

NOTICE OF OPENING N.º 88/SGA/DOFAE

Institute for Interdisciplinary Research

Academic Year 2026/2027

3rd Cycle Course

3rd cycle

PhD in Sustainable Forest Development

In association with: Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro

1. Number of places:

1st call: 5 places

2nd call: 5 places

3rd call: 5 + remaining places

Supplemental application call: remaining places

2. Minimum number of students for course opening: 3

3. Application deadlines:

1st call: 2nd to 31st March 2026

2nd call: 1st June to 15th July 2026

3rd call: 1st to 11th September 2026

Supplemental application call: 20th to 27th October 2026

4. Admission requirements:

Applicants to this PhD programme must be:

a) Holders of a master's degree preferably in the areas of Agricultural, Biological, Physical or Environmental Sciences, Engineering or Technology or legal equivalent;

b) Holders of a bachelor's degree, with a particularly relevant academic or scientific curriculum recognized by the Scientific Council of the Organic unit / school responsible for its edition, attesting capacity for the accomplishment of this cycle of studies, preferably in the areas of Agricultural, Biological, Physical or Environmental Sciences, Engineering or Technology, related areas, or legal equivalents and holder of a relevant academic or scientific curriculum that is recognized as attesting to the ability to carry out this cycle of studies by the Commission Course Coordinator. Applicants must obtain an application evaluation equal to or greater than 10 values;

c) Holders of a an academic, scientific or professional curriculum that is recognized by the Scientific Committee of IIUC as attesting ability to pursue this cycle of studies, having a CV assessment of 10 out of 20 or higher.

2. The recognition referred to in sub-paragraphs b) to c) of paragraph 1 merely provides access to the study cycle leading to the degree of doctor and does not confer on its holder the equivalence to the degree of bachelor or master or the recognition of that degree.

5. Selection criteria:

3rd Cycle Course:

1) CV Assessment [80/100 Weighting];

i) School curriculum, considering the final classification of the course(s) taken by the applicants (25%);

ii) Professional curriculum (25%)

iii) scientific curriculum (25%)

iv) motivation letter (15%)

v) letters of recommendation (10%)

The evaluation parameters include the relevance of the academic, professional and scientific curriculum, namely unequivocal knowledge and skills for the design and elaboration of a Doctoral Thesis within the scope of this course, participation in research projects, scientific publications in international peer-reviewed journals, preferably with ISI-WEB or Scopus indexing, presentation of communications at international congresses or conferences, advanced training, awards and similar elements, as long as they are scientific/professional activities in the scientific area of the study cycle in question.

2) Interview [20/100 Weighting];

Can be done by videoconference. Applicants are invited by email. Whenever necessary, there will

be confirmation by alternative contacts (phone or skype).

- i) Communication and verbal expression (25%);
- ii) Knowledge of English (25%);
- iii) Motivation and interest (20%);
- iv) Analysis and critical thinking (15%);
- v) Availability/ease to travel (15%)

Jury:

- Doctor Maria Cristina Penas Nabais dos Santos (UC);
- Doutor Domingos Manuel Mendes Lopes (UTAD).

3rd Cycle - Application based on Subparagraph c):

- i) School curriculum, considering the final classification of the course (s) held by the applicants, (30/100 Weighting);
- iii) Scientific curriculum, considering the participation in congresses, seminars, research projects, number and scientific quality of publications (monographs, book chapters, articles in periodicals), awards and similar elements, under activities in (s) scientific area (s) of the study cycle in question, (30/100 Weighting);
- iii) Professional curriculum, considering the duration and nature of the professional functions performed in the scientific area of the study cycle in question, (40/100 Weighting).

NOTE: Assessed applications that have a grade lower than 9.5 in one of the evaluation criteria will automatically become non-approved.

6. Required documentation:

- 1- Motivation Letter [MANDATORY];
- 2- 1st Letter of Recommendation [MANDATORY];
- 3- 2nd Letter of Recommendation;
- 4- Certificate of Bachelor's degree with final course classification (diploma). A certificate proving approval in the curricular units carried out must be included, with respective classifications (school transcript) [MANDATORY, except if the primary course is a course taught at the University of Coimbra];
- 5- Certificate from Master's degree with final course classification (Master degree diploma). A certificate proving approval in the curricular units carried out must be included, with respective classifications (school transcript) [MANDATORY, except if the origin course is a course taught at the University of Coimbra];
- 6- Official declaration of course outlines and hourly course loads with classification of each course unit of courses previously taken (transcript), in case of equivalence credits request

[MANDATORY, except in degrees awarded by the University of Coimbra under the Bologna Process – after 2007/2008];

7- Curriculum vitae [MANDATORY];

8- Identity Document [MANDATORY only for foreign applicants];

9- Official document certifying qualifications, issued by the institution awarding the highest degree, indicating the weighted average and the grading scale [MANDATORY only for holders of a degree obtained abroad that does not contain the average];

10- In case of non-native speakers of Portuguese or English, a certificate of language proficiency at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) in at least one of these two languages is required.

NOTE: If the documents mentioned above are written in a foreign language other than Spanish, French, and English, it is mandatory to present a translation to Portuguese undertaken by a translator recognised by the Portuguese diplomatic representation.

The submission of the authenticated original documents is mandatory to the applicants admitted who enrol and register and must be done as soon as possible in order to complete their personal file. Further information at: <https://www.uc.pt/en/academic-services/submit-docs/>.

7. Tuition fee:

-2,500€ (annual fee)

8. Part-time registration: Allowed

9. Assessment committee:

- Maria Cristina Amaral Penas Nabais dos Santos.

10. Other information:

- Application is subject to the payment of a 50.00 € fee, which is non-refundable, even in case of invalidation of application and of non-placement.

- Applications are submitted online at: <https://inforestudante.uc.pt/nonio/security/candidaturas.do>.

- Applicants who do not have the documents attesting the required qualifications or other documents until the end of the deadline for applications may apply conditionally. If they do not submit the required documents until the new deadline provided, their application will become "Not Admitted". Then, they can move their application onto the following call for applications without any additional charges.

- In applications definitively considered valid, and after the evaluation period has started, it is not possible to add or replace the documents presented. To add new documentation, a new application

ADMINISTRATION

must be submitted in the next phase, if any.

- After the last phase of applications, and if there are still places available, applicants may submit their application by means of a request, beyond the deadline, which will be duly appraised by the coordination of the Course /Organisational Unit.

- Further information about academic issues, including the academic calendar, is available at:<https://www.uc.pt/en/academic-services/>

- Contacts:

E-mail: <https://apps.uc.pt/forms/view/sga/en>

Telephone:(00351) 239 247 195

In person assistance at the Student Hub. Schedules at:<https://www.uc.pt/en/academic-services/location-contacts/>

University of Coimbra, on 20th January 2026.

Head of Division,