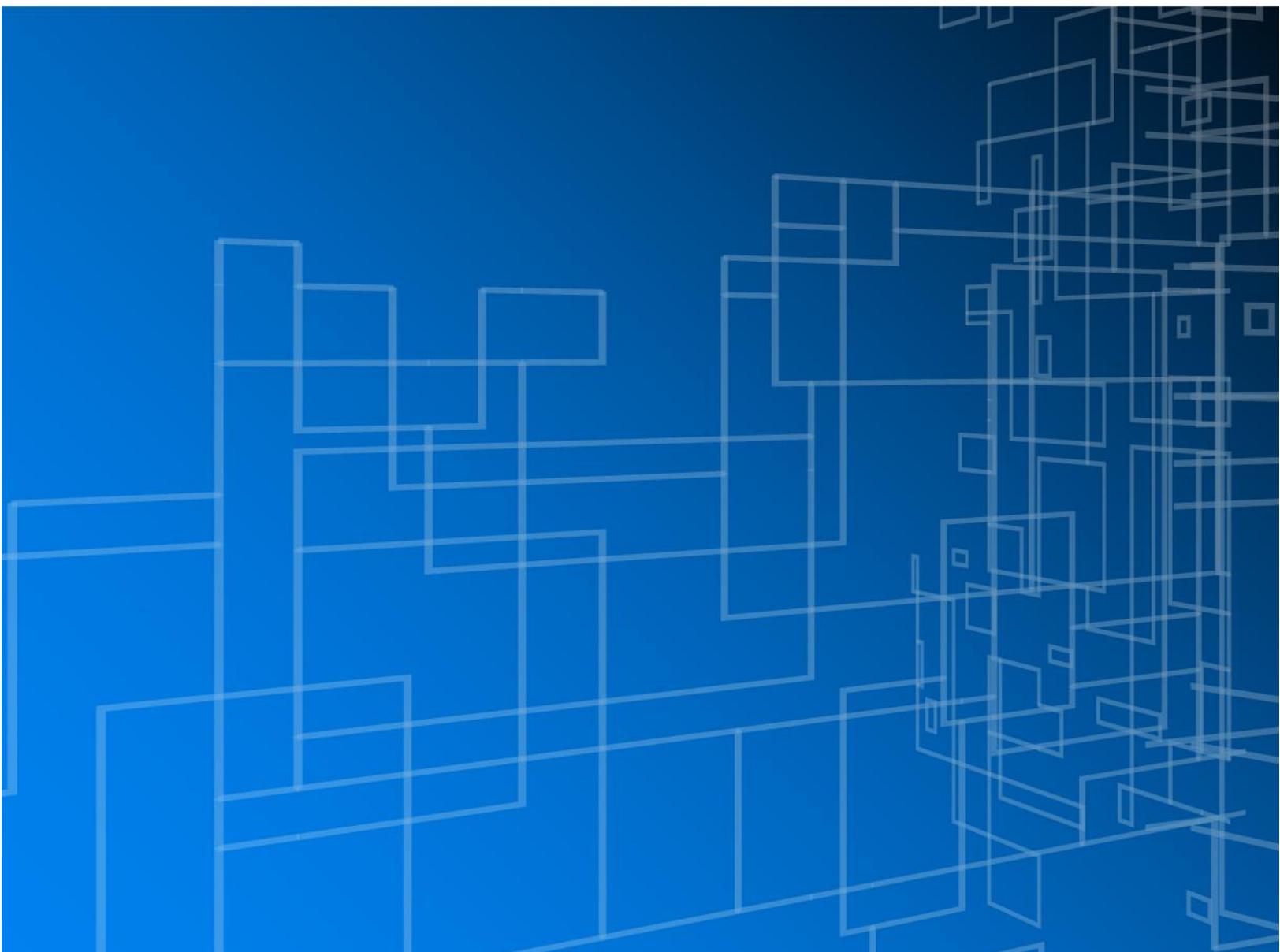


Exploratory Projects in all Scientific Domains 2023

Application Guide

December 2023



This **Application Guide** is intended to support the PI throughout the application process to the Exploratory Research Projects (PeX) Call, and to help him/her preparing and submitting a successful application. This Guide draws on information available on the Exploratory Research Projects page, namely the legal documents setting the rules and conditions for this Call: the Public Announcement for the Call (“[Aviso para Apresentação de Candidaturas](#)”) and the [FCT Projects Regulations](#). On the FCT Call for Exploratory Projects in All Scientific Domains 2023 webpage, the PI also finds the Guide for Peer Reviewers, the Ethics Self-Assessment Guide, the *Guião CIÊNCIAVITAE* and a section of FAQs. The period of applications submission for the current Call is from 22 December 2023 to 16 February 2024.

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1. Call for Exploratory Projects

The consolidation and reinforcement of the National System of Science and Technology (NSST) constitute a priority of the national policy for science and technology. It aims at increasing the national and international competitiveness of science and technology and its contribution to innovation and transfer of knowledge and at complying to the global aspirations defined in *Agenda 2030: United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*. In this context, it is particularly relevant the promotion and strengthening of the scientific and technological institutions through the participation of research teams in Projects.

Considering these goals, FCT launches the Call for **Exploratory Research Projects (PeX)**, which aims at funding scientific or technological research projects in all scientific domains that are intended to explore ideas or concepts with high level of originality and/or ground-breaking potential.

The **beneficiary entities** can only apply **individually** and must be a legal entity belonging to the non-business entities of the R&I System. The maximum duration of the grant is 18 months (renewable for 6 months, if justified) and the maximum funding for project is 50.000,00 euros, from the € 20 million of national state budget available for this Call.

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

The call is open from 22 December 2022 to 16 February 2024.

2. Prior to Submission

2.1 Who may submit an application

The Principal Investigator (PI) may be national, foreign, and stateless researchers who meet the following requirements by the deadline for submission of applications:

- Time committed to the project.
- Hold a doctoral degree at the closing date of the call. The document certifying the doctoral degree must be submitted at the time of the Acceptance Document.
- Have an employment contract or grant contract with the Principal Contractor. In the absence of such a link, at the time of the Acceptance Document a written agreement between the parties must be submitted, according to point c) of item 1 of Article 6 of FCT's Project Regulations.

For eligibility purposes, the following restrictions are also applied:

- **A researcher may submit only one application as PI** in this call and other FCT calls for R&D project funding with an overlap in the time periods for receiving applications.
- The PI can only participate as a team member in one more application in this call and other FCT R&D project calls that overlap in the period for the submission of the proposal.
- Each researcher (**who is not PI of an application**) can only participate as team member in a maximum of 3 applications in the present call and other FCT calls that overlap in the period for the submission of the proposal.
- The PI of the application cannot be:
 - PI of a SR&TD type project funded in the last edition of the Call for R&D Projects in all Scientific Domains.
 - PI or Project Leader/PI of an awarded project within *Fundação La Caixa* Call, co-funded by FCT, whose announcement for the Call was published in 2022 or 2023.
 - PI of a FCT ERC-Portugal A-Project awarded after November 2022.
 - PI of an application submitted to the last edition of the Call for R&D Projects in all Scientific Domains, scored lower than 5 in the Merit of the Project.
 - PI with a final scientific report rejected within two years before the opening of the call, for reasons attributable to him/her.
 - In a situation of unjustified non-fulfilment of the regulatory requirements regarding the presentation of reports on scientific execution of projects concluded and financed through FCT and in which he/she acted as PI.
- Applications that have been selected for funding by FCT or other funding agencies will not be accepted.
- Multiple applications for the same project will not be accepted:
 - In the present call.
 - In different calls for proposals that overlap in the period for receiving applications.
 - In the case of applications to calls with different thematic scopes and which take place during different application periods, the recommendation for funding in one of them implies the exclusion from the decision process for the others.
 - **Related applications under evaluation and from the same team submitted to FCT or other funding agencies must be declared in the application.**
- Applications must be submitted in English.
- Applicants providing false declarations or committing plagiarism in the application will be excluded from the Call.

2.2 Beneficiary Institution

The following non-entrepreneurial Portuguese entities of the R&I are individual beneficiaries:

- Higher education institutions, their institutes and R&D units.
- State or international Laboratories with head office in Portugal.
- Non-profit private institutions whose main objective is R&D activities.
- Other non-profit private and public institutions developing or participating in scientific research activities.

2.3 Registration

The application must be submitted using the [myFCT platform](#). Should the candidate not be registered on the CIÊNCIA ID platform, he/she needs to generate a CIÊNCIA ID identifier at: www.ciencia-id.pt

The candidate should then use the CIÊNCIA ID login credentials to enter the [myFCT platform](#). The CIÊNCIA ID platform also allows the candidate to complete his/her CIÊNCIAVITAE, which will also be included in the application. Please note that for Evaluation Panels to be able to consult the candidate's CIÊNCIAVITAE CV, it should be written entirely in English.

2.4 What should the candidate know before applying to this call

Before starting an application, make sure to be well informed on the rules governing this Call, by reading the [supporting documents](#).

The terms of eligibility, as well as the rules and requirements of the different phases of the application process, are set forth in the following documents:

- **FCT Projects Regulations**, which establishes the general terms under which funding may be granted.
- **Announcement for Call for Proposals** (“*Aviso de Abertura do Concurso*”) for Exploratory Projects in all Scientific Domains 2023, which specifies the conditions of this Call.
- **Guide for Peer Reviewers** for the Call for Exploratory Projects in all Scientific Domains 2023, which establishes the terms for evaluation under which funding may be granted.

FCT also makes available the following Guides that must also be carefully analysed:

- The Ethics Self-Assessment Guide.
- The CIÊNCIAVITAE Guide.

2.5 General Recommendations to the candidates

- Prepare the application carefully and timely.
- Read carefully the instructions provided in this Guide and in the Application form.
- Learn about the structure of the Application form before beginning filling it in. Read all the sections of the Application form in advance, in order to have an idea of what is being asked and to have the necessary time to gather all the information required for submission.
- Make sure that all the institutions to be included in the application are available on the Application form. If they are not on the list, they have to be added through the Registration of Institutions form via the [Portal de Ciência e Tecnologia](#) (available only in Portuguese). **It can take up to two working days for a new institution to become available** once the form is filled.
- Contact the researchers to be included in the application team in advance and ask them to register on the CIÊNCIA ID platform and to provide the applicant with the CIÊNCIA ID registration email address.
- Make sure an **updated version of CIÊNCIAVITAE is available** and ensure that the same goes for **all members** associated to the research team of the project.
- Make sure that **each Institution selected** in the application form **has a team member associated**.
- Prepare the **Lump Sum funding** of the **application carefully and adequately**.
- Ensure that the URL addresses of bibliographical references or other relevant material remain active throughout the decision-making process.
- Do not assume that the form and rules for submission of this application are the same as those used in other FCT programs or by other funding Agencies.
- Do not wait until the **last minute to validate and make any corrections to the application**. There is a **myFCT validation process, to detect possible errors in your application**, which can implicate corrections and the need for extra time. **Please repeat this validation process regularly**.
- Plan and complete the application process as early as possible. Only in this way FCT will be able to provide the best possible assistance.
- Visit the FCT website regularly for updated information regarding the Call.

2.6 Additional recommendations for writing a successful application

- Write the application in such a way as to convince the panel of experts that the ideas presented deserve to be funded.
- It is important to describe the institutions involved in the project and their respective skills and contribution to the development of the project.
- Remember that the application represents a commitment, not only from the Principal Investigator, but also from the entire research team.
- Be realistic in terms of expectations and, if the proposal is approved, make sure that the research team is able to carry it out as planned in the application.
- Read the Guide for Peer Reviewers carefully to understand how the application will be evaluated and make sure that the application addresses those crucial points.
- Avoid repeating the same text or entire paragraphs in different sections.

2.7 How to direct questions to FCT

Any clarifications from FCT can be requested via email. Use exclusively the email concursosprojetos@fct.pt for any queries concerning this Call, namely questions regarding the contents of the Application form and technical aspects of myFCT website.

Please note that FCT cannot guarantee that emails received during the last two working days of this Call's submission period will be answered.

3. Submission of the Application

The Application form is organized in eight sections. The sections are:

- General Data
- Institutions
- Research Team
- Work Plan
- Indicators
- Budget
- Statement of Commitment
- Validate and Submit

The detailed structure of the Application form, identifying all the fields and their respective character limits, is available in Appendix I. The following subsections of the guide provide a detailed description of each of the eight sections that comprise the application form and provide the most relevant information on how to fill in each field. Many of the fields on the form have a character limit.

We recommend the PI to click on **Validate and Submit** regularly when filling in the application so that any errors marked with the symbol  can be detected and corrected in due time.

3.1 Guidelines for filling in the Application form

In the following chapters of this Guide, a detailed description of the contents requested in each section of the Application form is offered. Many of the fields in the form have a limited number of characters. Only plain text or attachments are allowed. Any other form of presenting additional information (such as links for Dropbox or Google Drive) will be disregarded for evaluation purposes.

Once the application is created on the [myFCT platform](#), a reference code is automatically generated (in the format YEAR.NUMBER.CALLTYPE; e.g. 2023.0001.PEX). This will be FCT's unique identification code for the application throughout the Call.

The various sections of the Application form can be accessed from the left-hand side menu bar.

3.1.1 General Data

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In this section of the form, the project is identified by filling in the following fields:

- **Title:** the title of the research project should be concise and succinct, understandable to a reader with a general scientific background, and suitable for public dissemination.
- **Project acronym:** assign an acronym for the identification of the project.
- **Keywords:** list a maximum of 4 keywords.
The keywords are likely to be used in the peer-review process of the application and should accurately reflect its scientific content. This is particularly important for interdisciplinary applications. A repetition of the words contained in the title must be avoided.
- **Main scientific area (Scientific Domain / Scientific Area / Scientific sub-Area):** the scientific domain/areas and subareas should be chosen from the available options, starting with the main scientific domain.

After filling in these fields, the platform automatically identifies the evaluation panel where the application will be evaluated. Further details on the choices of scientific areas and subareas, and their correspondence with the Evaluation Panels, are available on Appendix II.

- **Timetable (start date and duration):** indicate the expected start date of the project in day-month-year format. The project will have a maximum duration of 18 months. This indicative date may be changed for projects recommended for funding during the acceptance term signing phase; however, it cannot exceed 90 consecutive days from the date of decision notification.

3.1.2 Institutions

This section identifies the institutions involved in the project, both from an administrative and financial management perspective and in terms of scientific execution and it's divided in the following sections:

- Principal Contractor
- Collaborative Institutions

Make sure that each Institution selected in the application form has a team member associated.

PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR

The **Principal Contractor** is the **beneficiary entity** that leads the project and serves as the intermediary with the FCT on behalf of all partners. In approved projects, the Principal Contractor will receive all payments and then transfer the corresponding amounts to partner institutions.

The Principal Contractor must be based in national territory and must have a Tax Identification Number (NIPC), and the designation used to apply for call is the exact designation associated with that NIPC.

The Principal Contractor must be one of the beneficiaries' institutions describe in [section 2.2](#).

The **Research Unit** field, associated with the Principal Contractor, are mandatory and allow the PI to identify which research units are involved in execution of the project. A maximum of 3 research units can be added to the principal contractor.

In this section a description of the Principal Contractor and its competencies for the development of the project may be provided. This information will be taken into account by the Evaluation Panel during the assessment of the adequacy of the host conditions (technical/scientific, organizational management and, when appropriate, co-funding capacity by companies) provided by the beneficiary entity.

COLLABORATIVE INSTITUTIONS

Collaborative Institutions are the institutions involved in the project, including foreign institutions, without an associated budget.

If any **beneficiary institution or research unit** is not **listed**, it will have to be added in the Institutions Pre-Registration form on the [Portal de Ciência e Tecnologia](#). It may take up to two business days to update the list.

3.1.3 Research Team

The research team consists of the PI and other team members directly involved in the project tasks and activities of the proposed project.

The PI must monitor the acceptance process of the team members and consultants by checking the following states, as well as providing their CVs:

-  Invitation accepted
-  Awaiting confirmation
-  Invitation declined

Any team member or consultant that does not agree to participate in the project, should be removed by the PI from the form to allow the submission of the application.

Each researcher can only have one CIÊNCIAVITAE imported into myFCT in the same call. Therefore, if the researcher participates in several applications in the same call, once one of the applications is submitted, he/she will no longer be able to select the 'Get CIÊNCIAVITAE CV' button.

The Research Team item is divided into the following sections:

- Principal Investigator
- PI narrative CV
- Members
- Hirings
- Consultant
- Team CV synopsis

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

The PI's data (name, role, and Ciência ID) is automatically filled in. The PI must fill in the following information regarding his/her participation in the project:

- Institution to which the PI is associated.
- CIENCIAVITAE permissions and upload.

The PI's CV in the CIÊNCIAVITAE platform must be created/updated before associating it to the Application for the PeX Call. **It should be entirely in English.**

Permission to FCT to access the PI's CIÊNCIAVITAE should be given before associating it with the application. By granting this permission, FCT will have access to the information subsets of the PI's CV with Public and Semi-public access levels. Subsets kept at a private access level will not be available for evaluation. Please check the CIÊNCIAVITAE Guide.

The button 'Give FCT permission' is visible in the CIÊNCIAVITAE menu. When this button is pressed, the system opens the CIÊNCIAVITAE platform. When the PI returns to the Application form, this button will be inactive.

+ Give FCT permission

Remember to give FCT the access to the contents of **each section** by selecting the privacy level to Public or Semi-public.

By selecting 'Get CIÊNCIAVITAE CV', **the CV will be immediately associated with the Application form (in PDF format)**. When the process of importing the CV is finished, this file will be available on the Application form; a link will appear with the associated CV PDF file, indicating the date and time.

+ Get CIÊNCIAVITAE CV

The PI should **check his/her CIÊNCIAVITAE CV PDF file** to confirm that all the information is correct. Any updates to the PI's CV will necessarily imply selecting 'Get CIÊNCIAVITAE CV' again. This means that updates to the CV content **must be made** through the CIÊNCIAVITAE platform; to have the updated CV associated to the application, it is mandatory to: i) remove the previous document and then ii) press again "Get CIÊNCIAVITAE CV".

Please note that the content of the CIÊNCIAVITAE is exclusively the PI's responsibility.

The CIÊNCIAVITAE CV will be used by the reviewers **only to confirm** the information provided in the PI Narrative CV.

PI NARRATIVE CV

The PI Narrative CV aims at allowing a more effective and encompassing assessment of a diverse range of research achievements, focusing on the quality and impact of individual research outputs and researcher's contributions, while avoiding the use of metrics as a surrogate measure of quality. The narrative CV has the following sections:

- **Career Profile:** a summary of the PI's education (specifying the year the PhD was completed), key qualifications, and employment history. If applicable, any period of leave from research, such as parental leaves, long-term absence due to illness, period of work in industry, secondments, volunteering, or other non-research activities may be specified. Explain how these interruption(s) or the unconventional path and/or gap(s) has/have impacted your activity.
- **Contributions to Science and Society:** in the following sections, the PI may provide relevant examples of contributions in relation to his/her career stage and specific scientific area. Please note that the diverse sets of contributions provided below are designed to include different researcher's profiles and career stages across different scientific areas. The PI may use the guidelines below selecting the types of contributions that more broadly and effectively describe his/her researcher profile and curriculum.
 - i. **Contributions to the generation of new ideas, tools, methodologies, or knowledge:** description of how the PI has contributed to the generation of new ideas, tools, methodologies, or knowledge, and the relevance and impact of your contributions. These can include publications, key data sets, software, intellectual property (patents, licenses, trademarks, copyrights, novel assays, and reagents), conference presentations and proceedings, research, and policy publications, or other scientific, technological, cultural or artistic achievements. Awards received in recognition of contributions to the generation of knowledge may also be mentioned. To better inform the Evaluation Panel on the relevance of these contributions, when including 'what' those are, the PI must also consider 'how' or 'why' they are relevant or important, the role he/she played, and who and how has benefited from these outputs/achievements. Regarding publications, journal or publication metrics such as impact factors, and research performance metrics should be avoided¹.
 - ii. **Contributions to the development of individuals and/or research teams:** highlight expertise provided by the PI which was relevant to the development of individuals and/or teams, including project participation, leadership or management, collaborative contributions, and team support. It can include teaching activities, workshops, or

¹ Research performance metrics include, but are not limited to, h-index, H-index, i10-index, G-index, HG-index, Q2- index, AR-index, M-quotient, M-index, W-index, E-index, A-index.

summer schools in which the PI was involved (for undergraduates, graduates, and post-grads, as well as junior colleagues), the supervision of students, mentoring or other contributions to the success of a team or advancement of colleagues. It can also include the PI's role (as a PI, team member or other) in past and ongoing funded projects, as well as the management of science, technology and innovation programs or projects. It can also be used to highlight the PI's involvement in collaborations/networks from an organizational to international level.

- iii. **Contributions to the research community and the broader society:** the PI may include activities he/she has participated in to progress the research community and engage with the broader society. These include contributions to research community outreach/engagement; editing, reviewing, refereeing, evaluation of funding applications; and organization of events that have benefited the research community, or improved research culture. These can also include societal engagement, knowledge transfer, dissemination of knowledge, outreach activities, and other type of engagement with the public, private, or non-profit sectors, and the broader society.
- iv. **Selected outputs and/or activities:** provide additional and detailed information on a maximum of five scientific outputs and/or activities that best describes the PI's research career and experience. For each one, the PI should indicate his/her role and how it has impacted the advancement of knowledge in the respective scientific area. Any type of contribution from the three previous sections can be also included. Whenever the outputs have a DOI, please include it.
- v. **Why would this grant be timely for me, at this point in my career path and/or in my research?:** the PI should explain the timeliness of this project in the context of the current stage of his/her career, and/or the impact on his/her future research lines and development. Career and research development potential may include scientific production, activities and dissemination, team and project leadership, establishment of national or international collaborations/networks, and the ability to enable future research and to attract funding or other resources.

MEMBERS

Team members must be associated with the application by entering their email address. For each team member, the PI must provide the following information:

- Email
- Institution to which the team member is associated in the scope of the research project

Up to three additional core CVs may be identified for the application. The PI is automatically considered a core CV. Each team member must confirm their participation in the application and associate their CIÊNCIAVITAE, in their myFCT area.

Please make sure that each Institution selected in the application form has a team member associated.

HIRINGS

In this section, additional human resources (contracts and scholarships) needed to carry out the project should be indicated. New hirings are provided in the application by filling in the following fields:

- Type
- Institution to which the hiring is associated in the scope of the research project

CONSULTANTS

Internationally reputed experts in project's scientific areas who provide consulting services for the project should be identified. The following fields should be completed in the application:

- Email
- Framework of consultant's participation

Consultants should confirm their participation in the application and associate their CIÊNCIAVITAE or a PDF file with their CV (maximum 4 MB) in their myFCT area.

Whenever a team member or consultant is associated with the application, they will receive an email to confirm their association with the application.

TEAM CV SYNOPSIS

In this field, the PI must **justify the framework and competencies of the research team and its coherence with the proposed work plan**. The PI should focus on the team's scientific activity over the last 5 effective years, indicating the most relevant scientific achievements of the research team and demonstrating its competence in the area of the proposed project. This field will be taken into account by the panel when assessing the merit of the team and the adequacy of the profiles of its members to the work plan of the proposed project. Once again, the CIÊNCIAVITAE CV of each team member will be used by the reviewers **only to confirm** the information provided in this team CV synopsis.

3.1.4 Work Plan

The following indications are **suggestions** on how to organize the description of the research plan. The structure is The PI's responsibility and should be adjusted according to the scientific discipline or interdisciplinary nature. The research plan should be designed for an 18-month period, which is the maximum duration of the project.

The work plan is divided into the following sections:

- Abstract
- State of the art and Objectives
- Research plan and methods
- Bibliographic references
- Past publications
- Tasks
- Project timeline and management
- Ethical issues
- 2030 Agenda
- Other projects
- Attachments

ABSTRACT

In this section, the summary of the proposal should be presented, in **Portuguese** and **English**, with an analysis of the state of the art, the main goals to be addressed, the knowledge and skills available in the group, the strategy and methodologies to be used, identifying the novelty and the expected results.

The PI must indicate whether the abstract to be used by the FCT for **public disseminating** will be the same as the abstract previously filled in. If, for confidentiality reasons, the text of the abstract for publication purposes is different, the PI should click on the button **Abstract for publication different**. The content of this field will always be the PI's responsibility.

STATE OF ART AND OBJECTIVES

In this section, the PI must provide an overview of his/her research field, present the state of the art of the research area in connection with the ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the proposed research project. References to the PI's previous work should be included. The PI should focus on the following questions:

- To what extent does the proposed research **address important challenges**?
- To what extent are the **objectives ambitious and beyond the state of the art** (e.g. novel concepts and approaches or development between or across disciplines)?

RESEARCH PLAN AND METHODS

In this section, the PI should describe the proposed research plan and the methodologies to be used, focusing on the following questions:

- To what extent is the outlined **scientific approach feasible** bearing in mind the originality and/or ground-breaking potential of the proposed research?
- To what extent are the **proposed research methodology and working arrangements appropriate** to achieve the goals of the project?
- To what extent are the proposed timelines, resources, and PI's commitment adequate and properly justified?

Funded projects will now have access to advanced computer resources and research data repositories provided by FCT without the need for further scientific evaluation. This includes computing time in FCT's two new supercomputers, Deucalion and MareNostrum 5. To this end, FCT kindly requests that applicants answer two simple yes/no additional questions:

- Identify whether the work plan requires advanced computer resources to be provided by FCT.
- Identify whether the work plan requires space in a research data repository to be provided by the FCT.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

This section is intended to include the references cited in the state of art and in the research plan and methods, with a cross-referencing methodology chosen by the PI, namely: APA, MLA or Chicago.

The following elements are considered for each reference: title; authors' names in the order in which they appear in the publication; name of the book or journal; editorial data, where applicable; volume number; page numbers; year of publication. If the publications are available electronically, you can add their URL, although this is not mandatory.

Bibliographical references are not limited to the PI and team members' publications.

PAST PUBLICATIONS

This section should include five publications (articles, books or monographs published or accepted for publication) authored or co-authored by the PI and the members of the research team and which are considered to be of relevant importance for assessing the scientific quality demonstrated for the project. You can choose between the following bibliographic citation styles: APA, MLA or Chicago.

To **change** the order of a publication in the table, click on it  and drag it to the desired position.

It is recommended that the evaluators have easy access to these 5 publications. The URL addresses must be provided in full, and it is the PI's responsibility to keep these links active throughout the decision process.

TASKS

For each of the project tasks, you must indicate:

- **Task denomination:** must be concise and self-explanatory.
- **Task description and expected results:** in this section, you should explain the objectives in the context of the project, the methodologies and approaches proposed for their implementation, the results expected in the task and how these are preconditions for subsequent tasks, the link with other tasks, the role of each partner and institution in the task and the justification of the resources, human and material, needed to achieve the expected results of the task.
- **Assigned** the team member or team members associated with the task. **All team members** hired or to be hired, even without associated costs, **must be allocated to at least one task.**
- **Person*month:** results from multiplying the person's percentage of dedication to the task by the duration of the task in months.

Examples:

- 1 person at 50% for 6 months = 3 person*month
- 1 person at 30% for 6 months = 1,8 person*month
- 1 person at 50% for 15 days = 0,25 person*month

- **Start date** and task **duration** (in months) must be included in the project's duration. To **change** the order of a task in the table, click on it  and drag it to the desired position.

The application must have tasks planned throughout its duration, i.e. **there must be no period of the project without tasks**.

- **Deliverables and delivery dates**

In this section, you should list the deliverables, and the corresponding ending dates, for each task. There are different types of deliverables (e.g. a report on specific activities or results, data management plans, ethics or security requirements, websites). Only include deliverables that you consider essential for effective project monitoring.

Please note that FCT's contribution will be paid out in Lump Sums based on evidence and results showing that the approved project has been completed in accordance with the deliverables and budget defined up-front for each task (see also below).

Funds are paid out upon completion of activities in each task. However, it is important to note that the payments do not depend on the achievement of successful outcomes, which are never guaranteed in research. Moreover, FCT does not mandate keeping records of the actual costs incurred in these exploratory projects.

The projects funded within this call will benefit from an advance of 75% of the total amount of funding approved. The final reimbursement, which corresponds to the difference between the final eligible funding and the sum of the payments made, is processed after verification and final assessment of the project's implementation.

Budgets

In this section you should justify the budget requested to complete the task.

- **Overall cost justification of the task**

As stated earlier, projects that receive funding approval will be granted an advance payment of 75% of the total approved funding. The final reimbursement will be based on the assessment of the completed tasks and the amount approved for each task, following what is outlined in this section.

To estimate and justify the Lump Sum associated with each task, the PI must detail how this value was obtained, breaking down the cost estimations for each budget item, or resorting to other

criteria/items of relevance given the proposed objectives and research plan. The estimates should be as approximate as possible of the actual costs and meet the basic eligibility criteria of no.4 from the Public Announcement for the Call.

The costs estimations will be taken into consideration by the evaluation panel when assessing the proposed activities under the implementation criterion. Experts will ensure that the estimates costs are reasonable and non-excessive. This could be reflected in a modified Lump Sum amount in the acceptance document.

- **Amount requested for the task**

The total amount indicated must include the 25% overheads.

Please make sure the information in this section matches the costs stated in the Principal Contractor **Budget** table in application form. For more details on the **Budget** table, please check [section 3.1.6](#).

Ensure that the total amount of funding requested by institution corresponds to the total costs of the tasks in which the institution participates. For this please select “Overview” (at the top right of the screen) to access the Application Global View, section Tasks, to check the information as showed in the image below:

Tasks



SUMMARY OF COSTS BY INSTITUTION	
#Principal Contractor	
1. Tarefa 1	20 000,00 €
2. Tarefa 2	1 000,00 €
Total	21 000,00 €

PROJECT TIMELINE AND MANAGEMENT

In this section, the list of milestones, the timeline and the description of the management structure should be presented.

- **Milestones list:** a milestone is a date by which a certain objective is expected to be achieved or a phase is expected to be completed or a result obtained. The milestone description should include what can be demonstrated or reported on that date. The number of milestones is limited to 6. You should select the task(s) associated with the milestones.

The milestone dates must be marked on the **timeline**.

- **Timeline:** create a timeline description of your project in electronic format. We suggest to use as a starting point the following spreadsheet available in two formats: (MS Excel) and (ODF). Convert the final version to PDF format and upload it with the name timeline.pdf.

When filling in the timeline, the PI must indicate the following fields:

- **Partner responsible for task**, the acronym of the institution responsible for the task.
 - **Acronyms of partners involved in task**, the acronyms of all the institutions involved in the task, including the institution responsible for the task.
- **Management:** in this section, the PI should include a description of the project management structure to be adopted, in particular the coordination between participants, the meetings planned and the reporting structure. The proposed structure will depend on the size of the project and, in particular, the existence of participants from different research units.

ETHICAL ISSUES

Please indicate whether there are any ethical issues identified in the project. If so, select the ethical statements considered to be the most appropriate and the reasons for the choice. The available options are described in the Ethics Self-Assessment Guide.

2030 AGENDA

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda, adopted by almost all countries in the world, in the context of the United Nations, define the priorities and aspirations of global sustainable development for 2030 and seek to mobilize global efforts around a set of common goals and objectives. There are 17 SDGs, in areas that affect the quality of life of all citizens of the world and those who are yet to come.

In this section the PI should identify **one, or up to a maximum of three**, of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda and justify how the application fits into the selected SDGs.

OTHER PROJECTS

Projects approved through peer review, **led by the PI** and **started less than 5 years ago**, completed or in progress should be listed. Additionally, please detail all projects, led by the PI, submitted and under peer-review evaluation.

In the case of a **FCT-funded project**, the PI should select the project and all the fields will be filled in automatically except for the field “Please list the main objectives of the project that you consider relevant for this application”.

In the case of projects not funded by FCT, or projects submitted and currently under evaluation, the following elements must be filled in:

- Project identification data
 - Project reference (project reference, as set out in the contract granting the funding)
 - PI in the present application
 - Project status (in progress or completed; submitted projects should be classified as “in progress”)
 - Project title
 - Principal Contactor

- Funding
 - Funding entity
 - Total Funding (requested funding, for projects under submission)

- Timetable
 - Start date (an estimative, for projects under submission)
 - Duration (months)

- Relation with the current proposal: For funded projects, please detail a list of the results achieved, systems/prototypes, patents obtained from the results of the project and academic degrees obtained by students who participated in the project, among others. For submitted projects and under evaluation, please detail the relation to the current proposal. In both cases, the PI should also indicate how the project relates to the research team and the research goals associated with the present application.

ATTACHMENTS

If necessary, additional documents corresponding to formulas, schemes, diagrams, graphics, images and support letters may be attached.

No other document types will be considered in this section.

This field is limited to **20 MB** per application, and the authorized formats are **PDF, JPEG** and **PNG**.

3.1.5 Indicators

EXPECTED OUTPUT INDICATORS

The expected outputs give visibility to the research developed during the project. The outputs should be realistic and achievable and include publications, communications, reports, organization of seminars, advanced training and others. These indicators will be used to evaluate the adequacy of the final results to the results foreseen in the application.

DISSEMINATION

In the "Dissemination" field, a description of the plan for disseminating results and promoting knowledge and scientific dissemination, as well as the plan for disseminating knowledge transfer, should be included. Dissemination outputs should be included in the expected indicators and include actions for disseminating scientific culture, promoting and disseminating knowledge, technical/scientific publications, conferences, seminars, forums, and actions aimed at target sectors, or others.

3.1.6 Budget

The Budget section should be filled in by item, with the global values and justification of budgetary needs, declared for each task, taking into account the funding limit and the basic eligibility criteria of no.4 established in the Public Announcement for the Call.

The Lump Sum budget information will serve exclusively for the evaluation of the reasonableness and feasibility of the proposed project.

PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR

In this section, the PI should fill in the requested funding for each budget category along with the corresponding justification.

FUNDING PLAN

This section presents the project's Global Budget and Funding Plan tables that are automatically filled out.

3.1.7 Statement of Commitment

The Declaration of Commitment by the PI must have the mandatory agreement of the principal researcher by marking the following check box:

I acknowledge and agree with the terms set out in this statement of commitment

3.1.8 Validate and Submit

After completing the application, the PI should click on "Validate and Submit". If any errors are detected when filling out the application form, a list of the problems will be automatically provided, with a brief description of the problem that led to the error and an indication of the section of the form where the correction must be made.

The presence of errors prevents the submission of the application.

After the close of the competition, the PI will no longer have access to the form, and it is only possible to access the global view of the submitted application (using Adobe Acrobat Reader).

4. After the Submission of the Application

4.1 Statement of Commitment from the Principal Contractor

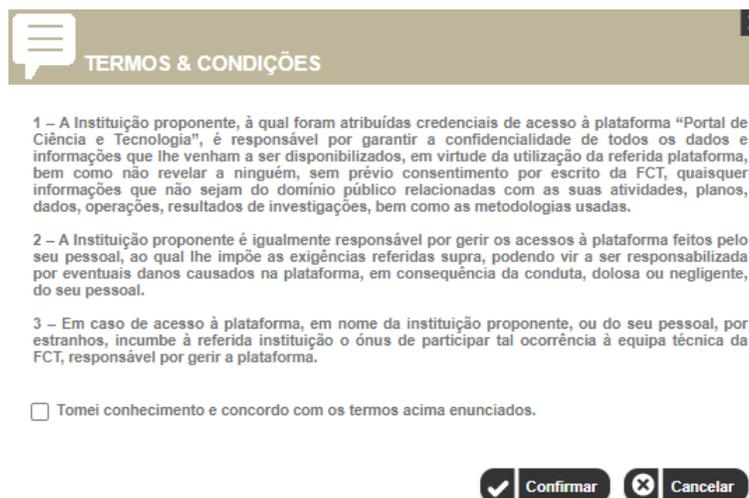
The Statement of Commitment of the Principal Contractor will be available on myFCT for the respective agreement by the **highest authority of the institution or someone delegated** by them after the deadline for submitting applications and until 5:00 PM, Lisbon time, of March 1st, 2024, as predicted in the AAC.

Agreement with the Statement of Commitment from the Principal Contractor is submitted in myFCT by using the CIÊNCIA ID credentials of the person(s) to whom the respective competence is delegated. The delegation of authorities is carried out on the [Portal de Ciência e Tecnologia](#) (PCT).

4.2 Delegation of Access in the PCT

The creation of the group of users and the delegation of competencies to these users to agree with the Statement of Commitment of the Principal Contractor are carried out in the PCT through the steps identified below. For further details, please refer to the Access Delegation Manual available on the PCT under the “Help”» “Support Documents” section.

- **1st step** – Log in with the credentials of the **Institutional Collective User**².
- **2nd step** – Add users to the Administrators Group using their association keys.
- **3rd step** – Create the group of users who will confirm the Statement of Commitment of the applications and delegate the respective access. This step is carried out by one of the individual users of the Administrators Group:
 - a) To create the Group, you must access the "User Group" menu and enter the name you wish to assign to the group.
 - b) Access the created group and click on "Edit" to add users to the group, using their email or Ciência ID.
 - c) In the "Access Permissions" menu, select the option "Project Call - statement commitment".
 - d) After accepting the "Terms and Conditions" (see image below), change the permissions to the option "Totals (inc. Locking)".



TERMS & CONDIÇÕES

1 – A Instituição proponente, à qual foram atribuídas credenciais de acesso à plataforma “Portal de Ciência e Tecnologia”, é responsável por garantir a confidencialidade de todos os dados e informações que lhe venham a ser disponibilizados, em virtude da utilização da referida plataforma, bem como não revelar a ninguém, sem prévio consentimento por escrito da FCT, quaisquer informações que não sejam do domínio público relacionadas com as suas atividades, planos, dados, operações, resultados de investigações, bem como as metodologias usadas.

2 – A Instituição proponente é igualmente responsável por gerir os acessos à plataforma feitos pelo seu pessoal, ao qual lhe impõe as exigências referidas supra, podendo vir a ser responsabilizada por eventuais danos causados na plataforma, em consequência da conduta, dolosa ou negligente, do seu pessoal.

3 – Em caso de acesso à plataforma, em nome da instituição proponente, ou do seu pessoal, por estranhos, incumbe à referida instituição o ónus de participar tal ocorrência à equipa técnica da FCT, responsável por gerir a plataforma.

Tomei conhecimento e concordo com os termos acima enunciados.

² In case the institution does not have the credentials of the Collective User, they should be requested via email credenciais@fct.pt.

4.3 Acceptance of Applications in myFCT

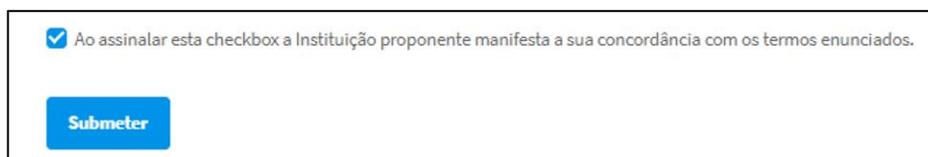
The agreement with the Statement of Commitment of the Principal Contractor is carried out on myFCT by the users to whom the respective competencies have been delegated, using their CIÊNCIA ID credentials.

The menu "Institutions" » "Ongoing Calls" allows **access** to the **list of applications in which the institution participates** in R&D Project calls, either as a principal contractor or as a participating institution.

Only the Principal Contractor must express agreement with the terms set in the Statement of Commitment on myFCT. The Principal Contractor must ensure that the other entities that make up the consortium of the proposed project also fulfill the obligations set out in the Statement of Commitment. For each application available on the list, the Principal Contractor has access to:

- Overview of the application (simplified version with public information only) – by clicking on the application reference.
- Summary of the application / Statement of Commitment (only available when the institution participates as a principal contractor) – by clicking on "Acceptance."

It is mandatory that the Principal Contractor agrees with the terms of the Declaration of Commitment. To this end, the Principal Contractor must check the box at the end of the Statement of Commitment of each application and click on "Submit":



Ao assinalar esta checkbox a Instituição proponente manifesta a sua concordância com os termos enunciados.

Submeter

After acceptance of the Statement of Commitment by the Principal Contractor, the following confirmation appears in the global view of the application, which will be available to both the Institutions and the Principal Investigator:

Instituição Proponente

Aceite por XXX em dd.mm.AAAA – hh:mm em nome de [Instituição] por delegação de competências dos responsáveis da instituição.

Appendix I – Application Form Structure and Character Limit

1. GENERAL DATA

1.1 Project description

- Principal investigator
- Title (PT/EN) **(max. 255 characters)**
- Project acronym **(max. 15 characters)**
- Keywords (PT/EN) **(max. 4 keywords)**
- Main scientific area (Scientific Domain / Scientific Area / Scientific sub-Area)
- Timetable (start date and duration)

2. INSTITUTIONS

2.1 Principal contractor

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

2.2 Collaborative Institutions

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

3. RESEARCH TEAM

3.1 Principal Investigator

- Institution to which you are associated in the scope of the research project
- CIENCIAVITAE permissions and upload

3.2 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)**
 - Why would this grant be timely for me at this point in my career path and/or in my research? **(max. 3000 characters)**

3.3 Members

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

3.4 Hirings

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

3.5 Consultants

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

3.6 Team CV synopsis

- Research team CV synopsis (**max. 6000 characters**)

4. WORK PLAN

4.1 Abstract

- Abstract in portuguese (**max. 5000 characters**)
- Abstract in English (**max. 5000 characters**)
- Abstract for publication different?

4.2 State of the art and Objectives

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

4.3 Research plan and methods

- Research plan and methods (**max. 10000 characters**)
- Identify whether the work plan requires advanced computer resources to be provided by FCT
- Identify whether the work plan requires space in a research data repository to be provided by the FCT

4.4 Bibliographic references

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

4.5 Past publications

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

4.6 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

4.7 Project timeline and management

- Milestones List (add Milestone)
 - Denomination
 - Milestone description (**max. 2000 characters**)
 - Tasks
 - Date
- Timeline
- Management
 - Description of the management structure (**max. 3000 characters**)

4.8 Ethical issues

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

4.9 2030 Agenda

- Framework of the application for the United Nations SDG 2030 Agenda (**max. 3 ODS**)
- Framework justification (**max. 3000 characters**)

4.10 Other projects

- Add project
 - Project reference
 - PI in actual application
 - Project status
 - Project title (in english)
 - Principal contractor
 - Funding
 - Funding entity
 - Total funding
 - Timetable
 - Start date
 - Duration (months)
 - Relation with the current proposal

- Please list the main objectives of the project that you consider relevant for this application
(**max. 2000 characters**)

4.11 Attachments

- Documents upload (if applicable)

5. INDICATORS

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

6. BUDGET

5.1 Principal contractor

- Item
- Rationale for requested funding

5.2 Funding plan

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

7. STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

8. VALIDATE AND SUBMIT

Appendix II – Scientific Domains, Areas and Subareas and Evaluations Panels

This section lists the Scientific Domains, Areas and Subareas, according to OECD’s revised Field of Science and Technology – FOS, and the corresponding Evaluation Panels. Each evaluation panel is in charge of the applications from a set of scientific subareas, as indicated below:

II.1 From Scientific Subareas to Evaluation Panels

Scientific Domain	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea	Evaluation Panel
Exact Sciences	Mathematics	Pure Mathematics	Mathematics
		Applied Mathematics	
		Statistics and Probability	
		Other Subareas of Mathematics	
	Computer and Information Sciences	Computer Sciences	Computer and Information Sciences and Informatics
		Information Sciences	
		Bioinformatics	
		Informatics	
	Physical Sciences	Atomic, Molecular and Chemical Physics	Physics
		Condensed Matter Physics	
		Particles Physics	
		Nuclear Physics	
		Fluids and Plasma Physics	
Optics			
Acoustics			
Astronomy			
Other Subareas of Physical Sciences			
Chemical Sciences	Organic Chemistry	Chemistry	
	Inorganic Chemistry		
	Physical Chemistry		
	Polymer Science		
	Electrochemistry		
	Colloid Chemistry		
	Analytical Chemistry		
	Nuclear Chemistry		
	Other Subareas of Chemical Sciences		

Scientific Domain	Scientific Domain	Scientific Subarea	Evaluation Panel
Natural Sciences	Earth and Related Environmental Sciences	Geosciences, Multidisciplinary	Earth Sciences and Engineering
		Mineralogy	
		Paleontology	
		Geochemistry	
		Physical Geography	
		Geology	
		Volcanology	
		Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences	
		Climatic Research	
		Oceanography, Hydrology and Water Resources	
		Geophysics	
	Environmental Sciences	Environmental Sciences	
Natural Sciences	Biological Sciences	Cell Biology	Experimental Biology and Biochemistry
		Biochemistry	
		Biochemical Research Methods	
		Microbiology	
		Molecular Biology	
		Biophysics	
		Genetics and Heredity	
		Reproductive Biology	
		Developmental Biology	Biological Sciences
		Plant Sciences and Botany	
		Zoology, Ornithology, Entomology	
		Marine Biology, Freshwater Biology and Limnology	
		Ecology	
		Biodiversity Conservation	
		Biology	
		Evolutionary Biology	
		Other Biological Topics	
		Behavioral Sciences Biology	
	Mycology	Clinical Medicine, Immunology and Infection	
Virology			

Scientific Domain	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea	Evaluation Panel
Engineering and Technology	Civil Engineering	Civil Engineering	Civil Engineering
		Architecture Engineering	
		Construction Engineering	
		Transport Engineering	
		Municipal and Structural Engineering	
	Electrical Engineering, Electronic Engineering, Information Engineering	Electrical and Electronic Engineering	Electrical and Electronic Engineering
		Robotics	
		Automation and Control Systems	
		Communication Engineering and Systems	
		Telecommunications	
		Computer Hardware and Architecture	
	Mechanical Engineering	Mechanical Engineering	Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Systems
		Applied Mechanics	
		Thermodynamics	
		Aerospace Engineering	
		Nuclear Engineering	
Audio Engineering and Reliability Analysis			
Engineering Systems			
Renewable Energies			
Chemical Engineering	Chemical Engineering	Chemical Engineering	
	Chemical Process Engineering		
Materials Engineering	Materials Engineering	Materials Engineering	
	Ceramics		
	Coating and Films		
	Composites		
	Paper and Wood		
	Textiles		
Medical Engineering	Medical Engineering	Bioengineering and Biotechnology	
	Medical Laboratory Technology		

Scientific Domain	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea	Evaluation Panel
Engineering and Technology	Environmental Engineering	Environmental Engineering	Environmental Biotechnology and Engineering
		Geotechnics	Earth Sciences and Engineering
		Petroleum Engineering, Energy and Fuels	
		Remote Sensing	
		Mining and Mineral Processing	
		Geological Engineering	
		Marine Engineering	
		Sea Vessels	Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Systems
		Ocean Engineering	
	Environmental Biotechnology	Environmental Biotechnology	Environmental Biotechnology and Engineering
		Bioremediation, Diagnostic Biotechnologies (DNA Chips and Biosensing Devices) in Environmental Management	
		Environmental Biotechnology related Ethics	
	Industrial Biotechnology	Industrial Biotechnology	Bioengineering and Biotechnology
		Bioprocessing Technologies, Biocatalysis and Fermentation Bioproducts, Biomaterials, Bioplastics, Biofuels, Bio-derived Bulk and Fine Chemicals and Bio-derived Novel Materials	
	Nanotechnology	Nanomaterials	Nanotechnology
		Nanoprocesses	
		Nano-Optics and Nanophotonics	
		Modelling at Nanoscale	
	Other Engineering and Technologies	Food and Beverages	Animal and Veterinary Sciences and Agro-Food Biotechnology

Scientific Domain	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea	Evaluation Panel	
Medical and Health Sciences	Basic Medicine	Immunology	Clinical Medicine, Immunology and Infection	
		Neurosciences	Neurosciences	
		Medicinal Chemistry	Chemistry	
		Pharmacology and Pharmacy	Basic Medicine	
		Anatomy and Morphology		
		Human Genetics		
		Toxicology		
		Physiology		
		Pathology		
		Oncobiology		
		Other Subareas of Basic Medicine		
		Clinical Medicine		Andrology
	Obstetrics and Gynecology			
	Pediatrics			
	Cardiac and Cardiovascular Systems			
	Peripheral Vascular Disease			
	Hematology			
	Respiratory Systems			
	Critical Care Medicine and Emergency Medicine			
	Anaesthesiology			
	Orthopaedics			
	Surgery			
	Radiology, Nuclear Medicine and Medical Imaging			
	Transplantation			
	Dentistry, Oral Surgery and Medicine			
	Dermatology and Venereal Diseases			
	Allergy			
	Rheumatology			
Endocrinology and Metabolism				
Gastroenterology and Hepatology				
Urology and Nephrology				
Oncology				
Ophthalmology				

Scientific Domain	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea	Evaluation Panel
Medical and Health Sciences	Clinical Medicine	Otorhinolaryngology	Clinical Medicine, Immunology and Infection
		Psychiatry	
		Clinical Neurology	
		Geriatrics and Gerontology	
		General and Internal Medicine	
		Other Clinical Medicine Subjects	
		Integrative and Complementary Medicine	
	Health Sciences	Health Care Sciences and Services	Health and Sport Sciences
		Health Policy and Services	
		Nursing	
		Nutrition, Dietetics	
		Public and Environmental Health	
		Epidemiology	
		Occupational Health	
		Sport and Fitness Sciences	
		Social Biomedical Sciences	
		Medical Ethics	
		Substance Abuse	
		Tropical Medicine	
		Parasitology	
Infectious Diseases			
Medical Biotechnology	Health-related Biotechnology	Bioengineering and Biotechnology	
	Technologies - Manipulation of Cells, Tissues, Organs or the Whole Organisms		
	Technologies - Identification of the Functioning of DNA, Proteins and Enzymes and its relation with the Disease		
	Biomaterials		
	Medical Biotechnology related Ethics		
Other Medical Sciences	Forensic Science	Clinical Medicine, Immunology and Infection	

Scientific Domain	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea	Evaluation Panel
Agricultural Sciences	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Agriculture	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
		Forestry	
		Fishery	
		Soil Science	
		Horticulture and Viticulture	
		Agronomy, Plant Breeding and Plant Protection	
	Animal and Dairy Science	Animal and Dairy Science	Animal and Veterinary Sciences and Agro-Food Biotechnology
		Husbandry	
		Pets	
	Veterinary Science	Veterinary Science	
	Agricultural Biotechnology	Agricultural Biotechnology and Food Biotechnology	
		GM Technology (Crops and Livestock) and Livestock Cloning	
		Marker Assisted Selection	
		Diagnostics	
		Biomass Feedstock Production Technologies, Biopharming	
Agricultural Biotechnology related Ethics			

Scientific Domain	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea	Evaluation Panel
Social Sciences	Psychology	Psychology (including Human-Machine relations)	Psychology
		Psychology, Special (including Therapy for Learning, Speech, Hearing, Visual and other Physical and Mental Disabilities)	
	Economics and Business	Economics, Econometrics	Economics and Business
		Industrial Relations	
		Business and Management	
	Educational Sciences	Education, General (including Training, Pedagogy, Didactics)	Educational Sciences
		Education, Special (to Gifted Persons, those with Learning Disabilities)	
	Sociology	Sociology	Sociology
		Demography	
		Anthropology	
		Ethnology	
		Social topics (Women's and Gender Studies; Social Issues; Family Studies, Social Work)	
Law	Law, Criminology, Penology	Law and Political Science	
	Other Subareas of Law		
Political Science	Political Science	Law and Political Science	
	Public Administration		
	Organisation Theory		
Social and Economic Geography	Environmental Sciences (Social Aspects)	Social and Economic Geography	
	Cultural and Economic Geography		
	Urban Studies (Planning and Development)		
	Transport Planning and Social Aspects of Transport		
	Other Subareas of Social and Economic Geography		
Media and Communications	Journalism	Media and Communication	
	Information Science (Social Aspects)		
	Library Science		
	Media and Socio-Cultural Communication		
	Other Subareas of Media and Communications		

Scientific Domain	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea	Evaluation Panel
Humanities	History and Archaeology	History	History and Archaeology
		Archaeology	
	Languages and Literature	General Language Studies	Languages and Literature
		Specific Languages	
		General Literature Studies	
		Literary Theory	
		Specific Literatures	
		Linguistics	
		Other Subareas of Languages and Literature	
	Philosophy, Ethics and Religion	Philosophy	Philosophy
		Ethics	
		Theology	
		Religious Studies	
		History and Philosophy of Science and Technology	
	Arts	Arts	Arts
		Design and Architecture	
		Performing Arts Studies (Musicology, Theater Science, Dramaturgy)	
		Folklore Studies	
		Studies on Film, Radio and Television	
Art History			
Other Subareas of Arts			

II.2 Scientific Subareas allocated to each Evaluation Panel

Evaluation Panel	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea
Mathematics	Mathematics	Pure Mathematics
		Applied Mathematics
		Statistics and Probability
		Other Subareas of Mathematics
Computer and Information Sciences and Informatics	Computer and Information Sciences	Computer Sciences
		Information Sciences
		Bioinformatics
		Informatics
Physics	Physical Sciences	Atomic, Molecular and Chemical Physics
		Condensed Matter Physics
		Particles Physics
		Nuclear Physics
		Fluids and Plasma Physics
		Optics
		Acoustics
		Astronomy
		Other Subareas of Physical Sciences
Chemistry	Chemical Sciences	Organic Chemistry
		Inorganic Chemistry
		Physical Chemistry
		Polymer Science
		Electrochemistry
		Colloid Chemistry
		Analytical Chemistry
		Nuclear Chemistry
	Other Subareas of Chemical Sciences	
Basic Medicine	Medicinal Chemistry	
Civil Engineering	Civil Engineering	Civil Engineering
		Architecture Engineering
		Construction Engineering
		Transport Engineering
		Municipal and Structural Engineering

Evaluation Panel	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea
Electrical and Electronic Engineering	Electrical Engineering, Electronic Engineering, Information Engineering	Electrical and Electronic Engineering
		Robotics
		Automation and Control Systems
		Communication Engineering and Systems
		Telecommunications
		Computer Hardware and Architecture
Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Systems	Mechanical Engineering	Mechanical Engineering
		Applied Mechanics
		Thermodynamics
		Aerospace Engineering
		Nuclear Engineering
		Audio Engineering and Reliability Analysis
		Engineering Systems
		Renewable Energies
	Environmental Engineering	Marine Engineering
		Sea Vessels
		Ocean Engineering
Chemical Engineering	Chemical Engineering	Chemical Engineering
		Chemical Process Engineering
Materials Engineering	Materials Engineering	Materials Engineering
		Ceramics
		Coating and Films
		Composites
		Paper and Wood
		Textiles

Evaluation Panel	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea	
Bioengineering and Biotechnology	Medical Engineering	Medical Engineering	
		Medical Laboratory Technology	
	Industrial Biotechnology	Industrial Biotechnology	
		Bioprocessing Technologies, Biocatalysis and Fermentation	
		Bioproducts, Biomaterials, Bioplastics, Biofuels, Bio-derived Bulk and Fine Chemicals and Bio-derived Novel Materials	
	Medical Biotechnology	Health-related Biotechnology	
		Technologies - Manipulation of Cells, Tissues, Organs or the Whole Organisms	
		Technologies - Identification of the Functioning of DNA, Proteins and Enzymes and its relation with the Disease	
		Biomaterials	
		Medical Biotechnology related Ethics	
	Nanotechnology	Nanotechnology	Nanomaterials
			Nanoprocesses
Nano-Optics and Nanophotonics			
Modelling at Nanoscale			
Earth Sciences and Engineering	Environmental Engineering	Geological Engineering	
		Geotechnics	
		Petroleum Engineering, Energy and Fuels	
		Remote Sensing	
		Mining and Mineral Processing	
	Earth and Related Environmental Sciences	Geosciences, Multidisciplinary	
		Mineralogy	
		Paleontology	
		Geochemistry	
		Physical Geography	
		Geology	
		Volcanology	
		Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences	
		Climatic Research	
		Oceanography, Hydrology and Water Resources	
Geophysics			

Evaluation Panel	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea
Environmental Sciences	Earth and Related Environmental Sciences	Environmental Sciences
Environmental Biotechnology and Engineering	Environmental Engineering	Environmental Engineering
	Environmental Biotechnology	Environmental Biotechnology
		Bioremediation, Diagnostic Biotechnologies (DNA Chips and Biosensing Devices) in Environmental Management
		Environmental Biotechnology related Ethics
Biological Sciences	Biological Sciences	Plant Sciences and Botany
		Zoology, Ornithology, Entomology
		Marine Biology, Freshwater Biology and Limnology
		Ecology
		Biodiversity Conservation
		Biology
		Evolutionary Biology
		Behavioral Sciences Biology
		Mycology
Other Biological Topics		
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Agriculture
		Forestry
		Fishery
		Soil Science
		Horticulture and Viticulture
		Agronomy, Plant Breeding and Plant Protection

Evaluation Panel	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea	
Animal and Veterinary Sciences and Agro-Food Biotechnology	Animal and Dairy Science	Animal and Dairy Science	
		Husbandry	
		Pets	
	Veterinary Science	Veterinary Science	
	Agricultural Biotechnology	Agricultural Biotechnology	Agricultural Biotechnology and Food Biotechnology
			GM Technology (Crops and Livestock) and Livestock Cloning
			Marker Assisted Selection
			Diagnostics
			Biomass Feedstock Production Technologies, Biopharming
	Agricultural Biotechnology related Ethics		
Other Engineering and Technologies	Food and Beverages		
Experimental Biology and Biochemistry	Biological Sciences	Cell Biology	
		Biochemistry	
		Biochemical Research Methods	
		Biophysics	
		Genetics and Heredity	
		Reproductive Biology	
		Developmental Biology	
		Microbiology	
		Molecular Biology	
Neurosciences	Basic Medicine	Neurosciences	
Basic Medicine	Basic Medicine	Anatomy and Morphology	
		Human Genetics	
		Pharmacology and Pharmacy	
		Toxicology	
		Physiology	
		Pathology	
		Oncobiology	
		Other Subareas of Basic Medicine	

Evaluation Panel	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea
Clinical Medicine, Immunology and Infection	Basic Medicine	Immunology
	Health Sciences	Tropical Medicine
		Parasitology
		Infectious Diseases
	Clinical Medicine	Andrology
		Obstetrics and Gynecology
		Pediatrics
		Cardiac and Cardiovascular Systems
		Peripheral Vascular Disease
		Hematology
		Respiratory Systems
		Critical Care Medicine and Emergency Medicine
		Anaesthesiology
		Orthopaedics
		Surgery
		Radiology, Nuclear Medicine and Medical Imaging
		Transplantation
		Dentistry, Oral Surgery and Medicine
		Dermatology and Venereal Diseases
		Allergy
		Rheumatology
		Endocrinology and Metabolism
		Gastroenterology and Hepatology
		Urology and Nephrology
		Oncology
		Ophthalmology
		Otorhinolaryngology
Psychiatry		
Clinical Neurology		
Geriatrics and Gerontology		
General and Internal Medicine		
Other Clinical Medicine Subjects		
Integrative and Complementary Medicine		
Biological Sciences	Virology	
Other Medical Sciences	Forensic Science	

Evaluation Panel	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea
Health and Sport Sciences	Health Sciences	Health Care Sciences and Services
		Health Policy and Services
		Nursing
		Nutrition, Dietetics
		Public and Environmental Health
		Epidemiology
		Occupational Health
		Sport and Fitness Sciences
		Social Biomedical Sciences
		Medical Ethics
Substance Abuse		
Psychology	Psychology	Psychology (including Human-Machine relations)
		Psychology, Special (including Therapy for Learning, Speech, Hearing, Visual and other Physical and Mental Disabilities)
Economics and Business	Economics and Business	Economics, Econometrics
		Industrial Relations
		Business and Management
Educational Sciences	Educational Sciences	Education, General (including Training, Pedagogy, Didactics)
		Education, Special (to Gifted Persons, those with Learning Disabilities)
Sociology	Sociology	Sociology
		Demography
		Anthropology
		Ethnology
		Social topics (Women's and Gender Studies; Social Issues; Family Studies, Social Work)
Law and Political Science	Law	Law, Criminology, Penology
		Other Subareas of Law
	Political Science	Political Science
		Public Administration
		Organisation Theory

Evaluation Panel	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea
Social and Economic Geography	Social and Economic Geography	Environmental Sciences (Social Aspects)
		Cultural and Economic Geography
		Urban Studies (Planning and Development)
		Transport Planning and Social Aspects of Transport
		Other Subareas of Social and Economic Geography
Media and Communication	Media and Communications	Journalism
		Information Science (Social Aspects)
		Library Science
		Media and Socio-Cultural Communication
		Other Subareas of Media and Communications
History and Archaeology	History and Archaeology	History
		Archaeology
Languages and Literature	Languages and Literature	General Language Studies
		Specific Languages
		General Literature Studies
		Literary Theory
		Specific Literatures
		Linguistics
Philosophy	Philosophy, Ethics and Religion	Philosophy
		Ethics
		Theology
		Religious Studies
		History and Philosophy of Science and Technology
Arts	Arts	Arts
		Design and Architecture
		Performing Arts Studies (Musicology, Theater Science, Dramaturgy)
		Folklore Studies
		Studies on Film, Radio and Television
		Art History
		Other Subareas of Arts

Appendix III – Data Protection

In the context of the Call for Exploratory Projects in All Scientific Domains - 2023, personal data is collected, and its processing is carried out in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), approved by Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council, dated April 27, 2016, concerning the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and the free movement of such data. This regulation has been in effect since May 25, 2018, and it repeals Directive 95/46/EC of October 24, 1995, and Law No. 58/2019 of August 8, 2019, ensuring the implementation of the GDPR in the Portuguese legal framework. Personal data is collected exclusively for the purpose of Program and Funding Instrument Management. The processing of data for this purpose is lawful as it is necessary for the performance of tasks carried out in the public interest and compliance with legal obligations, according to Article 6(1)(c) and (f) of the GDPR, substantiated in Article 3(2)(a) and (c) of its Organic Law of the FCT, approved by Decree-Law 55/2013 of April 17, and in Regulation 999/2016 of October 31, which establishes the conditions of access and support rules for projects funded exclusively by national funds through the FCT. In relation to evaluators (independent experts and external assessors, whether national or foreign, affiliated with national or foreign institutions), the processing of their personal data is lawful as it is deemed necessary for the execution of a contract in which they are a party or for pre-contractual measures requested by them, in accordance with Article 6(1)(b) of the GDPR.

The collection of personal data is carried out:

- a) Directly from the data subjects who provide them through application forms and online platforms, specifically the MyFCT Platform, where the entire application, evaluation, and funding approval process is submitted in a single system; the CIÊNCIA ID Platform, where the national identifier for access to various science services is located; the CIÊNCIAVITAE Platform, where the curricula of all team members associated with the research project are located; and the Science and Technology Portal (PCT), where data from entities responsible for applications are collected, and communication with FCT's interlocutors (individuals and collectives) is conducted. Through this unification, the efficiency of the procedural dynamics is significantly improved, and in the specific case of evaluations, through the recruitment and appointment processes of evaluators.
- b) Indirectly, through beneficiary entities that provide personal data related to the applications.

The personal data pertains, notably, to the following:

- a) Categories of data subjects: Representatives of private non-profit institutions with the main object of R&D activities; Representatives of other public and private non-profit institutions involved in scientific research activities; Representatives of companies of any nature and legal form, as long as they are part of R&D&I projects led by non-business entities in the R&I system; Representatives of foreign institutions as partners in projects; Representatives of participating institutions associated with IP; Representatives of collaborating institutions; Project responsible researchers; Co-responsible researchers of the project; Members of the research team; Consultants; Evaluators (independent experts and external evaluators, national or foreign, affiliated with national or foreign institutions); Representatives of higher education institutions, their institutes, and R&D units.
- b) Categories of personal data: civil identification; contact information; gender, nationality, academic activity; financial information; scientific identification; project identification; authentication; health information (contained in documents necessary to justify eligibility at the time of the project). For the provision of services associated with the MyFCT, CIÊNCIA ID, CIÊNCIAVITAE, and PCT, personal data are collected under the applicable Privacy Policies.

In fulfilling legal obligations related to the purpose of Program and Funding Instrument Management, data is disclosed to the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Higher Education for the necessary acts of approval, to the CES and ACM, I.P. for consultation regarding evaluator panels, for analysis of the final report of the funded project, and for the disclosure of results on their respective portals. It is also for the definition, implementation, and evaluation of public policies within their respective missions. Other entities not mentioned but with legal legitimacy to request, collect, and process the data in question are not excluded. Personal data may also be subject to international transfer not only to countries within the European Economic Area but also to third countries. In these cases, FCT transfers the data with appropriate guarantees, always ensuring data security using the most appropriate international data transfer tools for this purpose.

FCT assumes the role of data controller, with headquarters at Avenida D. Carlos I, 126, 1249-074 Lisbon, telephone: +351 21 3924300, and has designated a Data Protection Officer, whose contact must be made directly to the email address dpo@fct.pt for all matters related to personal data processed for this purpose. It is further informed that the data will be retained in accordance with legal or regulatory standards or, in the absence of these, as necessary for the pursuit of the purpose.

Through any of the contacts indicated above, and without prejudice to the limits provided by law, data subjects have the right to request access to personal data concerning them, its rectification, or erasure, the observance of the limitation of processing of their data, and the portability of data when technically possible. They may also object to processing or withdraw consent previously given, if applicable.

Without prejudice to direct notification to FCT, through the contacts provided here, the data subject may also directly complain to the National Data Protection Commission (www.cnpd.pt), using the contacts provided by this entity for this purpose.

FCT may also process personal data for purposes of public interest archiving, scientific or historical research, or statistical purposes, respecting the principle of data minimization, including anonymization or pseudonymization whenever the intended purposes can be achieved by one of these means.

If personal data are processed for public interest archiving, scientific or historical research, or statistical purposes, the rights of access, rectification, limitation of processing, and objection provided for in Articles 15, 16, 18, and 21 of the GDPR are impaired, to the extent necessary, if these rights are likely to make it impossible or seriously impair the achievement of these purposes.

To ensure the protection of processed personal data, FCT implements strict and internationally recognized rules that apply to all those who legally handle personal data. Security measures, both technical and organizational, are adopted to protect the personal data provided, such as confidentiality, integrity, and authenticity of the processed data. These measures are coordinated with the duties of publishing lists of approved and disapproved applications and lists of evaluator panels, ensuring by default that the data is locatable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable.



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