

## Open Call for a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

The Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência (IGC) is welcoming applications to a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (BI-PD) within the project 101116029-META\_FUN-ERC-2023-StG, entitled “Mapping metabolic responses to understand coexistence and community functioning”, financed by Horizon Europe, with the following conditions:

1. **Duration:** The fellowship duration, according to the [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#) approved by Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, IP (FCT) is 12 months, renewable for up to 3 years. The fellowship contract is expected to start in May 2024, under the exclusiveness regime as required by the Research Fellowship Regulation of FCT.
2. **Subject of Activities:** The Functional Ecology lab is looking for a motivated and independent postdoc to join our group. We are a young and dynamic group of researchers interested in ecology and evolutionary dynamics with different expertise and backgrounds. We look forward to welcoming a new member to the team who will contribute to this diversity, and who shares our enthusiasm for understanding ecological systems. The postdoctoral researcher will lead an independent project under the supervision and guidance of the PI. The project will study how metabolic plasticity influences the outcomes of competition and the functioning of phytoplankton communities, as part of the recently awarded ERC Starting Grant 2023 META\_FUN. This specific position will focus on establishing the relationship between metabolic plasticity, biodiversity, and stability. The experimental work will be done in the laboratory using marine phytoplankton strains from culture collections that will be used to assemble synthetic communities of varying metabolic diversity and under a range of environmental conditions. The work will involve tracking population and community dynamics through microscopy, flowcytometry and respirometry, among other methods. The specific details of the work will be agreed between the PI and the successful candidates, also taking into consideration their interest and expertise. The postdoc will give and receive help from other members of the lab, and will be expected to actively participate to the group and institutional intellectual activities.
3. **Scientific Áreas:** Ecology, biodiversity, marine ecology, microbial ecology, evolution
4. **Scientific Guidance:** The selected candidate will join the Functional Ecology laboratory (<https://gulbenkian.pt/ciencia/research-groups/gghedini/>), headed by Dr. Giulia Ghedini.
5. **Academic Profile and Admission Requirements:** A PhD in ecology (or closely related area) with research experience in ecology. We particularly seek applications from candidates who have worked on metabolic and/or community ecology (e.g., coexistence, biodiversity, stability theory). Experience with phytoplankton or other micro-organisms is an advantage but the position is open to candidates with expertise in other systems too - but we do require evidence of experimental work which is essential to the project. The candidates must be able to work in a team as well as independently, and have an excellent level of written and spoken English.

Essential requirements:

- i) A PhD in ecology or closely related area;

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- ii) Research experience in ecology including laboratory/experimental work, preferably on phytoplankton or other micro-organisms;
- iii) A strong interest in community ecology, specifically to understand the physiological mechanisms (metabolic rate and energy use more generally) that influence the diversity and functioning of ecological communities;
- iv) Proven track record of publications in the field of ecology.

According to point 3 of article 3º of the [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#), the doctoral degree must have been obtained in the three years prior to the date of submission of the fellowship application.

If the qualification has been conferred by a foreign higher education institution it must be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution, under the terms of the provisions of article 25.º of Decree-Law n.º 66/2018, of August 16<sup>th</sup> (<https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition>), which approves the legal regime of recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of Higher Education, attributed by foreign higher education institutions, and of paragraph e) of n.º 2 of article 4.º of Decree-Law n.º 60/2018, of August 3rd, and any formalities established therein must be fulfilled by the date of the hiring act. The jury reserves the right to invite the candidate ranked immediately after to the position in question when the first ranked candidate is not recognized with the academic degree after the aforementioned formalities have been fulfilled.

**6. For Portuguese taxpayers:** All candidates that where/are currently taxpayers in Portugal are required to present evidence of the fulfillment of their individual obligations towards the Portuguese Tax Authority and Social Security. Failure to comply with this requirement will be considered as a criteria for exclusion from the recruitment process.

**7. Applicable legislation and Regulation:** All candidates must comply with the [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#); [Research Fellowship Statutes](#) amended by [Decree nº 123/2019](#) of August 28<sup>th</sup>; [FCT Legislation and Regulations for Fellowships](#) and the [Decree-Law n.º 66/2018](#), of August 16th (Legal regime for recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of higher education awarded by foreign higher education institutions).

**8. Subsidy Month Stipend:** 2.200,00€/month according to the table of monthly maintenance allowance amounts set out in Annex I of [IGC Research Fellowship Regulation](#). The payment will be made by bank transfer. The selected candidate may be reimbursed the amount corresponding to the contribution to Voluntary Social Security.

**9. How to submit applications:** Interested candidates should send their applications to [igcpositions@igc.gulbenkian.pt](mailto:igcpositions@igc.gulbenkian.pt) with subject and file named “**Applicant Name\_BI-PD\_MappingMetabolicResponse**”, containing:

- i) Cover Letter - Please let us know in your presentation letter (max 2 pages) how you meet each of the requirements designated in bullet 5. and your motivation for joining our lab;
- ii) Curriculum Vitae;
- iii) Contacts of 2-3 references (name, email and phone number).

All documents should be in English.

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10. **Methods of Selection and Evaluation:** Applications will be evaluated according to Curriculum and previous experience (60%), cover letter (20%). References nominated by the candidates shall be consulted, if necessary (10%). In case of a tie, the candidates in this situation will be interviewed (10%) focusing on the research outcomes of the candidate. The decision is made by nominal vote of the selection panel members, in accordance with eligibility and selection criteria, with no abstentions allowed. The final results will be presented on a scale from 0 to 100.
11. **Jury Selection:** Chair: Dr. Giulia Ghedini, Vowels: Dr. Marco Fumasoni and Dr. Charlotte Briddon. Substitute: Dr. Ilana Gabanyi.
12. **Form of Advertising / Notification of results:** The assessment results will be sent to all candidates by email. There will be 10 working days for complaints/appeals after the date of publication of the Selection Minute.
13. **Application Period:** From 23/01/2024 until 28/02/2024.
14. **Non-discrimination and equal access policy:** The Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation actively promotes a non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefitted, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempted of any duties based on ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, education, origin or social conditions, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, origin territory, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership.

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