

# FLAD SCIENCE AWARD ATLANTIC

## 2020 – 2023 CALLS

FLAD is launching the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the FLAD Science Award – Atlantic for scientists working in Portugal developing collaborative research with entities in the USA.

### 1. OBJECTIVE

The Atlantic research encompasses complex and multidisciplinary research towards the better understanding of the interactions between oceans, atmosphere and space, under climate change. This research should promote new domains and sustainable activities across and within the Atlantic basin.

The objective of the FLAD Science Award is to increase the awareness on the Atlantic research fields, by providing support to high-quality young researchers intending to develop their research plans in Portugal in close interaction with leading USA groups.

Recognizing the different dimensions of the intended research, different calls for applications will be launched in specific topics of large but coherent domains, namely: technology/engineering; environment and natural sciences; humanities and social sciences.

More information on each call can be found attached to this document.

### 2. SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

A scientific committee is defined in order to provide FLAD with independent scientific coordination and advice. Its core composition involves the following experts:

- Miguel Miranda (President of IPMA, Professor at Faculdade de Ciências/UL)
- Pedro Camanho (President of LAETA, Professor at Faculdade de Engenharia/UP).

Depending on the specific domain of each call a review committee for the application will be defined integrating the scientific committee and three other different members with recognized expertise in the domain. At least one of the members of the review committee will be a researcher from the USA.

### 3. APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY/INDEPENDENCE

At the time of application:

- The applicant must hold a PhD for no longer than 5 years
- The applicant must be an integrated member or collaborator of an R&D Unit recognized by FCT (Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology) in one of the fields of this call
- The applicant must provide evidence of having conducted independent research of high quality. Additional information regarding the scientific quality of the Portuguese hosting institution must also be provided

- The applicant's hosting R&D Unit must declare its support of the applicant and of the research plan and must describe the available resources that will be made available to develop the intended work
- Detailed information is also required on the interaction with USA researchers/institutions
- Eligibility is not restricted by citizenship
- Applicants can only submit one application per call.

#### 4. APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCESS

FLAD Science Award applications are reviewed by the review committee. The application/review process takes place in two steps. The first step corresponds to the review of the scientific/professional curriculum of the applicant, together with the evaluation of the main ideas presented in the research proposal. The top ranked applicants in the first evaluation step are then invited to submit the proposal regarding their research plan for the following 3 years.

In both steps each application is assigned to (at least) two reviewers, who will prepare an evaluation of the application, addressing the following selection criteria:

- **Relevance:** it is the applicant's responsibility to explain the relevance of the research proposal for positive contributions for the Atlantic context in economical, societal and/or environment terms
- **Scientific Merit:** this includes the contribution for overcoming scientific gaps, the quality of the underlying scientific hypothesis, the experimental design, and the likelihood of the proposed research to produce significant new results to enhance the sustainability of Atlantic exploration
- **Researcher Excellence and Independence:** this includes the researcher qualifications as regards the academic background, research experience, capacity to perform independent research, other achievements and publication track-record
- **Research Environment:** this includes the availability of resources needed for the research program, quality and commitment of the supporting institution
- **Interaction with USA researcher(s) and institution(s):** this includes the profile of the USA researcher and of the institution, together with the relevance and commitment in the interaction.

Each criterion will be scored from 1 to 5 (with decimal increases). The final score will be the arithmetic mean of the scores from the five criteria.

The scientific committee may consider interviewing the top ranked candidates to further support the final decision.

#### 5. TERMS OF THE GRANTS

##### Duration

The grants are awarded for three years. FLAD retains the right to decide on renewal each year, upon receiving a satisfactory progress report and in accordance with the opinion of the review committee.

### **Amount**

The total amount for the award is € 300.000. The maximum total amount given per year is €100.000, of which €20.000 per year may be allocated to indirect costs, i.e. 20% of the total award. The first-year grant is made available upon execution of the Contract Agreement.

The following year grants are disbursed after a positive evaluation of the annual progress report.

All amounts are transferred to the Portuguese R&D Unit where the applicant researcher is integrated.

## **6. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

### **Progress Reports**

Recipient of FLAD Science Award is required to submit a progress report, outlining the project's accomplishments during the first 11 months of the grant, and be available for presentation and dissemination actions. The second and third year funding is contingent upon favorable evaluation of the previous year's progress report.

### **Final Scientific Report**

The final scientific report, a brief summary of progress toward the achievement of originally stated aims, is due 60 days after the end of the project.

### **Financial Reports**

Annual financial reports will be due two months after the end of each project year.

## **7. PUBLICATIONS**

Publications resulting from research activities supported by FLAD grants (or other public/private project presentations) must contain the following acknowledgement: *"Supported by (Insert project title of the grant and reference number) from the Fundação Luso-Americana para o Desenvolvimento"*.

## **8. PATENTS**

Grants are awarded with the understanding that FLAD will receive written notification from the applicant of the filing of any letters of patent for any discovery made based on work funded by FLAD.

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## CALL 2020 - TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING DRIVEN RESEARCH

### ANNEX

To better understand changes in the Atlantic and its ecosystems, and to support its sustainable exploitation, the importance of technology/engineering driven research is recognized, particularly as regards the creation and development of transversal tools and strategic engineering solutions for the current and expected challenges in the context of human activity in the Atlantic.

The CALL 2020 of the FLAD Science Award – Atlantic is dedicated to technology/engineering driven research.

Key topics that can be addressed are:

- Sustainable energy systems for islands and isolated areas
- New marine renewable energy
- Sustainable mobility and logistics in the context of growing digital transformation.
- Observation methods including low-cost satellite systems and advanced sensing devices, combined with data science and artificial intelligence
- Enabling technologies to foster Atlantic interactions, including intelligent underwater robotics and unmanned shipping
- Technologies for a healthy and clean ocean
- Technologies for a better adaptation to climate change and natural hazards in the Atlantic.

### HOW TO APPLY

#### Step 1

- Open from November 20 to December 20, 2020, 11:59 PM (Continental Portugal Time, UTC+00:00)
- Applications must be submitted to FLAD by online form available here <https://si.flad.pt>
- Documents to be uploaded:
  - Applicant Biographical Sketch (template provided).

**Results of Step 1 (candidates elected) announced by January 22, 2020.**

#### Step 2

- Open from January 22 to February 22, 2020, 11:59 PM (Continental Portugal Time, UTC+00:00)
- Applications must be submitted to FLAD by online form available here <https://si.flad.pt>
- Documents to be uploaded:
  - Applicant Biographical Sketch (template provided)
  - US Collaborator Biographical Sketch (template provided)

- US Collaborator declaration (acceptance and collaboration)
- Term of Responsibility (signed by the Responsible Portuguese Institution Official).

**Interviews of the top ranked candidates, if necessary.**

**Results are announced by 31 March 2020.**