Call for a Postdoctoral Fellowship
UID/Multi/04555/2019

A call is open for a Postdoctoral Fellowship (BPD) for PhD holder under the R&D Unit with reference ‘Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência UID/Multi/04555/2019’ at the IGC - Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência, Oeiras, Portugal, funded by national funds through FCT/MCTES (PIDDAC), as follows:

Scientific Area: Biological Sciences

Admission Requisites:
PhD degree in plant sciences with international experience in plant molecular biology and a minimum of three publications in relevant international journals, at least one of which as first author. Demonstrated ability to work independently is also required, and hands-on experience in reverse genetics with the model organism Arabidopsis thaliana and large-scale identification of RNA-binding protein targets are preferred but not essential.

Work plan:
Arginine-serine-rich (SR) proteins belong to a conserved family of master posttranscriptional regulators. Our research group has identified several Arabidopsis thaliana SR proteins regulating abiotic stress responses mediated by the abscisic acid (ABA) phytohormone during the early steps of plant development, thus revealing an unexplored RNA layer of regulation of the ABA pathway. The candidate will adopt a multidisciplinary approach to characterize the mode of action of selected arabidopsis SR proteins: i) determination of ABA-dependent expression patterns and subcellular localization using RT-qPCR and microscopy analyses, ii) global analysis of SR protein induced transcriptome changes by RNA-seq, and iii) identification, at the single nucleotide level, of the RNA sequences targeted by SR proteins under ABA stress via iCLIP.

Legislation and Applicable Regulation:
Statute of the Scientific Research Fellow, Research Fellowship Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology I.P. in force; and the Research Fellowship Regulations from Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência (IGC), Oeiras, Portugal.

Working place:
The work will be developed at IGC (Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência, Oeiras, Portugal), in the Plant Molecular Biology under the scientific supervision of Doctor Paula Duque.

Fellowship Duration:
The postdoctoral fellowship will be for a period up to a maximum of 12 months, which can be renewed, in agreement with the project-allocated budget for human resources.
Monthly Allowance:
The present fellowship corresponds to € 1,509.80 (PhD) + Social Security, according to the Portuguese guidelines directly defined by FCT (Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P) (https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores.phtml.pt) and the Research Fellowship Regulations from the Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência (IGC), Oeiras, Portugal. Payment will be made by bank transfer.

Selection Methods:
Applications will be evaluated according to the analysis of the application documents presented – Curriculum vitae (60%), motivation letter (15%), references (15%) and interview, if considered necessary by the jury, of the selected candidates (10%). The Interview will focus on the research outcomes of the candidate.

Jury Composition:
President, Paula Duque; Members, Elena Baena-González and Jörg Becker

Announcement and Communication of Results:
The assessment results will be sent to all candidates by email and to FCT by registered surface mail.

Application structure and deadline:
The present call is open between 12th August 2019 and 26th August 2019.

The applications should be sent via email to duquep@igc.gulbenkian.pt, with the subject “Application BPD-IGC, UID/Multi/04555/2019 – Candidate’s Surname”. The documents should be sent in English as single Portable Document Format (PDF) and include: Proof of Degree (Degree Certificate), updated Curriculum Vitae, motivation letter and names and contacts of two references.