The AgroTech Campus of Oeiras is the biggest consortium of its kind in Portugal, including over 1.000 researchers to promote research and experimental development in agriculture and forestry, animal health and plant health and technology and innovation for bioeconomy. It also supports advanced and specialized training of researchers and technicians, namely in agro biotechnology, agro industry and forestry.
- The researcher will be involved in teaching (<https://www.itqb.unl.pt/education>), at the level of Masters (MSc Biotechnology for Sustainability) and PhD (Plants for Life International) degrees, having the chance of motivating and attracting students to his/her own team.
- We intend to strengthen inter-institutional cooperation by linking research on nutrition and nitrogen fixing organisms (INIAV), to research on development and production (ITQB NOVA, INIAV) and product quality (INIAV, ITQB NOVA, INSA), under the umbrella of plant phenotyping (in the field or chamber), in a sustainability perspective and in a climate change scenario.
- The hired researcher will have access to the facilities available to the members of GREEN-IT research Unit and shared among its members, including access to field trials and stakeholders.

Agenda 2030 Goals addressed with this position:

Goal 2 - Zero hunger (reach food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable farming);

Goal 12 - Responsible production and consumption.

3) Remuneration, start date and applicable legislation:

The researcher will be hired with a salary position-TRU 54, corresponding to a gross annual salary of **45,728.90 €**.

It is foreseen that the contract starts in January 2020. Employment contract for an uncertain term (according to the article 18, paragraph b), and paragraph 1 and 3 of article 6, DL No. 57/2016, of August 29, amended by Law No. 57/2017, of July 19, for a period of 36 months, eventually renewable.

4) Start-up package:

Besides the access to the facilities of the host Institutions (ITQB NOVA and AgroTech Campus of Oeiras) the recruited researcher will be awarded with a start-up package of 30.000 € to support initial operations in the period until successful awarding of competitive grants.

II – Requirements:

1) General admission requirements:

In accordance with No. 1 of the article 10 of Research Scientific Career Statutes, this procedure has the following general requirements:

- a) Hold a Doctorate degree in Plant Biology, Agronomy, Plant Physiology, Plant Ecophysiology or related scientific areas;
- b) Hold a scientific and professional curriculum whose profile is suited for the activity to be performed, including in soil/plant microbiology and in biostatistics.

If the doctoral degree has been conferred by a foreign higher education institution (not Portuguese), it must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16, and with all formalities established therein, which must be fulfilled by the application deadline. **The ITQB NOVA Academic Services may further enlighten about this.**

2) Specific Admission Requirements:

- a) Solid background in plant biology and physiology, in soil/plant microbiology and in biostatistics.
- b) Proven experience in the areas of the application, through scientific publications (reporting original work) in journals with impact factor above 3;
- c) Solid experience in one or more of the following areas: plant nutrition and physiology, host /microbe interaction, beneficial microorganisms;
- d) Leadership skills and collaborative spirit;
- e) High motivation to contribute to GREEN-IT research goals;
- f) Willingness to apply to ERC and other prestigious grants;
- g) Experience in student supervision;
- h) Experience as Researcher in scientific projects with competitive funding;
- i) Teaching experience in university courses or other advanced courses;
- j) Excellent communication skills (oral and written);
- k) Excellent interpersonal skills;
- l) Fluency in English (spoken and written).

III – Submission of the applications:

1) Documents required in the application:

- a) Motivation Letter including a short presentation of the research goals for the next 5 years;
- b) Copy of the PhD certificate or diploma;
- c) Detailed *Curriculum vitae*;
- d) Copy of selected published papers mentioned in the CV;
- e) Contacts of two references.

2) How to submit the application:

Applications containing all the aforementioned documents must be submitted within xxxx working days from the date of publication in *Diário da República*.

- a) All documents **must** be sent as a **single PDF** file (if too big, the work published may be sent as an independent file) by email to concursos@itqb.unl.pt, indicating the reference mentioned in the beginning of this call, in the subject.
- b) Failure to submit any mandatory documents under the current notice, shall result in the exclusion of the candidate from the procedure.

IV – Methods of selection and definition of their weights/evaluation criteria:

Curricular evaluation involves evaluation of *Curriculum vitae*, Research Goals for next 5 years and Motivation Letter, as specified in general and special requirements.

Only a sub-set of the candidates will be selected for interview (the 4 best qualified from the Curricular assessment).

The curricular evaluation will be 90% of the evaluation and the interview 10%.

V – Selection process:

After the deadline for the applications, the Committee meets for assessing and ranking the candidates.

1) Definition of the selection criteria and their parameters and classifications:

Curricular evaluation (*Curriculum vitae* evaluation, motivation letter and research goals, as specified in the general and specifics requirements).

Interview when applied (candidates better qualified in Stage-1 assessment).

The selection methods, their weightings and classification system will be listed in Minutes 1 of the Jury meetings, available at <http://www.itqb.unl.pt/jobs/Ref. 019/TRI-IAux/2020-GREEN-IT>.

2) Notification of Results: All candidates will be informed of the decisions by email.

Non-discrimination and equal access policy:

ITQB NOVA actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, so that no candidate can be privileged, benefited, harmed or deprived of any right, on basis of age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, economic situation, education, social origin or condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological convictions, and trade union membership.

Under Decree-Law no. 29/2001, of February 3, the candidate with a disability has preference under conditions of equal classification, which prevails over any other legal preference. Candidates must declare on the application form, on his/her word of honor, the respective degree of disability, the type of disability and the means of communication to be used in the selection process, in accordance with the above-mentioned diploma.

The Full Notice of this procedure will be available on the FCT website <http://www.eracareers.pt/>, on the page <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/> and on the electronic page of ITQB NOVA <http://www.itqb.unl.pt/jobs/Ref. 019/TRI-IAux/2020-GREEN-IT>.

The application must be sent by e-mail, indicating the reference mentioned above in title, to the e-mail address concursos@itqb.unl.pt until 17h (GMT) of Oct. 2nd, 2020.

Composition of the Selection Committee:

The selection committee has the following composition:

President:	Professor M. Margarida Oliveira
1 st member:	Doctor Isabel A. Abreu
2 nd member:	Doctor Isabel Videira e Castro
1 st alternate member:	Doctor Nelson José M. Saibo
2 nd alternate member:	Doctor Carlota Vaz Patto