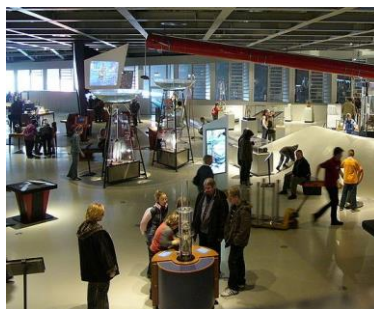


CALL FOR R&D PROJECTS IN ALL SCIENTIFIC DOMAINS

Guide for Peer Reviewers

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version 2.0



Version	Status	Section	Page
V2	New	2. THE 2022 CALL FOR R&D PROJECTS	4
V2	Updated	4. SCORING SYSTEM (Table I)	7

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	ABOUT FCT	3
2.	THE 2022 CALL FOR R&D PROJECTS	3
3.	EVALUATION CRITERIA	4
3.1	Criterion A	4
3.2	Criterion B	5
3.3	Criterion C	6
4.	SCORING SYSTEM	7
5.	EVALUATION PROCESS	8
5.1	Constitution of the Evaluation Panel.....	8
5.2	Evaluation stages.....	9
5.3	Evaluation timeline	9
5.4	Feedback to be transmitted to applicants.....	10
6.	CONFIDENTIALITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST	11
6.1	Confidentiality Statement	11
6.2	Conflict of interest (CoI)	11
7.	SCIENTIFIC DOMAINS, AREAS AND SUBAREAS AND EVALUATION PANELS.....	12
7.1	From Scientific Subareas to Evaluation Panels.....	12
7.2	Scientific Subareas allocated to each Evaluation Panel	22
	ANNEX I - COMPONENTS OF THE APPLICATIONS.....	30
	Portuguese to English Translation and explanations.....	33

1. ABOUT FCT

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

FCT's mission is to continuously promote the advancement of knowledge in science and technology in Portugal high international standards in quality and competitiveness, and encourage its dissemination and contribution to society and to economic growth.

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

The results of FCT accomplishments are, in essence, the outcome of the work carried out by individual scientists, research groups and institutions that are funded by FCT.

2. THE 2022 CALL FOR R&D PROJECTS

The [2022 Call for R&D projects in all scientific domains](#) is open from 8th February to 10th March 2022.

The aim of this call is to fund R&D projects in all scientific domains. The present call, ruled by the [FCT Projects Regulations](#), entails a [public announcement](#) outlining the required features for applications, the budget allocation and the evaluation criteria to be applied. **All proposals** are submitted online via [MyFCT](#) Web Platform (more detailed information Annex I), **written in English**, and should contribute to at least one of the [17 Sustainable Development Goals defined by the United Nations](#).

For this call **€75 million** of national state budget are available and **two types** of research projects can be funded:

- a) **Scientific Research and Technological Development (SR&TD) Projects address scientifically relevant and original issues**, with reference to international standards, contributing to the advancement of knowledge and producing identified outcomes, within the duration of the project.
- b) **Exploratory Research Projects (PeX) are scientific or technological research projects that explore ideas or concepts with significant originality and/or innovative potential.**

Project Type	Beneficiary Entities	Duration	Eligible Funding	Budget Allocation
SR&TD	Individually or in co-promotion	36 months (extendable for 12 months)	€250.000,00 max	€55 million
PeX	Individually (only one beneficiary)	18 months (extendable for 6 months)	€50.000,00 max	€20 million

The Principal Investigator (PI) is responsible for choosing the project type, as well as the most suitable scientific area and subarea of the proposed research plan. According to this selection, the eligible proposals will be evaluated by the correspondent international panel. The scientific areas, corresponding subareas and evaluation panels are listed in section 7. No application can be transposed to a different panel from the one that corresponds to the scientific area and subarea selected by the Principal Investigator.

The **beneficiary entities** must be a legal entity belonging to the non-business entities of the R&I System, namely: higher education institutions, their institutes and R&D units; state or international laboratories with a head office in Portugal; non-profit private institutions whose main object is R&D activity; other non-profit public and private institutions developing or participating in scientific research activities. The possible involvement of foreign institutions as participants in the project does not confer them the status of beneficiary.

Each applicant can only submit one application as PI or Co-PI. The PI, co-PI, core elements and the remaining elements of the research team, are responsible for **submitting an updated version of their CV in English on the CIÊNCIAVITAE.**

The information provided in the CVs will be used as a complement to the information provided in the application regarding the **PI Synopsis** and the **Research Team Synopsis**. The synopsis should focus on the **last 5 effective years of scientific activity**.

3. EVALUATION CRITERIA

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

- A.** Scientific merit (A1) and innovative nature (A2) of the project from an international standpoint - **(40%)**;
- B.** Scientific merit of the Principal Investigator (B1) and the research team (B2) - **(30%)**;
- C.** Quality and feasibility of the workplan, the expected indicators and the budget reasonability - **(30%)**.

3.1 CRITERION A

This criterion aims to assess the scientific merit and innovative nature of the project from an international standpoint, through the following two subcriteria:

A1 - Scientific merit of the project **(50%)**

A2 - Innovative nature of the project **(50%)**

3.1.1 A1 - Scientific merit of the project

This subcriterion is intended to evaluate the scientific merit of the proposal, considering the following dimensions in an integrated way:

- Clear identification of the project objectives and scientific challenges addressed by the proposal;
- Research alignment and its compliance with the identified 2030 Agenda Goals;
- Potential contribution of the research project to the advancement of knowledge.

3.1.2 A2 - Innovative nature of the proposal

The present subcriterion is intended to assess the innovative nature of the proposal, considering the following aspects:

- Potential for breakthrough findings by comparison with the current state-of-the-art of the scientific area;
- Methodological innovation and replication potential;
- Potential impact of the project's outcomes on the economic, technological and societal dimensions;
- Capacity to lead to interdisciplinary contributions.

3.2 CRITERION B

The present criterion aims to evaluate the scientific merit of the PI and the research team, through the following subcriteria:

B1 - Scientific merit of the Principal Investigator (50%)

B2 - Scientific merit of the research team (50%)

3.2.1 B1 - Scientific merit of the Principal Investigator

This subcriterion is intended to evaluate scientific merit of the PI, considering the CV synopsis among others, through the following dimensions:

- Merit of the scientific and professional career of the Principal Investigator valuing the different components: participation in research projects; scientific publications; leadership/organization/participation in networks and conferences; participation in activities of scientific training and management; outreach activities;
- PI's qualifications regarding the project's challenges, both at the scientific and management level, as well as the ability to engage young researchers in training;
- Relevant outcomes of previous projects and their contribution to the advancement of knowledge and to knowledge-based applications, assessed through the qualitative appraisal of publications or other professional and scientific works and actions considered as the most representative of the of the PI's career.

3.2.2 **B2 - Scientific merit of the research team**

The present subcriterion is intended to assess the scientific merit of the research team, considering the research team CV synopsis among others, through the following dimensions:

- Scientific productivity of the team (references to publications and citations in published works, other relevant indicators);
- Ability to engage young researchers in training;
- Degree of internationalisation of the team (when appropriate);
- Abilities and skills to adequately execute the proposed project in its specific area, considering the team's configuration, the availability and commitment of its members (and other entities, when applicable);
- Level of commitment of any companies participating in the project (if applicable).

3.3 CRITERION C

This criterion is intended to evaluate the quality and feasibility of the workplan and the expected indicators, as well as the budget adequacy, considering the following aspects:

- Quality (clarity, consistency and adequacy) of the project, taking into consideration the theoretical framework, the research methodology and the work plan;
- Clear identification of the planned activities, their structure and adequacy to the established methods and objectives;
- Adequacy of the human resources and methodologies to perform the proposed objectives and tasks and meet the proposed deadlines;
- If applicable, analysis of the risks associated to the different stages of the project, with special focus on the identification of the critical points and the corresponding contingency plan;
- Valuation of the potential of the predicted outputs (besides other components of the proposal, more detailed information can be found in the application form section 6 "Expected output indicators" and "Knowledge dissemination");
- Adequacy of the physical and financial resources involved in the project, with regard to the host's conditions (technical/scientific, organizational management and, when appropriate, co-funding capacity by companies) provided by the beneficiary entities, in particular institutional resources of the participating entities, namely of the Principal Contractor;
- Adequacy and consistency of the proposed budget to accomplish the objectives and activities proposed.

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 given by:

$$MP = 0.40 A (0.50 A1 + 0.50 A2) + 0.30 B (0.50 B1 + 0.50 B2) + 0.30 C$$

The subcriteria A1, A2, B1 and B2 and criterion 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.

For a proposal to be eligible for funding, the following **minimum score** is required:

- **MP ≥ 7.00 points.**

The **eligible applications will be ranked** by the evaluation panel, **according with the type and by decreasing order** of the **MP score**.

In case of ties (projects with the same MP score), the **ratings assigned to criteria A2, B1, A1, B2 and C** will be used **sequentially and by decreasing order** to provide the final ranking of the projects.

For each project type, the total budget allocation to the call will be distributed **for each evaluation panel** proportionally based on the total amount of the solicited funding of the eligible proposals (MP ≥ 7.00) in each panel.

A PI whose application is scored with a MP lower than 5.00 will be hindered to apply as PI in the next edition of the Call for SR&TD Projects in all scientific domains.

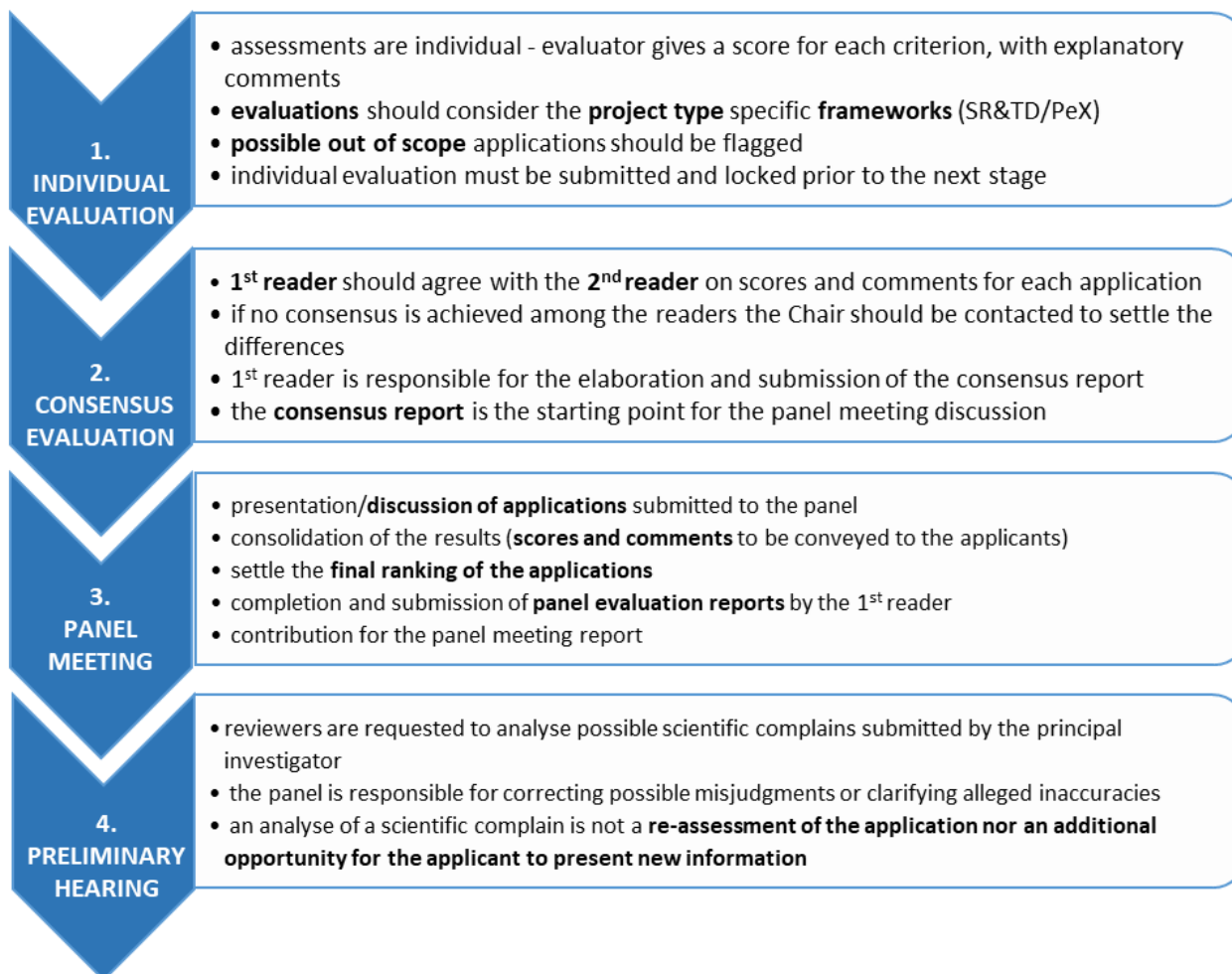
5. EVALUATION PROCESS

5.1 CONSTITUTION OF THE EVALUATION PANEL

- The evaluation panels are constituted by **international reviewers**, taking into consideration the number and the scientific areas of the applications, an adequate gender balance and a fair geographic and institutional distribution of evaluators;
- All experts will be of acknowledged competence in the scientific areas of the application to be evaluated, and cannot be affiliated with Portuguese R&D institutions or have current or scheduled collaborations with any Portuguese R&D institution;
- For each panel a **Chair** will be designated and **is responsible for the following tasks:**
 - Assist FCT with the constitution of the panel by suggesting possible reviewers to be invited;
 - Depending on the panel's dimension and spectrum of subareas, the panel Chair may indicate a Co-Chair;
 - Assign each application to two panel members (1st and 2nd readers), taking into consideration any declared **Conflict of Interest (Col)**, as well as the **matching of scientific expertise** within the topic of the application;
 - Keep the evaluation process within the defined timeframe and contact panel members in case of any delays;
 - Support the FCT team in the resolution of any Col identified during the evaluation process;
 - Suggest external reviewers to provide an assessment of an application, whenever a specific expertise is not covered by the panel;
 - Participate in a videoconference meeting with one or more members of the Board of Directors of FCT, prior to the beginning of the reviewing period, to comply with the steps of the evaluation procedure;
 - Assure the quality of the reports: comments should be in agreement with the scores taking into account descriptors of the scoring system (see section 4), providing substantive arguments and identifying 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 by type;
 - Coordinate the support to be given to FCT and panel members during the period of preliminary hearings, if necessary.

5.2 EVALUATION STAGES

The evaluation process comprises **4 stages**:



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 meeting of the evaluation panel is established in advance by FCT.

5.4 FEEDBACK TO BE TRANSMITTED TO APPLICANTS

All the reviewers should comply with the following additional guidelines in the elaboration of the evaluation reports and includes:

- The score and comments for each of the evaluation criteria, including strengths and weakness;
- Identification of the research plan's alignment with the framework of any of the 2030 UN Agenda Goals;
- 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** taking into account the **descriptors** presented in Table I (section 4);
- Be **clear** and **consistent**, highlighting the **strengths** and **weaknesses** of the application for each criterion;
- Take into account the **research project type** (SR&DT or PeX);
- Use **dispassionate and analytical language**, avoiding dismissive statements about the applicant, the proposed science, or the scientific field;
- Be **impeccably polite**;
- Address the **submitted work plan** and not the work the reviewers consider should have been proposed.

The quality of the comments to be transmitted to the applicants is of paramount importance and part of the evaluation process, therefore being a crucial task of the evaluation panel.

Comments must not:

- Give 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 considers..." or "It is considered...";
- **Ask questions**, as the applicant will not be able to answer them;
- **Provide recommendations or advices** for improving the application;
- Have **contradicting statements**;
- **Mention quantitative details** that can easily **originate factual mistakes**.

6. CONFIDENTIALITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

6.1 CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

The confidentiality of written applications must be protected. All reviewers involved in the evaluation are asked not to copy, quote or otherwise use material contained in the applications. All reviewers are requested to accept a statement of confidentiality relative to the contents of the project applications and to the results of the evaluation.

6.2 CONFLICT OF INTEREST (COI)

Disqualifying Conflict of Interest

In the present Call

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

1. Have submitted any application as PI or co-PI;
2. Have first-degree relationships, domestic partnership or are married with a **PI or co-PI**.

In a specific Panel

Researchers are hindered to participate as Chair, Co-Chair, Panel member or External reviewer in a panel in which they:

1. Have submitted an application as team member or consultant;
2. Have first-degree relationships, domestic partnership or are married with a team member or consultant of an application.

With an application

Panel members cannot evaluate nor participate in the panel meeting 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.* teacher-student relationship up to and including the postdoctoral phase) within the three years before the opening date of the call;
5. Affiliation or pending transfer to any of the departments, research centres or companies 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 originating from these institutions.

Potential Conflict of Interest

The panel member should notify FCT and clarify if he/she is able to perform an unbiased evaluation or if the conflict should rather be considered as disqualifying. A potential conflict of interest 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 no. 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).

In case a conflict of interest is detected during the evaluation process, the individual reviewer is required to inform the panel Chair and FCT team of this situation, so that the application may be reassigned. Depending on its nature, this information will be presented in the panel meeting report.

7. SCIENTIFIC DOMAINS, AREAS AND SUBAREAS AND EVALUATION 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:

7.1 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			

Scientific Domain	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea	Evaluation Panel
Exact Sciences	Chemical Sciences	Organic Chemistry	Chemistry
		Inorganic Chemistry	
		Physical Chemistry	
		Polymer Science	
		Electrochemistry	
		Colloid Chemistry	
		Analytical Chemistry	
		Nuclear Chemistry	
		Other Subareas of Chemical Sciences	
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	

Scientific Domain	Scientific Area	Scientific Subarea	Evaluation Panel
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	
		Plant Sciences and Botany	Biological Sciences
		Zoology, Ornithology, Entomology	
		Marine Biology, Freshwater Biology and Limnology	
		Ecology	
		Biodiversity Conservation	
		Biology	
		Evolutionary Biology	
		Other Biological Topics	
		Behavioral Sciences Biology	
Mycology			
Virology	Clinical Medicine, Immunology and Infection		

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		
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	Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Systems
		Sea Vessels	
	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	Clinical Medicine, Immunology and Infection
		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		Clinical Medicine, Immunology and Infection
		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			

7.2 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
Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Systems	Mechanical Engineering	Computer Hardware and Architecture
		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 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
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 and Food Biotechnology
		GM Technology (Crops and Livestock) and Livestock Cloning
		Marker Assisted Selection
Diagnostics		
Other Engineering and Technologies	Biomass Feedstock Production Technologies, Biopharming	
	Agricultural Biotechnology related Ethics	
Experimental Biology and Biochemistry	Biological Sciences	Food and Beverages
		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
		Other Subareas of Languages and Literature
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

ANNEX I - COMPONENTS OF THE APPLICATIONS

Applications must be written in English and are 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:

1. GENERAL DATA:

Project Description

- indicates the title of the project;
- indicates up to four keywords that reflect the scientific content of the proposed research plan;
- indicate the project type;
- identifies the scientific domain, the main scientific area and subarea from the provided list (OECD's revised Field of Science and Technology - FOS, adapted to the call) and presents the respective justification;
- timetable.

2. INSTITUTIONS:

Description of each institution and its competencies for the development of the project.

The **Principal Contractor** must be a **legal entity belonging to the non-business entities of the R&I System**, namely higher education institutions, their institutes and R&D units, state or international laboratories with a head office in Portugal, non-profit private institutions whose main object is R&D activity and other non-profit public and private institutions developing or participating in scientific research activities.

The possible involvement of **foreign institutions as participants** in the project does **not confer them the status of beneficiary**.

3. RESEARCH TEAM:

- **PI** (must have at least 35% of working time dedicated to project)
- **PI CV synopsis** (describe the PI research, academic and professional experience, in the last 5 effective years of scientific activity. It must include at least 3 references of the PI)
- **Members (Co-PI)** must have at least 25% of working time dedicated to project)
- **Hirings**
- **Consultants**
- **Research team CV synopsis** (provide the framework and skills of the research team and their coherence with the proposed work plan. It should focus on the last 5 years of effective scientific activity of the research team, indicating the most relevant scientific achievements of the research team and demonstrating its competence and skills in the area of the proposed project)

A **maximum of 4 Core CVs** must be presented: for PI, co-PI and 2 other team members (researchers considered as more relevant for the project).

The PI, co-PI, the core elements, as well as the remaining elements of the research team, are responsible for **submitting an updated version of their CV in English on the [CIÊNCIAVITAE](#)**.

4. WORK PLAN:

- **Abstract**
- **Literature Review**
- **Research Plan and Methods**
- **Bibliographic References**
- **Past Publications**
- **Tasks**
- **Project Timeline and Management**
- **Ethical Issues** (when applicable) are properly identified and addressed, according to the Ethics Self-Assessment Guide
- **2030 Agenda**
- **Other Funded Projects:** list the approved projects (lead by PI or Co-PI) through peer-review (concluded or running projects)
- **Attachments:** in addition to the mandatory annex with the **timeline**, 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.**

5. INDICATORS - in this section, the PI should indicate the:

- **Expected output indicators:** a) Publications, b) Communications, c) Reports, d) Seminars and Conferences, e) Advanced Training, f) Others
- **Dissemination**

6. BUDGET - 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 n.º 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. **Acquisition of scientific and technical tools and equipment**, indispensable to the project if used within the project during their useful lifetime.
 - iv. **Amortization of scientific and technical tools and equipment** indispensable to the project and of which the useful lifetime falls within the execution period, but does not end within that period.
 - v. **Subcontracts**, directly related to the project scientific task's execution.
 - vi. **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, researches to the status of the technique and consulting expenses.
 - vii. **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.
 - viii. **Adaptation of buildings and facilities**, when essential to the development of the project, namely for environmental and security reasons, provided that these costs do not exceed 10% of the total eligible cost of the project.
 - ix. **Acquisition of other goods and services** directly related to the project's execution, including costs with consultants that do not establish subcontracts.
- b) **Indirect costs**, with a flat rate of 25% of eligible direct costs, excluding subcontracting. 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^o of the [FCT Projects Regulation](#). **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, and is 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.

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;
- These grants are, in principle, one year in length, and cannot be awarded for periods of less than three consecutive months;
- The grants may be renewable for additional periods up to:
 - One year, for grants awarded to graduated degree or master holders enrolled in courses that do not award an academic degree;
 - Two years, for grants awarded to students enrolled in master's courses;
 - Four years, for grants awarded to students enrolled in doctoral degrees;
 - These grants may be national, mixed or abroad, depending if the work plan occurs completely, partially or not in national institutions;

- For mixed research grants, the work plan performed in a foreign institution may not exceed 2 years.

BIPD= Bolsas de Investigação Pós-Doutoral = Postdoctoral Research Grants

- Postdoctoral Research Grants are intended for doctoral degree holders for the development of R&D activities;
- BIPDs are temporally restricted in order to stimulate the scientific employment and the use of researcher contracts as a rule instrument for their hiring, as well as to promote the development, in National Scientific and Technological System entities, of careers aiming at scientific research;
- BIPDs may only be granted provided that the following requirements are cumulatively met:
 - The doctoral degree has been obtained in the last three years before the submission date of the application grant;
 - The postdoctoral research is carried out in a host entity different than the one in which the research work was done to achieve the doctoral degree;
 - The research activities does not require post-doctoral experience;
 - The research activities have a development and execution period equal or less than three years.
- These grants are, in principle, one year in length, renewable for up to a total of three years, and cannot be awarded for periods of less than three consecutive months;
- Once the contract grant is finished, a new contract grant cannot be performed between the same host entity and the same fellow.