**Seed Projects for Interdisciplinary Research - 2024**

**Instruction page**

**Evaluation Criteria**

A. Interdisciplinary quality of the project and the team (30%), taking into account:

* Contribution to build scientific knowledge that integrates relationships between various disciplines;
* The potential of the seed project to significantly advance scientific knowledge;
* The interdisciplinary nature of the research team and its scientific quality.

B. Scientific quality and impact of the project (50%), taking into account:

* The development of a project of high relevance and scientific impact, namely in the Strategic Area of the UC considered;
* The adequacy of the approach to the following cross-cutting aspects of research: integration of the gender dimension and other aspects of diversity; open science practices; and sustainable development goals (SDGs);
* The coherence and feasibility of the work plan and the budget presented.

C. Scientific quality and potential of the Principal Investigator (PI), considering their career stage and based on their narrative curriculum vitae (20%), taking into account:

* The contributions of the PI to their scientific field, to the research community and, if applicable, to society, from an overall perspective of the PI's career;
* Relevance of the PI's experience to the implementation of the project;
* The potential of the PI for creative and independent thinking.

**Structure of the Proposal**

This scientific and technical part of the proposal includes a **Cover page** with: the Acronym, the Proposal’s Title, Name of the Principal Investigator (PI) and their R&D Unit, Expected duration of the project, the Project summary, Keywords, and contribution for the selected Strategic Area of the University of Coimbra; and **three descriptive sections** aligned with the evaluation criteria. These are:

Section A - THE PROJECT - with a page limit of maximum 6 pages. This section includes the:

* Introduction and objectives of the project
* Impact of the proposed research
* Project implementation

Section B - PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (Page limit: 1 page)

Section C - TEAM AND COLLABORATORS (Page limit: 2 pages)

Section D - REFERENCES (no page limit)

## The structure of this template must be followed when preparing your proposal. This narrative part needs to be uploaded as a PDF document following this template in the submission survey available for the call.

**Please respect the following formatting constraints:** Times New Roman, Arial, Calibri, or similar, at least font size 11, margins should be 2.0cm side and 1.5cm top and bottom, single line spacing. Text elements other than the body text, such as headers, foot/end notes, captions, formulas, may deviate but must be legible. The page size is A4.

All tables, figures, and any other element of these sections must be included as an integral part of these sections and are thus counted against the page limit of each section.

[Do not forget to remove this instruction page and the instructions in grey in the next pages.]

**[PROPOSAL ACRONYM]**

**[Proposal Title]**

**Name of the Principal Investigator (PI):**

**R&D Unit of the PI:**

**Other involved R&D Units of the UC (project team):**

**Expected duration of the project (in months):**

**Project summary** [1500 char., max. with spaces]

[The summary should, at a glance, provide the reader with a clear understanding of the objectives of your proposal and how they will be achieved. The summary must be short and precise and should not contain confidential information.]

**Keywords (4-5):**

**Strategic Area of the University of Coimbra** [500 chars, max. with spaces]

[Please indicate the Strategic Area of the University of Coimbra most aligned with your proposal and explain how the project contributes to it. The initial allocation of the proposal to a panel will be based on the preference expressed here by the applicant. However, when necessary due to the expertise required for the evaluation, the proposal may be reallocated to a different panel with the agreement of the president of the jury. In such cases, applicants will be informed of this reallocation (if applicable).

* Health;
* Climate, Energy and Mobility;
* Natural Resources, Agrifood and Environment;
* Digital, Industry and Space;
* Heritage, Culture and Inclusive Society.

1. **THE PROJECT** (Page limit: **6 pages, max.**; references should be listed in section D and do not count towards the page limit)
2. **Introduction and objectives of the project, taking into account the appropriateness of the interdisciplinary aspects of the proposal and its originality**

[Describe clearly the research objectives/hypothesis; Describe objectives in relation to the up-to-date state of the art; Explain how the expertise and methods from different disciplines will be brought together and integrated with pursuit of the objectives, and the added value of the interdisciplinary approach; Describe how the gender dimension and other diversity aspects are integrated into the project’s research and development content. If you do not consider such a gender dimension to be relevant in your project, please provide a justification.]

1. **Impact of the proposed research**
   1. **Research approach and expected results and outcomes**

[Narratively describe clearly and precisely the research methodology and expected outcomes. How will the research methodology work toward the research objectives? Explain any novel/original concepts, approaches, or assumptions applied. Describe the expected results and outcomes of the proposed seed research, i.e., how the results of the project contribute to the outcomes. Demonstrate the need, originality, and potential for scientific growth of the proposed seed project, namely regarding the potential for additional external funding.]

* 1. **Project impact and contribution to local or global needs**

[Provide a narrative explaining how the project’s results are expected to make a difference in terms of impact (scientific, societal, or technological; if applicable) beyond the immediate scope and duration of the project. Identify the medium/long-term potential impacts of the project for the university/science/society. Address how the project contributes to particular local or global needs related to particular SDGs or sustainable development. Identify who will be interested in the results described and why - i.e. the benefit for target groups. Consider identifying particular SDG(s) that the seed project contributes to, if applicable.]

* 1. **Proposed measures to maximize impact - Dissemination, exploitation, and outreach**

[(i) Detail the dissemination activities to expert audiences. (ii) Identify the potential exploitation methods of your project results (further internal research, collaborative research, product development, standardization activities, spin-offs, engagement with communities/end users/policymakers, roadmap definition, etc.). If applicable, explain your strategy for intellectual property management and the foreseen protection measures. (iii) Plan at least one public engagement and outreach activity and demonstrate how it/they will contribute to creating awareness of the performed research. For each activity/action describe the target audience, the estimated duration of the activity (in months), where, and key performance indicators. Describe how appropriate *open science practices* will be implemented as an integral part of the proposed methodology.]

1. **Project implementation**
   1. **Description of the overall structure of the work plan, tasks, and deliverables**

[Describe briefly the work plan, summarizing Work Packages (WP), including the deliverables and milestones, their timing; link to the length of the project and to the personnel to the planned work. Consider including a PERT chart.]

* 1. **Gantt chart**

[The Gantt chart should include: Work Packages titles (there should be at least 1 WP), Indication of major deliverables; Indication of major milestones. You may use [this model](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/cef/temp-form/af/timetable-gantt-chart_cef_en.docx) from the European Commission as an example.]

* 1. **Risks and contingency plan**

[Identify specific risks that could delay the progress of deliverables (delayed start, equipment failure, insignificant results; both of scientific and administrative nature) & contingency plans. With the description of the risk, include the likelihood of each risk (low, medium, high) and connect them with relevant WP. You may use a table to summarize the project risks, linking risk, likelihood, WP number, contingency.]

* 1. **Proposed resources and justification**

[Describe narratively the resources needed to fulfil the objectives of the project considering the budget total amount of EUR 20 000. Consider the following categories: (i) Acquisition of goods and services; (ii) Acquisition of equipment and software, (iii) Missions. Please note that research grants are not considered eligible for this funding.]

* 1. **Ethics Self-Assessment** [if applicable]

[If your proposal raises one or more of the issues listed in the [ethics issues table available on the call webpage](https://ucpages.uc.pt/site/assets/files/1347695/ethics_issues_table_seed_projects_2024.pdf), you must complete the ethics self-assessment. This must include a description of the issue, the way you intend to deal with it in order to ensure ethics compliance, and any relevant documents (such as authorization or permissions that will be needed - provide the expected timing - or already in place). Read [How to complete your ethics self-assessment](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf) made available by the European Commission to make your proposal ethics-compliant. If no issues will be raised, indicate that.].]

1. **PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR** (Page limit: **1 page, max.**)

**PhD. date:**

**Research area:**

**Researcher unique identifier(s) (such as ORCID, CiênciaVitae, Research ID, or other):**

**Name of Ph.D. Supervisor(s):**

**Experience and contribution of the PI to the realization of the project**

[What are your most important research-related contributions to date? How does your experience (education, research experience, and leadership role) contribute to the successful implementation of the project?]

**List 3 to 5 of your most significant research outputs and activities and provide a statement describing their significance and your contribution to your research field/science/society.**

[Research outputs may include (but are not limited to): Peer-reviewed publications and preprints datasets, monographs; books; software and research materials; and inventions, patents, commercial activity; fellowships and awards; academic supervision and guidance concluded or to be concluded; communications in scientific meetings; scientific events minutes; and edition or production of artwork.]

1. **TEAM AND COLLABORATORS** (Page limit: **2 pages, max.**)

**TEAM**

**Number of team members:** (maximum 5 team members, excluding the PI)

**Description of the research team**

[Identification of team members (name and R&D unit), description of their role in the project, their scientific quality, and how their experience contributes to project proposal and implementation. Highlight the interdisciplinary character and diversity (identity, experience levels, and epistemological or disciplinary approach) of the research team.]

**EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS** [if applicable, 2 external collaborators max.]

[Identification of collaborators or partner institutions (Name and Affiliation) and relevance for their involvement in the project.]

1. **REFERENCES** (do not count towards the page limit)

[Please use a reference style that is commonly used in your discipline that allows the evaluators to easily retrieve each reference.]