GUIDE FOR PEER REVIWERS

Saúde + Ciência
Call for Exploratory Research Projects 2025

JUNE 2025

CONTENT

1. About FCT

FCT (Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia) is the Portuguese public agency under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, Science, and Innovation that supports science, technology, and innovation, in all scientific domains.

FCT's mission is to drive the advancement of knowledge in science and technology in Portugal, following high international standards in quality and competitiveness. It aims to foster the dissemination of knowledge, promoting its impact on society and its contribution to the economic growth.

FCT pursues its mission by funding scholarships, research contracts for scientists, research projects, research centres and infrastructures, through competitive calls, peer-reviewed calls. FCT secures Portugal's participation in international scientific organisations, fosters the participation of the scientific community in global projects and promotes knowledge transfer between Research and Development (R&D) centres and industry. In close collaboration with international organisations, FCT also coordinates public policy for the Information and Knowledge Society in Portugal and ensures the development of national scientific computing resources.

The outcomes of FCT accomplishments are reflected in the work carried out by individual scientists, research groups and institutions funded by FCT.

2. Saúde+Ciência- Call for Exploratory Research Projects 2025

2.1 Aim of the Call

National healthcare faces complex challenges that require innovative and strategic approaches to promote population well-being. For this reason, the Ministry of Health has outlined a plan for research and development in the health sector to strengthen the knowledge base, bring the National Health System (NHS) closer to the best research developed in Portugal and improve the quality of services offered to the population by promoting sustainable and citizen centred practices.

The consolidation and strengthening of the National Science and Technology System (SNCT) are priorities of the national science and technology policy. In this context, the promotion of the competencies of scientific and technological institutions in the health sector are particularly relevant, especially through cooperation between higher education institutions, research centers, and entities under the authority of the Ministry of Health.

With these objectives, the Central Administration of the Health System (ACSS) and FCT launch the 2025 Call for Exploratory Research Projects under the Saúde+Ciência programme.

This call aims to promote innovative ideas and address relevant scientific questions by funding Exploratory Projects with the potential to **drive technological and organizational innovation, enhance healthcare system efficiency, and encourage patient-centred care, ultimately contributing to a more sustainable and humanized healthcare model.**

2.2 Thematic Areas

The present call provides **funding for research projects in one or more of the following three thematic areas**. Projects will be especially valued if they address key priorities within each theme:

Access to Healthcare

i. Develop solutions that improve access to primary and/or specialized healthcare in remote and/or disadvantaged areas;

ii. Support initiatives to reduce socioeconomic barriers to accessing healthcare services;

iii. Implement mobile technologies and telemedicine to expand healthcare reach and effectiveness, facilitating communication between patients and healthcare professionals.

Active Aging

i. Develop community programs that encourage physical, mental, and social activity among older adults, fostering healthy and active aging through socialization activities, support groups, and other forms of community engagement initiatives;

ii. Implement interventions to prevent loneliness and social isolation among the elderly population;

iii. Utilize assistive technologies to support the independence of older adults, such as mobility devices, remote monitoring solutions, and communication tools.

Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

i. Develop educational campaigns focused on preventing chronic diseases (diabetes, hypertension, cardiovascular diseases), aiming to raise awareness and promote healthy habits;

ii. Create programs that encourage healthy lifestyles, emphasizing balanced nutrition, regular physical activity, and smoking cessation;

iii. Reduce the consumption of harmful substances, such as alcohol and drugs, through prevention and treatment programs as well as awareness campaigns.

> ➢ Each application **must indicate only one principal thematic area**.
>
> ➢ Selected applications **should demonstrate the potential for transforming healthcare, promoting quality, accessibility, and citizen satisfaction**.
>
> ➢ There are **no restrictions** regarding the nature of the research. **Projects may be for either fundamental/basic or applied research**.

2.3 Funding and duration of the project

For this call a **total of € 1.600.000** is available to fund research projects that must meet the following requirements:

- The **maximum duration** of the grant is **18 months** (extendable for 6 months, if duly justified);

- The **maximum funding per project** cannot exceed **€ 50.000,00**.

The support to be granted is non-refundable, applying the simplified cost option in the *Lump Sum* funding scheme. The contribution is paid upon presentation of evidence and results demonstrating the effective implementation of the approved project under the contractual terms.

2.4 Beneficiaries

a) **Non-business entities from the Research and Innovation system (R&I Partners)**

   i. Higher education institutions, their institutes, and R&D units;

   ii. State laboratories, Associated Laboratories, or international laboratories headquartered in Portugal;

   iii. Private non-profit institutions whose primary objective is R&D activities, including Collaborative Laboratories (CoLab) and Technology and Innovation Centers (CTI);

   iv. Other public and private non-profit institutions that engage or participate in scientific research activities.

b) **Non-academic entities under the authority of the Government member responsible for health (Health Partners)**

   All entities under the authority of the Government member responsible for health that are not part of the academic environment, as described in a). This includes entities that are part of Clinical Academic Centers (CAC), local health units, whether in primary care, hospital care, and/or public health, as well as Portuguese Oncology Institutes (IPO).

> ➢ **Each project consortium must include, as a requirement, a minimum of two beneficiaries: one R&I Partner and one Health Partner.**

> ➢ In the present call, **companies are not beneficiaries** but may participate in the projects as collaborating institutions.

2.5 Proposal submission

The call is open from **May 20 to July 22, 2025** and is ruled by the [FCT Project Regulations](#) and the [Announcement for Proposal Submissions](#).

All proposals, **written in English**, are submitted online via myFCT web platform (detailed information in Annex I).

The following important points should be noted:

- ➢ Each applicant can only submit **one application as PI**.

- ➢ A **maximum of 4 Core CVs** must be presented: the **PI** and **3 other core team members** (researchers considered as more relevant for the project).

- ➢ The **Team CV Synopsis** should focus on the **last 5 effective years of scientific activity.**

- ➢ The PI, core members and the remaining elements of the research team, are responsible for submitting an **updated version of their CV in English on the CIÊNCIAVITAE.**

- ➢ The **list of participating (beneficiaries) and collaborating (non-beneficiaries)** institutions that form the consortium **must be submitted as an attachment to the application**, identifying the Health Partner(s) and the R&I Partner(s).

3. Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation of the application will focus on the relevance and quality of following criteria:

A. Scientific merit and innovative nature of the project from an international standpoint and alignment with one or more of the thematic areas of the call – **40%**;

B. Scientific merit of the PI and the research team – **35%**;

C. Feasibility of the workplan and its relevance and impact on the Health Partner(s) and/or on the National Health System – **25%**.

3.1 Criterion A (40%)

This criterion evaluates the **scientific merit and innovative nature of the project** from an international standpoint and its **alignment with the thematic areas of the call**. The panel should consider the following dimensions when evaluating this criterion:

- Novelty, ambition, and innovative nature of the proposed work, as well as its breakthrough potential beyond the current state of the art;

- Relevance and thematic alignment of the proposed project with the topics referred in section 2.2;

- Potential for development of new knowledge including significant theoretical, methodological, experimental or empirical advancement;

- Quality of the research and innovation questions, hypotheses and project objectives, and the extent to which they are clearly and adequately specified;

- Adequacy of the methodology and experimental design to the hypotheses, objectives and excepted outcomes of the proposed workplan;

- Involvement of stakeholders and end-users, including the integration of their knowledge and perspectives, consideration of ethical issues related to their participation, and integration of the project within real-world contexts, where applicable;

- Ethical issues identified and properly addressed.

3.2 Criterion B (35%)

This criterion evaluates the **scientific merit of the Principal Investigator and the research team**, analysing their curricula in an integrated way and valuing the quality of their research achievements and professional paths.

For the evaluation, the panel should **only** use the **PI Narrative CV** and the **Team CV Synopsis**. The panel will also have access to the CIÊNCIAVITAE CV of the PI and core team members however these should be used **solely** to **verify the information presented** in the PI Narrative CV and the Team CV Synopsis.

For criteria B the panel should consider the following parameters:

- Career profile of the PI (education, key qualifications and professional path, considering periods of leave from research, such as parental leave, long-term absence due to illness, volunteering, etc.);

- Contributions to the generation of new ideas, tools, methodologies, or knowledge, including publications, key data sets, software, intellectual property (patents, licences, trademarks, copyrights, novel assays and reagents), conference presentations, research and policy publications or other scientific or technological achievements;

- Contributions to the development of individuals and/or research teams, including project participation, leadership or management, supervision of students, collaborative initiatives, and team support. Ability to engage young researchers and health professionals in R&D activities;

- Contributions to the research community and the broader society;

- Scientific experience, productivity and skills of the research team to adequately execute the proposed project, **focusing on the last 5 years of activities**, and considering the team's configuration and the availability and commitment of its members.

According to the FCT's commitment to The Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment, as set out by the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA), evaluation panels are advised **not to use metrics as a surrogate measure of the quality** of individual outputs and applicant's contributions.

When assessing this criterion, the evaluation panel should consider the information provided by the applicant in terms of their **quality, relevance, and impact, rather than in a quantitative way** and its specificities in terms of the scientific area(s) and subarea(s) of each application.

3.3 Criterion C (25%)

This criterion evaluates the **feasibility** and the **potential impact** of the proposed project in the following dimensions:

- Feasibility of the workplan for an 18-month period considering the proposed research objectives, methodology, planned tasks, expected results, deliverables and defined indicators.

- Clear definition of the proposed activities and timelines and appropriateness of the institutional and management resources, including those from the collaborating institutions, as well as demonstrated commitment of the PI and team members to the project.

- Coherent articulation of the research plan between the R&I Partner(s) and the Health Partner(s), reflecting a balanced and integrated collaboration.

- Appropriate analysis of the risks associated to the different stages of the project, with special focus on the identified critical points and the corresponding contingency plan.

- Adequacy of the estimated costs in relation to the activities and deliverables outlined in the workplan.

- Suitable description of the mechanisms, actions and activities of dissemination, valorization and utilization of the project results.

- Potential to inform future evidence-based policies, regulatory developments, and/or interventions, as well as to generate results that may support larger studies or scalable implementations, where applicable.

- Relevance, plausibility, and potential economic and social value of the expected impacts, particularly in relation to Health Partner(s) and/or the National Health System.

4. Scoring System

The scoring system uses a **9-point scale, using 0.1 increments**. The maximum score is 9 and the minimum is 1, as presented in Table I.

Table I – Qualitative descriptors associated to the 9-point scale

Evaluation	Score	Strengths & Weaknesses
Excellent	9	Exceptionally strong with no weaknesses
Very good	8	Very strong with some negligible weaknesses
	7	Strong with some minor weaknesses
Good	6	Some strengths with numerous minor weaknesses
	5	Some strengths but with at least one moderate weakness
Adequate	4	Few strengths with several minor weaknesses
	3	Few strengths and major weaknesses
Poor	2	Very few strengths and serious weaknesses
	1	Cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information

The Merit of the Project (MP) is calculated according to the following formula:

$$MP = 0.40\ A + 0.35\ B + 0.25\ C$$

Criteria A, B and C are scored using a 9-point scale system (1 – minimum; 9 – maximum) with **decimal numbers**. The final score of MP is rounded to two-decimal places.

In cases where the information available in the application does not allow for evaluating a given criterion, a score of 1.0 (one) will be assigned.

For a proposal to be **eligible for funding**, the following minimum score is required: **MP ≥ 6.00 points**.

For selection and decision-making regarding funding, projects will be ranked by the MP score in decreasing order. As a tiebreaker between applications with the same MP score, the classifications assigned to criteria A, B, and C will be used sequentially and by descending order to provide the final ranking of the projects.

After the ranking of proposals, **the selection process for funding will follow the criteria below**:

    i.   For each thematic area, the two highest-ranked eligible proposals that identify that area as their primary focus will be selected for funding, provided they achieve a Final Score (MP) higher than 6.00;

ii. The remaining proposals to be funded will be selected strictly according to their overall ranking based on the Final Score (MP).

This approach intends to ensure that the set of selected proposals includes at least two eligible projects from each of the three thematic areas described in the section 2.2.

5. Evaluation Process

5.1 Constitution of the Evaluation Panel

The evaluation panel consists of independent experts affiliated with foreign institutions who are recognized for their merit and expertise in their respective scientific fields. The panel's composition considers the number and the scientific areas of the applications, ensuring an adequate gender balance and a fair geographic and institutional distribution of evaluators.
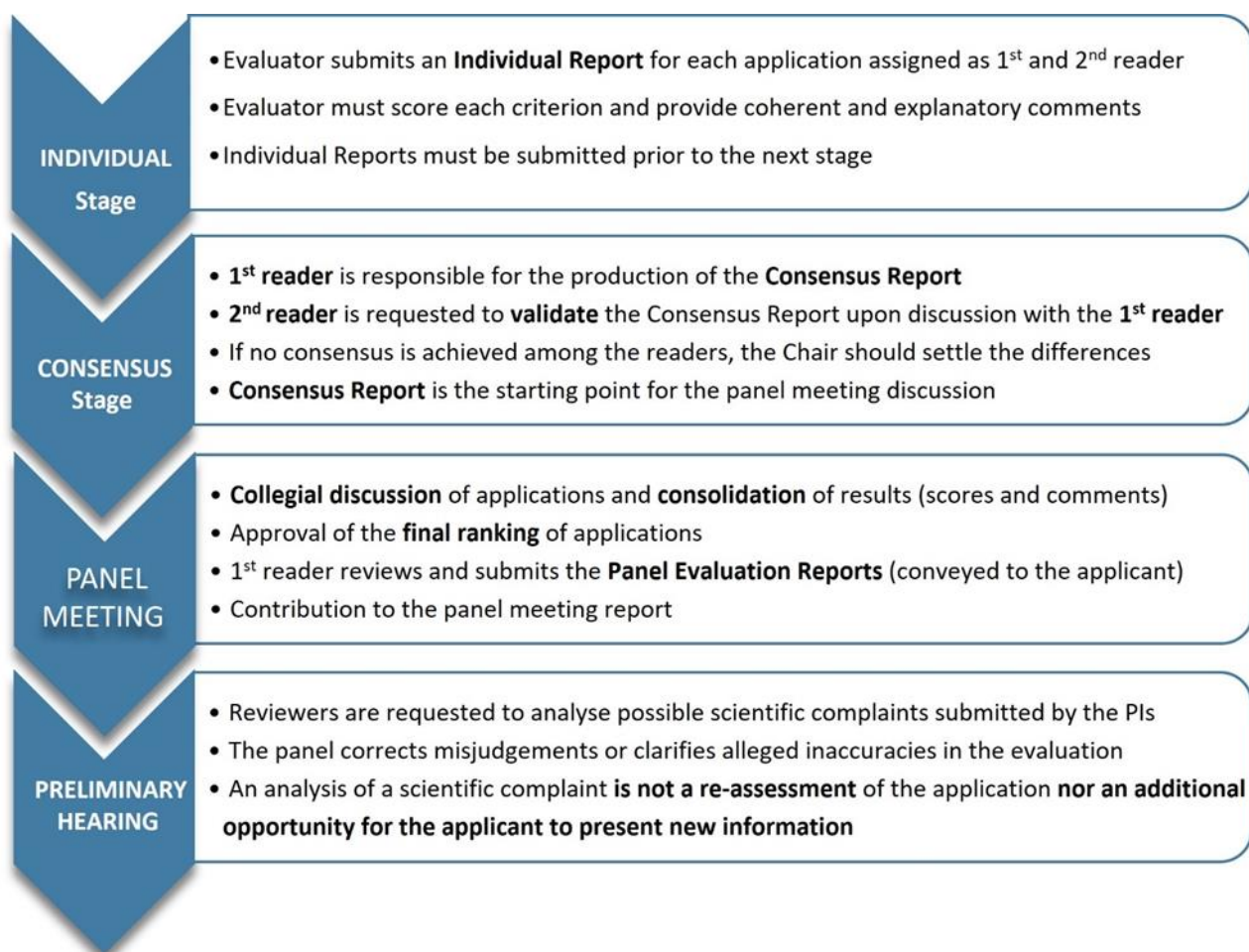
The panel has a **Chair** is **responsible for the following tasks:**

- Ensure that the evaluation process is conducted transparently, independently and fairly;

- Assign each application to two panel members (1st and 2nd readers), considering any declared Conflict of Interest (CoI), as well as the matching of scientific expertise within the topic of the application;

- Keep the evaluation process within the defined timeframe and contact the Panel members in case of any delays;

- Support the FCT team with the resolution of any CoI identified during the evaluation process;

- If necessary, assist FCT with the constitution of the panel by suggesting possible reviewers to be invited;

- Suggest external reviewers to be invited by FCT to assess an application, whenever a specific expertise is not covered by panel;

- Ensure the quality of the reviewers' reports, particularly the Consensus and Panel Reports, and provide guidance and raise alerts whenever not complying with the following: comments should be coherent with scores, considering the descriptors of the scoring system (see section 4), provide substantive arguments and identify both strengths and weaknesses for each evaluation criterion.

- Moderate the Panel Meeting;

- Prepare the panel meeting report that should address work methodology, conflicts of interest and final ranking;

- Coordinate the support provided to FCT and panel members during the preliminary hearings period, if necessary.

Depending on the size of the panel and on the breadth of scientific areas involved, one or more Co-Chair(s) may be appointed to assist the panel Chair.

5.2 Evaluation Stages

The evaluation process comprises **4 stages**:

INDIVIDUAL Stage
- Evaluator submits an **Individual Report** for each application assigned as 1st and 2nd reader
- Evaluator must score each criterion and provide coherent and explanatory comments
- Individual Reports must be submitted prior to the next stage

CONSENSUS Stage
- **1st reader** is responsible for the production of the **Consensus Report**
- **2nd reader** is requested to **validate** the Consensus Report upon discussion with the **1st reader**
- If no consensus is achieved among the readers, the Chair should settle the differences
- **Consensus Report** is the starting point for the panel meeting discussion

PANEL MEETING
- **Collegial discussion** of applications and **consolidation** of results (scores and comments)
- Approval of the **final ranking** of applications
- 1st reader reviews and submits the **Panel Evaluation Reports** (conveyed to the applicant)
- Contribution to the panel meeting report

PRELIMINARY HEARING
- Reviewers are requested to analyse possible scientific complaints submitted by the PIs
- The panel corrects misjudgements or clarifies alleged inaccuracies in the evaluation
- An analysis of a scientific complaint **is not a re-assessment** of the application **nor an additional opportunity for the applicant to present new information**

5.3 Evaluation Timeline

The evaluation timeline is established by FCT's Board of Directors and conveyed to the evaluation panel Chair and members. The date of the final videoconference panel meeting of the panel is established in advance by FCT.

5.4 Feedback to Applicants

All reviewers must comply with the following guidelines when preparing the evaluation reports.

Each report must include:

- Score and comments for each evaluation criterion, including strengths and weaknesses.
- A comment on the proposed budget; suggested changes in the budget must be justified.
- A comment concerning ethical issues, if applicable.
- Confidential comments to the evaluation panel and /or FCT, if necessary.

Comments must:

- Be **coherent with the scores** considering the descriptors presented in Table I ([section 4](#)).
- Be clear and consistent, highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of the application for each criterion.
- Use dispassionate and analytical language, avoiding dismissive statements about the applicant, the proposed science, or the scientific field.
- Be impeccably polite.
- Address the proposed work plan and not the work the reviewers consider should have been planned.

Comments <u>must not</u>:

- Provide a description or a summary of the application.
- Use of the **first person or equivalent**: "*I think*…" or "*This reviewer finds*…"; alternatively, panel members are advised to use expressions such as "**The panel** …" or "It is considered…".
- **Ask questions**, as the applicant will not be able to answer them.
- Provide detailed recommendations or advice for improving the application.
- Have contradicting statements.
- Mention quantitative details or metrics in the Panel reports.

> The **quality of the comments** provided to applicants is of paramount importance to the evaluation process and is therefore a **crucial responsibility of the evaluation panel**.

6. Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest

6.1 Confidentiality Statement

The privacy and confidentiality of applications must be fully protected and always ensured during the evaluation process. All reviewers involved in the evaluation are asked to be bound to the Terms of Reference.

Within the context of this call, a set of personal data is collected, and relevant information is provided to the data supplier to ensure compliance with the principles established in Regulation EU 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of April 27, 2016 (GDPR) and the 58/2019 Law from

August 8, in the Application Guide. For more detailed information, please consult the Personal Data Protection document in the [call's webpage](#).

6.2 Conflict of Interest (CoI)

a) Disqualifying Conflict of Interest

<u>With the present Call</u>

Researchers are hindered to participate as Chair, Co-Chair, Panel member or External Reviewer if they:

1. Have submitted any application as PI, Co-PI, team member or consultant;

2. Have first-degree relationships, domestic partnership or are married with a PI, Co-PI, team member or consultant of an application.

<u>With an application</u>

Panel members cannot evaluate nor participate in the panel discussion of an application in the following circumstances:

1. Personal or financial interest in the application's success;

2. Current or planned close scientific cooperation;

3. Research cooperation within the last three years before the opening date of the call, *e.g.,* joint publications;

4. Dependent employment relationship or supervisory relationship (*e.g.*, supervisor-student relationship up to and including the postdoctoral stage) within the three years before the opening date of the call;

5. Affiliation or pending transfer to any of the departments or research centres involved in the project;

6. Researchers who are active in a council or similar supervisory or advisory board of the applying institutions are excluded from participating in the review and decision-making process for applications involving these institutions.

b) Potential Conflict of Interest

In the case of a potential CoI, the Panel member must notify FCT, which will analyse and decide if the reviewer is able to perform an unbiased evaluation, removing the declared CoI, or if the conflict should rather be maintained and the Panel member excluded from the assessment of the application. A potential CoI exists in the following circumstances:

7. Relationships other than first-degree, marriage or domestic partnership; other personal ties or conflicts.

8. Participation in university bodies other than those listed under n°. 6., *e.g.*, in scientific advisory committees in the research environment.

9. Preparation of an application or implementation of a project with a closely related research topic (competition).

10. Participating in an on-going scientific or inter-personal conflict with the applicant(s);

11. Any other circumstances the reviewer feels that may not be impartial.

> ➤ If a **conflict of interest is identified during the evaluation process**, the reviewer must promptly **inform the panel Chair and the FCT team** to enable the swift reassignment of the application. Depending on the nature of the conflict, this information will be included in the panel meeting report.

Annex I – Components of the Application

Applications must be written in English and submitted online via a dedicated FCT Web Platform ([myFCT](#)).

Multiple applications of the same project are not allowed. New applications grounded on a previous project should contain substantial modification and update.

Each application comprises the following sections:

General Data
Project Description
- Project Title (PT/EN) **(max. 255 characters)**
- Project acronym **(max. 15 characters)**
- Keywords (PT/EN) **(max. 4 keywords)**
- Thematic area
- Justification of the thematic area **(max.1000 charaters)**
- Main scientific area (Scientific domain / Scientific area / Scientific subarea)
- Timetable (start date and duration)

Institutions
Principal contractor
- Institution
- Research unit **(max. 3)**
- Institution description and its competencies for the development of the project **(max. 1500 characters)**

Participating institutions
- Institution
- Research unit **(max. 3)**
- Institution description and its competencies for the development of the project **(max. 1500 characters)**

Collaborative Institutions
- Country
- Institution
- Institution description and its competencies for the development of the project **(max. 1500 characters)**

Research team
Principal Investigator
- Institution to which you are associated in the scope of the research project
- PhD completion date
- CIÊNCIAVITAE CV permissions and upload

PI Narrative CV
- Career profile **(max. 2000 characters)**
- Contributions to Science and Society:
  - Contributions to the generation of new ideas, tools, methodologies or knowledge **(max. 2000 characters)**
  - Contributions to the development of individuals and/or research teams **(max. 3000 characters)**
  - Contributions to the research community and the broader society **(max. 3000 characters)**
  - Selected outputs and/or activities **(max. 2500 characters)**

Members
- Email
- Institution to which you are associated in the scope of the research project

Hirings (if applicable)
- Type
- Institution to which you are associated in the scope of the research project

Consultants (if applicable)
- Email
- Framework of consultant's participation (**max. 1000 characters**)

Team CV Synopsis
- Research team CV synopsis (max. 6000 characters)

Work plan
Abstract
- Abstract in Portuguese **(max. 5000 characters)**
- Abstract in English **(max. 5000 characters)**
- Abstract for publication different? **(max. 5000 characters)**

State of the art and Objectives
- State of the art and objectives **(max. 6000 characters)**

Research plan and methods
- Research plan and methods **(max. 10000 characters)**

Bibliographic references
- Bibliographic references **(max. 10000 characters)**

Past publications
- Order
- Publication **(max. 600 characters)**
- URL

Tasks
- Task denomination (**max. 150 characters**)
- Task description and expected results **(max. 4000 characters)**
- Assigned to
- Person*month
- Start date
- Duration (months)
- Deliverables and delivery dates **(max. 2500 characters)**
- Budgets:
  - Overall cost justification of the task **(max. 2500 characters)**
  - Amount requested for the task

Project timeline and management
- Milestones List (add milestone)
  - Denomination
  - Milestone description **(max. 300 characters)**
  - Tasks
  - Date
- Timeline (attached file)
- Management
  - Description of the management structure **(max. 3000 characters)**

Ethical issues (if applicable)
- Are there Ethics Issues identified in this project?
- Select the ethical declarations you consider appropriate (if applicable)
- Justification (if applicable) **(max. 3000 characters)**

2030 Agenda
- Framework of the application for the United Nations SDG 2030 Agenda (**up to 3 SDG**)

Other projects
- Add project
  - Project reference
  - Project status
  - Project title (in English)
  - Principal contractor
  - Funding
    - Funding entity
    - Total funding
  - Timetable
    - Start date
    - Duration (months)
  - Relation with the current proposal
    - State the main objectives considered relevant for the application being submitted to the present R&D Projects Call **(max. 2000 characters)**

Attachments
- Consortium constitution – mandatory submission

- If needed, the PI may attach the following documents to the proposal: support letters, formulas, schemes, diagrams, graphs or images. No other documents than the ones previously mentioned should be considered in this section.)

Computing and data
- Advanced computing
  - The work plan requires advanced computer resources to be provided by FCT?
  - Do you have previous experience with High Performance Computing? (if applicable)
  - Refer previously used computational platforms (if applicable, **max. 400 characters**)
  - Which of the following amounts of resources (per year) is suitable for your project? (if applicable)
  - Brief justification for the requested computational resources (if applicable, **max. 400 characters**)
- Research data
  - You will be generating or collecting research data in the context of your project?
  - The work plan requires access to a research data repository provided by FCT? (if applicable)

Indicators
- Expected output indicators
- Dissemination
  - Indicate the dissemination actions of the scientific activity planned in the project **(max. 3000 characters)**

Budget
Principal contractor
- Item
- Rationale for requested funding (**max. 3000 characters)**

Funding plan
- Global budget (automatic filling)
- Funding Plan (automatic filling)

Statement of Commitment

Validate and submit

Annex II – Components of the Application

Budget rationale for requested funding (**max. 3000 characters / item**) – the following items are eligible for funding:

a) Direct costs:

i. **Human resources rationale:**

Expenses with **Human Resources** dedicated or related to the development of R&D activities related to the project execution in all mandatory components by the applicable labour legislation, including charges with grant holders directly supported by the beneficiaries;

- **With regard to employment contracts, human resources expenses are based on the costs incurred in carrying out the project, based on the monthly base salary declared for the social protection of the worker, which may be increased by the mandatory social food allowance and occupational accident insurance under legally defined terms. The basic salary shall be the set of all remunerations of a permanent nature subject to taxation and declared for the purpose of social protection of the worker;**

- **The research fellowships are tendered and contracted by the beneficiary entities in the context of the supported projects, which must comply with the Research Fellowship Holder Statute (Law no. 40/2004 of 18 August, in its present version) and FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships.**

ii. **Missions,** expenses with travel, accommodation, registration fees, etc., in Portugal and abroad, and directly attributable to the project.

iii. **Scientific and technical tools and equipment** (acquisition or amortization) indispensable to the project.

iv. **Patent registration,** expenses related to the national and foreign record of **patents, copyrights, usefulness models and drawings, national models or brands** when related to other forms of intellectual protection, namely rates, research to the status of the technique and consulting expenses.

v. **Demonstration, Promotion and Publication**, expenses with the **demonstration, promotion and disclosure of the project's outputs**, namely dissemination fees within the fulfilment and pursuant to national policies of open access.

vi. **Adaptation of buildings and facilities,** when essential to the development of the project, namely for environmental and security reasons, limited to 10% of the eligible expenses.

vii. **Acquisition of other goods and services** directly related to the project's execution, including costs with consultants.

b) **Indirect costs (overheads)**, with a flat rate of 25% of eligible direct costs. The percentage bound in this item is automatically checked by the submission tool. Applications cannot be locked if this condition is not verified.

For the present Call, the **non-eligible costs** are the ones stated in the art. 9 of the [FCT Projects Regulation](#) in this current version.

Salaries of public servants are **not funded under this call**.

Portuguese to English Translation and Explanations

Agregação = Aggregation. This is an academic title. It attests:

i.) the quality of the academic, professional, scientific and pedagogical curriculum;

ii.) the capacity to carry out research supervision;

iii.) the capability to coordinate and carry out independent research work, issued to PhD holders with a research and academic path, after a public exam by a jury involving discussion of the CV, of a submitted curricular proposal and the presentation and discussion of a lecture.

CEECInd = Individual Contract for Researchers

Doutoramento = PhD, doctoral degree

Mestrado = Master's degree

Licenciatura = BA (3, 4 or 5 years graduate course)

Bolsa = Grant, fellowship

Bolseiro = Grant holder, fellow

BII = Bolsas de Iniciação à Investigação = Research Initiation Grants

- Research Initiation Grants are intended for students enrolled in a Higher Professional Education, a 1st cycle of a Higher Education institution, an Integrated Master or Master to initiate their scientific training, within research projects to be developed in national institutions;

- These grants are also aimed at holders of a graduate degree, enrolled in courses that do not award an academic degree, integrated in an educational project of a higher education institution developed individually or jointly in their institutes or R&D units;

- These grants have a minimum duration of three months and may be renewable up to a maximum of one year.

BI = Bolsas de Investigação = Research Grants

- Research grants are intended for students enrolled in an Integrated Master, Master or Doctoral degree, for obtaining the respective scientific academic degree, through the development of scientific training integrated or not in R&D projects;

- These grants are also aimed at holders of a graduate degree or master, enrolled in courses that do not award an academic degree, integrated in an educational project of a higher education institution developed individually or jointly in their institutes or R&D units;