

Public invitation to express interest for The FCT Investigator Programme at Biocant

The Biocant is taking into consideration the possibility to provide support to individual experienced researchers, meeting the requirements of the The FCT Investigator Programme, in order to develop research proposals aimed at carrying out a full time period of 5 years at Biocant with reference to the following The FCT Investigator Programme funding schemes:

- a) **"starting grant"**: PhD holders, with a CV of exceptional merit and no requirement for previous scientific independence, that completed a PhD degree more than three and less than 8 years before application.
- b) **"development grant"**: PhD holders with a CV of exceptional merit and experience as independent researchers,

The FCT Investigator grants provide a competitive salary and start-up funding for those researchers with no on-going FCT-funded research as of 1st January 2014, via a FCT Exploratory Project Grant of up to €50 000.

Biocant is a R&D center focused on Biotechnology, with two strategic research themes: Biotechnology of Stem Cells, Biodiversity and Biotechnology of Natural Genetic Resources, and Biotechnology Applied to Winemaking.

With this call, **we aim at reinforcing our research team focused on the Biotechnology on Winemaking**, which is a team of 10 people, and has carried out research on Metagenomics in the Vine and in the Wine Fermentation and on the Biodiversity of *Vitis vinifera*. We are currently seeking two team leaders:

- One **experienced researcher in plant molecular biology and response to stress**, who would be willing to develop projects aimed at exploring the functional biodiversity of the Portuguese population of *Vitis vinifera*;
- One **experienced researcher in microbiology**, who would be interested in developing projects in the understanding the complexity of microbial communities in the vine and in the winemaking, and/or in the exploitation of biotechnological potential of wild isolates on the vine and on the winemaking;

In our biotechnological ecosystem, at Biocant we have strong collaborations with both Universities and with the Wine Industry, and we are located at a Biocant Park, a SME incubation park, which hosts 1/3 of Portuguese Biotechnology SMEs. Therefore, we are looking for candidates who would be interesting in performing both basic and applied research, and we welcome research aiming at the future developing of entrepreneurial projects.

More information is available on the [The FCT Investigator Programme website](#), and on the [Biocant Website](#). Questions should be sent to inovwine@biocant.pt.

Eligible researchers can be of any nationality and must not have resided or carried out their main activity in Italy for more than 12 months since August 2010;

The eligibility criteria are:

- Experienced researchers must be in possession of a doctoral degree or with at least 4 years of research experience (full-time equivalent) since obtaining a university degree giving access to doctoral studies;
- Researchers can be of any nationality
- Female researchers are encouraged to apply;
- All requirements of the The FCT Investigator Programme

Eligible Applicants should send the following information at the e-mail address: inovwine@biocant.pt anytime before August 20th, 2013 (internal deadline):

- Motivation letter, including research interests and experience;
- Detailed curriculum vitae and list of publications;
- Abstract of the research proposal (max 1 page).

The candidates will be selected by Biocant by August 26th, 2013.

The selected candidates will be supported in the development of the project proposals for The FCT Investigator Programme that must be submitted to September 10th, 17h00 (GMT)