

**[NOTICE OF COMPETITION]**

**Competitive application process for the award of a research grant  
(BI) within the scope of Research Projects and Institutions**

A competition is open to award of 1 (one) Research Grant (BI) for Graduates within the Program Contract under the multi-year funding of R&D Units, with the Ref. UIDB/04042/2020, funded by national funds through FCT/MCTES, and in compliance with the provisions of article 6 and following of the FCT Research Grants Regulation, Regulation no. 950/2019, published in the Official Gazette, 2nd Series, no. 241, of December 16, amended by Regulation no. 643/2021, published in the Official Gazette, 2nd Series, no. 135, of July 14, under the following conditions:

**Scientific Area:** Arts and Humanities

**Specific Scientific Area:** Arts

**1 - Admission requirements:**

Being a MA student, or graduate and enrolled in a course that does not confer an academic degree included in the educational project of a higher education institution.

**2 – Candidate profile:**

2.1 Bachelor degree with a final grade of 15 (out of 20)

2.2 Preferably an MA student in Design for Sustainability or a related area.

**3 - Preferred requirements:**

- i. Work experience in Design for Sustainability projects
- ii. Experience in programs such as Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, Imove, Word, Excel, and Powerpoint.
- iii. Team spirit, commitment to project activities, with an ethical, collaborative, active, critical, and responsible attitude.

**4 - Eligibility:**

**4.1** Candidates must meet the eligibility conditions provided for in article 9 of the FCT I.P. Research Grants Regulation (Regulation no. 950/2019, published in the Official Gazette, 2nd Series, no. 241, of December 16, amended by Regulation no. 643/2021, published in the Official Gazette, 2nd Series, no. 135, of July 14).

**4.2** Graduates enrolled in a master's degree or courses not leading to an academic degree can only be selected if, with this contract, they do not exceed an accumulated period of two years in this type of grant, consecutive or interpolated - including the grant in question and potential including renewals.

**4.3** Academic degrees obtained in foreign countries need to be registered by a Portuguese institution, in accordance with Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of August 16, and Ordinance no. 33/2019, of January 25. Presentation of the certificate is mandatory for contract signing.

## **5 - Project Overview**

The present research work - Preserving and Communicating Natural Traditions (PCoNaT): A Blueprint for Cultural Continuity and Sustainable Heritage Management - seeks to preserve, recover, and communicate traditional and natural knowledge, techniques, and materials, ensuring their integration into future creative processes. In PCoNaT, we will record sustainable and traditional practices. We respond to UNESCO's call for new paths for sustainable development in a more holistic way, where cultural and creative sectors come together to promote and support social inclusion and natural, integrative, and regenerative knowledge and practices. We recognize the natural and cultural diversity of the world and that all civilizations can contribute to it by acting as facilitators for a more sustainable future. We thus highlight the importance of this project in the face of the imminent risk of loss of ancestral knowledge. Craftsmen and holders of this knowledge are aging, which puts their experiences and domains at risk of extinction. PCoNaT will (re)recognize, record, and disseminate various know-hows mapped by the partners, acting itself as a social agent. Thus, this project constitutes a reflection group of researchers, artisans, designers, and other stakeholders active in this field, coming from different locations. Each partner will contribute to the identification and presentation of the processes that, in their local/regional context, should be preserved. This will be done through a collaboratively established documentation and registration process. We will also jointly decide on the relevance of developing the following sub-themes, and simultaneously, indicate how each of the stakeholders will participate in the structuring of the international project. The main objectives are: 1. to create a multidisciplinary reflection group from various locations active in the field outlined in the summary to; 2. identify the processes that, in their local/regional context, may make sense to preserve aiming at; 3. recover and document traditional natural knowledge, techniques, and materials and 4. disseminate this knowledge. It is necessary to create a comprehensive and easily accessible database aimed at impacting the local community (through the recognition and dissemination of its knowledge and practices) and the national/international community interested (which can use this platform to expand its know-how). The specific objectives are to study, record, and communicate how each invited partner identifies and records local processes, namely:

1. techniques and natural materials and traditional practices to encourage cultural exchange and expand scientific, artistic, and design knowledge from the local/national to the global/international level;
2. the use of natural and sustainable materials to promote awareness and encourage the choice of ecological alternatives;
3. the involvement of local communities in efforts to preserve their sustainable practices, active participation, organization of community events, and celebration of traditional festivals in identity and cultural promotion;
4. the incorporation of traditional techniques and materials into formal and informal educational programs on traditional arts, design, and crafts;

5. traditional knowledge that uses storytelling and oral tradition with the aim of respecting, recognizing, and encouraging the sharing of the knowledge of experienced artisans with younger generations, creating a sense of pride and continuity; and finally
6. the creation of an open digital storage platform for sharing the information collected in the previous fields. The project will be structured based on monthly online meetings understood as working moments that involve the exchange, reflection, and debate on the domain of existing traditional and natural knowledge, techniques, and materials. And a final in-person meeting, a think-tank, a moment of presenting the cross-fertilization of knowledge and its consequences. At this time, the results obtained in each of the proposed intervention areas and the discussions throughout the year 2024 will be discussed and presented.

## **6 - Work Plan:**

PCoNaT was designed to actively involve stakeholders at various levels, widely disseminate research results through multiple channels, and expand natural practices and traditions to the local, regional, national, and international public. It is worth mentioning again that PCoNaT creates a reflection group of researchers, artisans, designers, and other entities in this field, based in different locations. We do not know in advance how each collaborator approaches this issue, so this project is essentially exploratory and open to contributions throughout the entire process. Nevertheless, we safeguard the following tasks: Task 0: Organization and scheduling of the first monthly meeting to assess existing research/action by each partner, framing in the seven research areas and distribution of their respective responsibilities. Scheduling of the next 9 online meetings.

Task 1: Theoretical and methodological framework through systematic and in-depth research on natural traditions, supported by relevant literature and quantitative data, providing a comprehensive understanding of the current state of the art on this topic. Purchase of books on the theme outlined in the summary that will be donated to the FBAUL Library at the end of the project.

Task 2: Preparation phase: data collection plan to identify the practices of each partner; definition of selection criteria and tools for subsequent compilation/selection of traditional and natural knowledge, techniques, and materials; and ethical considerations.

Task 3: Creation of the template for organizing the database/storage platform.

Task 4: Collection, distribution, and organization of initial data in accordance with the proposed seven intervention areas.

Task 5: Definition of evaluation criteria.

Task 6: Discussion and diagnosis of selected data.

Task 7: Organization and holding of the final in-person meeting (partner team, students/teachers, school boards, artisan communities, local authorities, policymakers).

Task 8: a) Writing of articles and b) Writing, organization, and communication of an essentially digital publication. Peer-reviewed publications at international conferences and the final open and digital publication contribute to the dissemination of the studied natural traditions, ensure that the project becomes part of the academic record, and influence a wider community. This global involvement leads to broader and more diverse intercultural perceptions and collaborations.

Task 9: Writing and submission of the Final Report to CIEBA and its publication on the digital platform.

Task 10: Dissemination of the entire project nationally and internationally.

**Candidate Profile:**

The Research Grant for Graduates is intended to finance the support of the grantee in the PCoNaT activities developed in close coordination with the proposed objectives and activities. The grantee will be a key player working together with the Responsible Researcher and the partner team in organizing and systematizing the collected information and its dissemination, writing minutes of online meetings, assisting in the organization of the final meeting, supporting systematic and in-depth research of bibliographic references on natural traditions; assisting in the data collection of each partner's practices and systematizing this information; supporting the preparation of the database/storage platform, articles, and final online publication.

To this end, the grantee is expected to adopt an ethical, collaborative, active, critical, responsible, and committed attitude.

**Grant duration:** 6 months (April, May, June, July, October, and November 2024)

**7 - Workplace**

The work will be carried out at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon, located at Largo da Academia Nacional de Belas-Artes, 1249-058 Lisbon, integrated into the CIEBA research center, under the scientific guidance of Carla Paoliello, Invited Assistant Professor, from the Department of Industrial Design, notwithstanding the inherent displacements to the mentioned functions.

**8 – Grant duration** The grant contract will have a duration of 6 months, starting in April 2024. The grant contract cannot be renewed.

**9 – Monthly grant stipend:** The grant's monthly stipend will amount to €990.98, in accordance with the grant values table awarded directly by FCT, I.P. in the Country, (<http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores>). The corresponding voluntary social security insurance for the first tier will be added to this amount, whenever the candidate opts for its allocation, the same applying to personal accident insurance.

**10 - Candidate Selection** Candidates will be selected through a curriculum evaluation, considering the following parameters:

Criterion a) - Curriculum vitae (10%)

Criterion b) - Experience in Design for Sustainability projects: (50%)

Criterion c) - Average of the Curricular Units of the degree with relevant contents for the development of the project: (10%)

Criterion d) - Level of spoken and written English (10%)

Criterion e) - Motivation letter to integrate the project (20%)

The jury may, if deemed necessary, call the approved candidates for an interview. In this case, the interview will weigh a maximum of 30%, to be added to the score obtained in the first selection phase, which corresponds to 70%.

## **11 - Deadline and form of application submission**

**11.1** The competition is **open from 13 to 24 May 2024**.

**11.2** Applications should be submitted via email to:

concursos.investigacao@belasartes.ulisboa.pt and to (c.paoliello@belasartes.ulisboa.pt), with the following subject in the message: BI – PCoNat, accompanied by a cover letter and the following documents:

1. Curriculum Vitae;
2. Certificate of qualifications;
3. Artistic portfolio (maximum 15 pages)
4. Proof of enrollment in the master's degree or in a course not leading to a degree in a university institution;
5. A Declaration on oath that, with the conclusion of the grant contract in question, an accumulated period of one year in this type of grant, consecutive or interpolated, has not been exceeded, and has not already been a beneficiary of any other research grant directly or indirectly funded by FCT;
6. Motivation letter;
7. Declaration of prior consent to the use of electronic means;
8. Other relevant supporting documents (e.g., level of spoken and written English).

**11.3** In the case of academic degrees obtained from foreign higher education institutions, submission of degree and diploma recognition is mandatory, in accordance with Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of August 16, or, in the absence of recognition at the time of application, a declaration on oath that recognition will be made before the contracting of the Grant in case the candidate is selected.

## **12 - Publication of results**

In accordance with article 12 of Regulation no. 950/2019, published in the Official Gazette, 2nd Series, no. 241, of December 16, amended by Regulation no. 643/2021, published in the Official Gazette, 2nd Series, no. 135, of July 14, the evaluation results will be published, through a list ordered by the final score obtained, on the website of the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon, up to 90 business days after the application deadline, and the approved candidates will be notified via email, provided by the candidate in the respective application. After the communication of the provisional list of evaluation results, candidates have a period of 10 business days to express their views, if they wish, in a prior hearing of interested parties, in accordance with articles 121 and following of the Administrative Procedure Code. The final decision must be made within a maximum period of 60 business days after the conclusion of the prior hearing of interested parties. A complaint may be lodged within 15 business days from the notification of the final decision, or an appeal to the maximum executive body of the funding entity within 30 business days from the respective notification.

### **13 - Selection Jury**

Jury President:

Carla Paoliello (IR), Invited Assistant Professor, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Lisbon

Effective Members:

Ana Thudichum Vasconcelos, Associate Professor, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Lisbon. Dr. Sónia Rafael, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Lisbon.

Alternate Members:

João Cruz, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Lisbon;  
Victor Almeida, Associate Professor, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Lisbon.

### **14 - Applicable legislation and regulations**

Law no. 40/2004, of August 18 (Statute of the Research Fellow) as formulated in Decree-Law no.23/2019, of August 28, and the Regulation of Research Grants of FCT, no. 950/2019, of December 16, 2019, published in the Official Gazette, no. 241, 2nd series, of December 16, 2019.