Call for applications

Research Assistant (one position)

The Centre for Social Studies (CES) – Associate Laboratory - University of Coimbra (Portugal), opens a call for applications for 1 Research assistant (ref. CES/24/2025-RA-6G) in the project "6G-VERSUS - 6G Vertical Trials for Sustainability" (GA No 101192633), funded by the European Commission - Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking (SNS JU) under the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme, with the participation of CES coordinated by Rita Campos and Neide P. Areia.

CES provides a stimulating intellectual environment in the domain of social sciences and humanities. The project is part of the research lines Risk(s), Ecologies, Health and Urban cultures, sociability and participation.

a. Project Description:

The journey towards tangible sustainability outcomes necessitates a fusion of technological advancements with strategic experimentation. In this pursuit, 6G-VERSUS emerges as a pioneering initiative, leveraging cutting-edge 6G research facilities across Europe to explore the frontiers of sustainable technology. Through meticulously designed trials and pilots, 6G-VERSUS addresses pressing challenges in 5 environmentally conscious vertical industries. In this regard, 6G-VERSUS introduces a novel methodology, transforming existing use cases into 6G applications, comprising Vertical App (V-App), Network App (N-App), and AI-assisted App (AI-App). This triadic structure optimizes the data and control planes of 6G systems, facilitating seamless information flow and decision-making processes.

With the support of six (Stream C) 6G platforms spanning across Europe, 6G-VERSUS aims to demonstrate the profound sustainable, economic and societal impact of 6G technology, propelling towards a more sustainable and prosperous society.

Expected duration of project execution: 36 months, started January 1st, 2025.

b. Scientific field:

Social Sciences and Humanities

c. Work plan, tasks:
The selected candidate is expected to contribute primarily to WP6 - Impact Assessment (led by CES), and provide additional support to WP7 – Dissemination, Standardisation and Exploitation within the 6G-VERSUS project.
More specifically, s/he will contribute to:
- Design and implement methodologies for assessing the environmental, socio-cultural, societal, and economic impacts of 6G trials;
- Support the definition, refinement and monitoring of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Key Value Indicators (KVIs) related to sustainability across the project use cases;
- Assist in data collection, processing, and qualitative and/or quantitative analysis;
- Support the preparation of deliverables (e.g., impact assessment reports, innovation plans, techno-economic analysis);
- Collaborate in dissemination, communication, capacity-building, and standardisation activities under WP7;
- Provide research and organisational support to CES team members in the overall implementation of WP6 and WP7 tasks.

d. Applicable Legislation and Regulations:
Labour Code Law No. 7/2009, of February 12th (and subsequent amendments).

e. Work place:
The workplace is the Centre for Social Studies' facilities in Coimbra or in other locations when necessary for the good implementation of the work plan, under the scientific supervision of the Project's Principal Investigator.

f. Duration of the contract:
The employment contract for the Research Assistant will be a temporary position (termo incerto) abiding by article 140 of the Labour Code, foreseen to start in November 2025, and will last for the time necessary to meet the temporary needs that justify it, on the 6G-VERSUS project and limited to the available budget. The work to be carried out will be framed within a plan of activities required during the execution of the 6G-VERSUS project, with an annual evaluation of performance by the project coordinator and the CES, on which the continuation of the contract will depend.

g. Application dates:
Opens on: 19 September 2025
Closes on: 8 October 2025 (23h59m, Lisbon time zone)

h. Application process:

Applications must include:
a) A letter of intent/motivation in English with the contest reference (CES/24/2025-RA-6G), e-mail and phone number (max. 2 pages);
b) detailed Curriculum Vitae that should start with a short narrative CV highlighting relevant aspects directly linked to the scope of this call;
c) copies of degree certificates; (note: candidates must meet the eligibility conditions and conditions indicated in point k.)
d) One academic paper of the applicant's authorship, in English (preferably) or in Portuguese (an article in a scientific journal or in conference proceedings, a chapter of a book, or a Bachelor or Master's thesis; note: in case of a co-authored text, the applicant's contribution should be indicated);
e) other relevant documents for eligibility purposes.

Applications should be sent by email to concursos@ces.uc.pt by the final deadline. The subject line of the application email must indicate the reference for this call (ref. CES/24/2025-RA-6G) and the applicant's name.

SKILLS/QUALIFICATIONS

i. Preferred selection criteria and their weighing:
1. Previous experience in qualitative and/or quantitative research methods applied in social sciences (e.g. content analysis, surveys, impact assessment, grounded theory) (40%);
2. Previous experience in supporting international or EU-funded research projects (e.g. the preparation of technical reports, deliverables, and organisation of research outputs), preferably in the fields of social sciences and humanities (25%);
3. Demonstrated knowledge or interest in sustainability, socio-economic impact of digital technologies, and innovation (20%);
4. Fluency in English and Portuguese (10%);
5. Availability for national and international travel (5%).

The jury reserves the right to not select applicants for the vacancy, if the applicants do not have the adequate quality and profile in terms of absolute merit.

BENEFITS

j. Monthly Allowance

The monthly salary is set in accordance with standards applicable at CES, being the gross monthly salary 1.834,92 euros. The salary further includes a 13th and 14th months, and meal allowance, and all social security charges, in accordance with the Portuguese Labour Code.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

k. Mandatory requirements

1. Hold a master's degree in the area of Social Sciences, Humanities, Communication Sciences, Economics, Management, Environmental Studies, Political Science, or other related fields. Applicants need to have a master's degree by the deadline of this call (see associated conditions in b and c).

b. Applicants with an academic degree or diploma issued by a foreign institution must provide proof of recognition of the academic degree in Portugal, under Decree-Law no. 57/2016, of August 29th, altered by Law no. 57/2017 of July 19th. Any applicant without recognition of the degree (s) may be admitted to the competition, but during the application evaluation process, the jury may not:
a) recognise the applicant's degrees and evaluate according to their possession of such degrees;
b) give equivalence, or consider valid, a degree that is not recognised and registered;
c) use that note or its conversion as an evaluation parameter.

c. In case of selection, the contract can only be signed after the recognition of the academic degree by the Portuguese authorities, under the terms of the Law-decree n66/2018, August 16. The selected candidate must deliver the recognition of the degree within 30 days after the communication of the results. After the 30 days, the jury may decide to 1. either extend the deadline for the candidate to prove the recognition; 2. assign the fellowship to the second place; 3. or not award the contract.

SELECTION PROCESS

l. Selection process

The selection of the candidate will be made based on the curricular evaluation and, if the jury decides to be necessary, the best-positioned applicants can be short-listed for an interview. The interviews can be carried out in person or remotely. The interview is meant to clarify aspects related to the curriculum and previous experience, the candidate's ability to integrate into the project, motivation and interest will be evaluated. When applying the two methods of selection, curricular evaluation and interview, each will have a valuation of 50% in the final classification.

The jury reserves the right to not select applicants for the vacancy, if the applicants do not have the adequate quality and profile in terms of absolute merit.

m. Selection panel:
- Rita Campos (President)
- Neide P. Areia (permanent member)
- Isabel Ferreira (permanent member)
- Gustavo Garcia (substitute member)
- Gonçalo Canto Moniz (substitute member)

n. Communication of Results:
All candidates will receive the results by email. The meeting minutes of the selection panel will become available publicly. After the communication of results, applicants have 10 working days to present a redress to the evaluation and the result by email.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Equality of opportunities:
Equality of opportunities: CES abides by the national law that regulates the prevention, prohibition and fighting against discrimination on the grounds of racial and ethnic identity, colour, nationality, family background, territory of origin, and disability. (Law nº 93/2017, 23 August; Law nº 4/2019, 10 January).

Data protection:
By submitting your application, you are agreeing with the use of your personal data by CES administrative services for the sole purpose of the current call, namely to be contacted directly by

CES services and allow the communication of results as in point n. of this call. CES abides by the principles of GDPR.

Contact:
Centro de Estudos Sociais
Colégio S. Jerónimo, Apartado 3087
3000-995 Coimbra, Portugal
concursos@ces.uc.pt

Website for additional job details

https://www.ces.uc.pt/pt/agenda-noticias/emprego-bolsas-estagios