

2015 Activities Report

CITAB

Compiled by CITAB Executive Committee

Edited by Samantha Jane Hughes & Lígia Pinto

- Sustainable Agro-food Chains SAC
- Ecointegrity El
- Biosystems Engineering BE



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1 Executive summary

The 2015 Activity Report Plan marks CITABs transition into the 2015-2020 Strategic Programme (SP). The SP is built upon previous strategic planning based on consolidation of research strategies with focus on key areas, internationalisation and improving critical mass. CITAB has undergone significant growth in scientific critical mass and integrated members over the preceding years, indicating scientific progress and growing vitality of the unit. The growing profile of CITAB continues to attract researchers from various national institutions that identify with CITABs strategy. To this end CITAB welcomed yet more members during 2015.

The 2015-2020 SP is founded on two thematic areas:

- Sustainability of Agri-food and Forestry Ecosystems in a changing environment;
- Technology & innovation in Agri-food and Forestry chains for a more competitive bio economy.

Each thematic area comprises a set of tasks specifically designed to meet CITAB's vision of innovative scientific and technological knowledge drawn up in accordance with stakeholder needs, with the aim of making Agri-food and Forestry chains more competitive and sustainable. The tasks have also been developed to maximise integrated research and productivity among the centre's 3 research lines of Sustainable Agro-food Chains, EcoIntegrity and Biosystems Engineering. As well as our mission to create opportunities for stakeholders through scientific and technological innovation in agri-food and forestry chains, SP research will also contribute to environmental sustainability.

Following a classification of VERY GOOD, finance for the centre was set at just 200.000, 00€ which is the equivalent to amount awarded for pluriannual funding. No extra budget was given for SP. This implies that extra funding must come from other sources- such as projects and contracts with companies.

The number of scholarships and skilled human resources are extremely relevant for the implementation of the SP. Since the number of scholarships is still under the set rate of one scholarship/integrated member, most of the pluriannual funding has been allocated to contracting Masters, PhD and Post-Doctoral fellows to better support the intensive workload of the tasks of each thematic strand.



2 Objectives and Achievements

2.1 Unit Description

CITAB core activities focus on interdisciplinary research on agro-food, forestry and the environment, with input from engineering technologies to enhance development of agro-food and forestry production chains in Portugal. Implemented in 2015, the Strategic Project (SP) presents a new phase in the life of CITAB, characterised by a more streamlined approach, focused into two thematic areas that contribute to resolving societal and private sector issues in agriculture and forestry production chains and their impact on the natural environment. The SP aims to balance scientific excellence with benefits and consequences across multiple dimensions that embrace environmental sciences and socioeconomic needs.

CITAB's activities are based upon on the contribution of integrated members (members with a PhD) and collaborators (members without PhD), selected and assessed using international benchmarking criteria. Most CITAB members are primarily lecturers; therefore the Unit offers an international doctoral programme and supports post-graduate courses offered by the host institution and others centres of learning. CITAB is managed using a bottom-up approach. The Directorate (1 Director and 2 Vice-Directors) is supported by the Executive Committee (ExCo; 6 members- 2 from each Working Group and headed by the ExCo president) to form a two-way link between CITAB members and the Directorate for policy and research development.

The ExCo is also responsible for compiling information and collaborating in the development of actions to promote CITAB's visibility on local, regional, national and international platforms. Both the Directorate and the ExCo meet approximately once a month. Research group members also hold regular meetings to evaluate group progress according to the Plan of Activities for the current year. The Scientific Council meets a minimum of 4 times a year, as stipulated by regulations. Given the considerable size of the Unit, a secretary is contracted to deal with all administrative duties, provide support to the Directorate and the ExCo. A dedicated press officer divulges the centre's activities at national and international level.



2.2 General Objectives

The SP aims to contribute to resolving societal and private sector (such as small and medium enterprises - SMEs) problems in agriculture and forestry production chains and their impact on the natural environment. The SP achieves this by balancing scientific excellence with benefits and consequences across multiple dimensions, embracing both environmental sciences and socioeconomic needs. The SP is multidisciplinary, addressing both benchmark science and the human dimension of contemporary issues.

The SP is built upon strong challenges, research priorities and objectives drawn up by consulting stakeholders, public institutions and private and public associations in the agriculture and forestry production sectors. The SP has also been developed in line with the objectives of the 2014-2020 National Programme for Rural Development (PDR), the Portugal 2020 national strategy for improving competitiveness and internationalization of economic activities and the international Horizon 2020 programme. By developing the SP in tandem with key national and international strategies, CITAB will reinforce its relevance in the development and implementation of national and international policies and obtain additional finance to support tasks that will contribute to meeting SP objectives.

The two SP research topics have been validated by CITAB's Stakeholder Committee, the Scientific Advisory Committee, and Scientific Council. The research topics take into account national and regional needs to boost capacity and fill gaps in science. The predicted outcomes are drawn up in accordance with the FCT finance requested for the Strategic Programme as well as other sources of finance.





The overall objective of this far reaching SP is to provide a model for developing sustainable yet competitive agri-food and forestry chains practises. The R&D initiatives from each strand aim to serve as pilot projects for agri-food and forestry chains and environmental issues. This will boost competitiveness, empower stakeholders and SMEs, sustain livelihoods, promote responsible stewardship and governance of the natural environment and the ecosystem services it supplies.

2.3 Scientific Objectives

Research priorities to meet SP objectives must be economically efficient, environmentally compatible and driven by sustainable socioeconomic paradigms. Thus, the SP focuses research efforts into two strongly multidisciplinary thematic strands (TS) that build on existing areas of expertise to meet specific goals within the broader objectives set out above (Table 1).

TS1 - Sustainability of Agrifood and Forestry Ecosystems in a Changing Environment - addresses how impacts affect agri-food and forestry chains systems as well as the biodiversity and ecosystem services to develop effective measures that contribute to sustainable strategy development, planning and decision making. TS1 brings together researchers in a multidisciplinary environment to develop tools and methodologies that assess how impacts from agriculture, forestry, climate change and land use change affect ecosystems and biodiversity by testing innovative monitoring techniques and developing spatially appropriate dynamic models to develop and implement regional adaptation & mitigation strategies and support decision making processes. The two tasks set out under TS1 are Task 1.1 Integrated monitoring of climate and environmental impacts: adaptation and mitigation strategies and Task 1.2. Conservation strategies and ecological modelling: recovering and improving sustainability in agri-food and forestry ecosystems and ecosystem services.

Results from these tasks, allow key stakeholders to develop optimal management strategies to guarantee sustainability and competitiveness in agri-food and forestry chain environments influenced by various types of impacts. Findings will be fundamental for governance and other decision making and planning processes in regional strategy. The SP will increase regional valorisation and competitiveness in agriculture and forestry production chains by reducing costs and risks and simultaneously contributing to improved ecosystem sustainability and provision of ecosystem services by reducing impacts.



Table 1. A summary of the thematic strands and tasks of the 2015 - 2020 Strategic Programme.

Thematic strands & Tasks description			
TS1 – Sustainability of Agri-food and Forestry Ecosystems in a changing environment			
	Development and implementation of new analytical techniques and integrated monitoring systems		
Task 1.1 Integrated monitoring of	Database compilation		
climate and environmental impacts: adaptation and mitigation strategies	Analysis, scaling, modelling tools testing indicators of environmental change		
	Physiological adaptations and mitigations strategies		
Task 1.2. Conservation strategies and	Ecological Modelling		
ecological modelling: recovering and mproving sustainability in agri-food	Ecosystem services		
and forestry ecosystems and ecosystem services	Conservation and recovery strategies		
TS2 – Technology & innovation in	Agri-food and Forestry chains for a more competitive bioeconomy		
Task 2.1 - Innovative technologies	Physiological and management tools		
and processes	New technological applications to agriculture and forestry		
	Waste research and treatment		
Task 2.2 - Bio-based products and waste research	Transformation and structural characterization of new products with bio-based value		
	Biological activities		
	Toxicity and pharmacokinetic evaluation and modulation		
Task 2.3 -Towards valorisation of agro-food co-products	Metabolomic approaches		
gro-rood co-products	Protocol Development: new procedures for clinical and toxicological evaluation and animal care		



TS2 - **Technology & innovation in Agri-food and Forestry chains for a more competitive bioeconomy** - is based on a sound knowledge of regional, national and international trends on agro-food industry stakeholder profiles and regional agri-food, forestry and socioeconomic characteristics TS2 implements a sequential model to strengthen sector competitiveness, using innovation to improve the range of products on offer. TS2 is based on a sequential model comprising three tasks, namely Task 2.1 - Innovative technologies and processes, Task 2.2 - Biobased products and waste research and Task 2.3 -Towards valorisation of agro-food co-products.

The TS2 sequential model focuses on R&D innovative technologies and processes to valorise products and optimise processes in the recycling, reuse & recovery of raw materials in agri-food and forestry chains. TS2 also provides positive feedback into TS1 by reducing impacts from these sectors on the natural environment and natural resources.

Based on these two tasks CITAB continues to (i) promote an ever higher research profile based on international benchmarking criteria, (ii) carry out ground-breaking national and international research and (iii) contribute to effective governance of natural resources.

2.4 Funding

Table 2. A summary of sources and amounts of CITAB funding in the period 2013-2015.

	2013	2014	2015	Subtotal
FCT Pluriannual	96.606,26€	110.051,00€	200.000,00€	406.657,26€
FCT Incentivo	12.019,00€	16.162,00€		28.181,00€
FCT Projects	1.218.184,53€	440.267,94€	86.151,27€	1.744.603,74€
Other (National)	1.658.526,76€	2.641.877,84€	937.924,18€	5.238.328,78€
Other (International)	285.078,25€	374.114,75€	322.049,13€	981.242,13€
Industry (National)	364.418,32€	145.915,58€	202.814,00€	713.147,89€
Industry (International)	0,00€	400,00€	0,00€	400,00€
Total	3.634.833,11€	3.728.789,12€	1.748.938,57€	9.112.560,79€



2.5 Main achievements

2.5.1 Thematic Strand 1 Main Achievements

In 2015, the main achievements of TS1 were related to the dataset production, climate variability and change assessment, the role of climate in agriculture, aquatic and forestry systems.

- During 2015 several datasets were collected, compiled, treated (error identification and correction) and exploratory analysis of climate, agro-forestry and environmental datasets were undertaken. Data records were also tested for their reliability and homogeneity.
- Research on climate variability, irregularity and extremes was further developed. Besides the compilation and treatment of new instrumental datasets from a wide range of sources (e.g. weather stations, climate models and remote sensing), additional information was retrieved from different proxies, documentary sources and early instrumental records. Tree rings were used as a biological archive to study past climate conditions in Portugal, particularly some native Portuguese species (Quercus robur, pyrenaica and suber L.). Several publications and scientific communications in the area of dendroclimatology and paleoclimatology were produced. 400-year reconstructed time series of air temperature and precipitation in Portugal were also produced and validated using different methodologies and datasets, from dendrochronology and geothermal flux measurements to regional palaeoclimatic simulations and historical records. Studies of past Portuguese climates were carried out using historical information and documentary sources, such as floods in Portuguese rivers over the last two centuries. CITAB researchers collaborated with other national and international institutions. The mechanisms underlying the occurrence of temperature extremes on the Iberian Peninsula, such as heat waves and cold spells, were also studied in close collaboration with a team from the ETH Zurich, an internationally leading institution in climate research which also lead to publications in peer-reviewed journals.
- Given the strong sensitivity of regionally-relevant crops (e.g. grapevines, olive, chestnut and berry trees) to atmospheric conditions, climate change can threaten their future sustainability. Crop models were applied either for short-term prediction of crop parameters (yields, quality and phenology) or for long-term assessment of climate change impacts. The STICS model was already calibrated and validated for Portuguese



grapevine varieties, under the typical Portuguese growth conditions. Several publications and communications were also produced in this line of research, including a review paper on this topic. The model outputs have been used as a predictive tool for grapevine production in Portugal, acting as a key decision support system for some CITAB's stakeholders, mainly some wineries in the Douro Valley. CITAB/UTAD researchers are also seeking for suitable short-term adaptation measures, as the first protection strategy against climate change.

- We managed to overcome the limitations of single-level approaches to assess the diversity of human stressors in the aquatic ecosystems (acting at different scales) by producing the integrative MELIS index. The MELIS index integrates biological indicators, with biochemical and histopathological biomarkers and functional indicators, representing the different levels of biological organization. MELIS includes distinct aquatic communities, namely fish and invertebrates, and it were established base line values at different pollution gradients, and identified potential variations due to climate and environmental impacts (physical and chemical habitats). Main achievements were based on the selection and further integration of disturbance indicators. A more intensive work was developed related to toxicity mechanisms (e.g. signalling pathways and gene networks implicated in toxic and adaptive responses) in aquatic animals, associated to emerging compounds where there is little or no information on toxic effects. Namely, effects on embryos development and alterations on sexual differentiation and reproductive fitness were assessed. The research produced important results concerning the quantification of ecological integrity in aquatic ecosystems based on the integration of indicators (molecular, biochemical, cellular, physiological, population and community level), including indicators of ecosystem function (decomposition), and producing a reliable system to be used in water assessment and sensitive to a wide range of impacts.
- Impacts of climate change and human pressure on aquatic biota of Beça River (northern Portugal) were assessed by a check on relevant water quality and river flow variables against predefined ecological requisites. The freshwater pearl mussel *Margaritifera margaritifera* was investigated. This endangered species is protected by EU regulations, but the approach applies to any aquatic species worldwide providing that the corresponding ecological requisites are stipulated. This species is threatened by projected reductions in precipitation and increasing human-related threats such as dam construction and wildfires Actions integrated other components of the aquatic system,



particularly the improvement and validation of environmental flows, control of exotic species (e.g. the bivalve *Corbicula fluminea*) and protection of endangered fish species, especially in situations of low connectivity (for the 1st time it was test the effect of flow management on the reproductive success of native fish species in regulated rivers.

- Different techniques were applied and tested in actions related to the restoration of the ecological functions of impacted systems and the rehabilitation of degraded environments, particularly under climate change scenarios, particularly in aquatic ecosystems under extreme hydrological events (droughts and floods), leading to soil loss and nutrient leaching. In this field the research test new soil engineering techniques designed for bank protection in order to decrease fluvial erosion and to allow habitat restoration (namely by applying bioengineering procedures), allowing the recovery of riparian galleries and the mitigation of fluvial erosion.
- Active fire information provided by TERRA and AQUA instruments on-board sunsynchronous polar MODIS platform was used to describe fire activity in the Western Mediterranean and to identify and characterize the synoptic patterns of several meteorological fields associated with the occurrence of extreme fire activity episodes (EEs). The spatial distribution of the fire pixels during the period of 2003 – 2012 leads to the identification of two most affected sub-regions, namely the Northern and Western parts of Iberian Peninsula (NWIP) and Northern Africa (NAFR). The temporal distribution of the fire pixels in these two sub-regions reveals: (i) high and non-concurrent inter- and intra-annual variability with maximum values during the summer of 2003 and 2005 in NWIP and 2007 and 2012 in NAFR; and, (ii) high intra-annual variability dominated by a prominent annual cycle with a main peak centred in August in both sub-regions and a less pronounced secondary peak in March only evident in NWIP region. The 34 EEs identified were grouped according to the location, period of occurrence and spatial configuration of the associated synoptic patterns into 3 clusters (NWIP-summer, NWIPwinter and NAFR-summer). Results from the composite analysis reveals similar fire weather conditions (statistical significant positive anomalies of air temperature and negative anomalies of air relative humidity) but associated to different circulation patterns at lower and mid-levels of the Atmosphere associated to the occurrence of EEs in each cluster of the Western Mediterranean region.



2.5.2 TS1 Future research

Future research aims to develop innovative techniques for monitoring agro-forestry and environmental systems to bring important added-value for several socioeconomic sectors covering a wide range of shareholders. Through multidisciplinary approaches, we aim to bring new perspectives together for better assessment of the likely impacts of a changing climate and environment on our target systems. This will enable the development of suitable, timely and cost-effective adaptation and mitigation measures. The main goals will be succinctly described in the following lines:

- The initiated dataset collection, compilation and treatment, as well as the exploratory analysis of climate, agro-forestry and environmental datasets will be continued and reinforced within this task. Furthermore, the reliability and homogeneity testing of data records will proceed.
- Due to the strong socioeconomic implications on agro-forestry and environmental systems, as well as on the corresponding socioeconomic sectors, the research on climate variability, irregularity and, namely, climate and weather extremes will continue to be an important focus area. Further studies on the physical mechanisms underlying the occurrence of precipitation extremes, droughts and floods will be carried out. The identification of weather types and regimes, and their connections to atmospheric conditions will also be pursued. A better understanding of these large-scale mechanisms is of foremost relevance to modelling and forecasting of extreme events. Climate change projections for Portugal will also be produced using new datasets, GHG emission scenarios and model experiments.
- Studies on viticulture, oliviculture and other economically relevant crops (chestnut-tree, almond-tree, cherry-tree and berries) will also proceed. These studies will include: the understanding of the responses of the crops to climate, climate change, environmental stresses, water and heat stresses and extreme weather events. The use of crop models for short-term and long-term prediction of climate change impacts will be continued, now applying model ensembles and new model-parameterization combinations. Furthermore, crop models will continue to be validated and tested to deal with main biotic and abiotic stresses. Regarding the chestnut sector, the research will also give emphasis to threats fight, such as the chestnut gall wasp (*Dryocosmus kuriphilus*), chestnut blight disease, and ink disease. The outcomes from these studies will deliver general guidelines to stakeholders.



- Development of indicator systems has seen an enormous increase in demand for integrative tools, over the last two decades, especially in systems with high connectivity such as lotic systems. Different items must be integrated to provide a "realistic" picture of the systems complexity under assessment since aquatic bio-assessment is a trade-off between the legislative requirements, best scientific knowledge and socio-political emphasis. We will further develop more Integrative techniques for indicator development in line with the Water Framework Directive and CIS-ECOSTAT proposals and suggestions. Building on the previous steps of MELIS index development, research will focus on the development of practical second generation bio-assessment tools to integrate ecotoxicology, biodiversity and ecosystem functioning and establish the relation of these indicators with the assessment of ecosystem stability, resilience and services provisioning and to bridge the systemic gap between ecological and chemical status. Therefore, we may reinforce the links between good ecological status, biodiversity and ecosystem services, and we may have great potential for examining the interaction between ecosystems and human well-being.
- Concerning effects of aquatic contaminants, including emerging compounds, it is intended to continue the performance of laboratory tests using model aquatic species to identify potential effect and/or exposure biomarkers. New identified biomarkers will be applied and tested on biomonitoring programs. This will also include tests at different water temperature, as biological responses to contaminants and their action can be temperature dependent.
- Application of Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRM). These measures aim to safeguard and enhance the water storage potential of landscape, soil, and aquifers, by restoring ecosystems, natural features and characteristics of water courses and using natural processes. They support Green Infrastructure by contributing to integrated goals dealing with nature and biodiversity conservation and restoration, landscaping, etc. They are adaptation measures that use nature to regulate the flow and transport of water so as to smooth peaks and moderate extreme events (floods, droughts, desertification and salinization). They are also better environmental option for flood risk management in Mediterranean streams subject to an intense variety of hydrological conditions. In fact, they reduce vulnerability of water resources to Climate Change and other anthropogenic pressures. They can also improve water quality. They are relevant both in rural and urban areas. In streams running in agricultural catchments we want to define buffer strips and shelter belts and to adopt soil conservation



practices (crop rotation, intercropping, conservation tillage...), together with correct afforestation and conversions for water quality improvements, appropriate design of river channels, etc.

• In Portugal, one of the trends that characterizes wildfires activity has been the appearance of events that reached extreme behaviours and grow to previously unheard sizes. Although these fires present a very low frequency of occurrence, they are an important challenge, mainly when they affect wildland urban interface. In this sense, the purpose is to identify and characterize the weather/climate and other drivers of large fires in Portugal to develop efficient prevention and preparedness strategies and measures to contain wildfire risk, to decrease impacts and damages and to enhance resilience to extreme fire events. Another objective of the fire research for 2016 is to increase the knowledge about the role of human and biophysical drivers on the fire incidence in Portugal.

2.5.3 TS2 Main Achievements

Main achievements during 2015 focused on TS2 primary objectives to develop novel and innovative technologies in order to valorise the endogenous products and optimise processes in the recycling and recovery of raw materials from agri-food and forestry chains. We also worked to reduce the negative impacts from these materials on the natural environment and natural resources.

- New vivarium spaces were inaugurated in the new laboratory building and animals were moved into new spaces for experiments. Rooms were prepared and organized prior to inauguration. Biosafety rules and basic standard operative procedures were developed over 2015 for implementation in the facility. The facility licensing process was resumed, since a provisional license was issued by DGAV in December 2015.
- Grape stems that were characterized in Task 2.2 were tested in the development of new grape stems-based liqueurs, with valuable sensory properties and phytochemical composition. The nutritional and functional composition of fresh cowpea pods was evaluated to obtain information on new potential applications of this underexploited material. New compounds were derived from phenolics in citrus peels with interesting technological applications as antioxidants and edulcorants.



- Contacts were initiated with colleagues from other institutions via meetings and presentations at seminars (CITAB-UMinho, CNC.IBILI, UBI and CEDOC). Project proposals were submitted under the North 2020 and PAC programs.
- Curcumin used in photodynamic therapy increases production of reactive oxygen species and DNA damage and decreases DNA damage repair, leading to increased loss of viability of Candida albicans.
- Assessment of bioactivities of propolis mixtures from different origins showed synergistic effects.
- Since new resources of phytochemicals with biological activity are being claimed to substitute used drugs and synthetic protective compounds, during the reporting period it was assessed the composition in nutrientes (crude protein, total fats, ash, amino acids, and minerals) and non-nutrients (total phenolics, ortho-diphenols, flavonoids, and tannins) of the following vegetal matrices: (1) By-products: Grape stems, olives' pomace, citrus' peel, almond hull, and almond peel; (2) Edible fruits and vegetables: Blueberry, almonds, chesnut, chickpea, cowpea, wheat, apples, olives, cowpea pods, bean flours, and olive oil.
- Apart from the evaluation of the basic chemical composition and phytochemical content of the above referred plant materials, the hydroalcoholic extracts obtained, were evaluated on their biological activity mainly regarding antioxidant power.
- These determinations allowed to establish the possible correlation between composition and bioactivity, resorting to chemometric models (multivariate analysis).
- Furthermore, infrared spectra have been registered for these matrices in order to produce predictive models, resorting to multivariate statistical methods, allowing the evaluation of these matrices solely by the acquisition of its infrared spectrum. This new approach constitutes a complementary tool to classical methods for the assessment of the nutritional and non-nutritional contents of the assessed matrices, which also allows the evaluation of the correlation between distinct species or clones.
- Characterization of the role of dietary phytochemicals on the regulation of blood lipoproteins and cholesterol metabolism and on the promotion of healthy ageing through induction of oxidative stress defense mechanisms.
- Impact of legumes of the Mediterranean diet on the prevention of colorectal cancer. Role of phytochemicals on improvement of DNA repair capacity.



• Use of paper industry by-products as source of pharmacologically active compounds.

2.5.4 TS2 Future research

- We will continue to establish more collaborations with other research groups, internally and externally to UTAD, in order to establish multi-disciplinary and more competitive teams for future funding application. We will carry out the first animal studies with extracts obtained by the phytochemicals group. Bio security and basic standard operative procedures will be concluded for the animal facility activities, the DGAV licensing process with DGAV will be finalised and external projects will commence. Service and consultancy will continue to support long term economic feasibility.
- The phytochemicals group will continue to evaluate the impact of diverse freezing times, at different temperatures, on the nutritional and phytochemical composition of cowpea pods in order to establish the optimal combination for the development of ready-to-eat products and the extension of the previously developed work regarding the production of a grape stems-based liqueurs for stems of distinct native and non-native varieties.
- The integration of different spatiotemporal modelling concepts to improve ecosystem management, bioconversion of lignocellulose for application in industry, understanding the principal factors affecting the emergence of large fires and improving prescribed fire techniques in ecosystem management, improve the application of management techniques in endemic forests, application of statistical techniques to model life cycles of endangered species and colour change as a recent application and testing emerging techniques such as ecological infrastructures for enhancing the water storage potential and water quality of watersheds.
- The future integration of the Agent Based Models (ABM) principles in our proposed modelling frameworks will result in promising future outcomes, allowing a better understating of ecosystems functioning, which will make the methodology more instructive and credible to decision-makers and environmental managers. In fact, the combination of whole-system processes such as resilience, resistance, persistence, regulation, density dependence, and individual properties are crucial to capture multifactor influences under relevant scenarios, which can be widely applicable to support biodiversity conservation measures.



- The team is still interested in developing bioconversion of lignocellulose in products of added value. Another subjects are related with to develop the integrated models based on Michaelis–Menten equation in the presence of presence of two inhibitors when one of them is a reaction product and also develop models that can discriminate sequential models (random and ordered).
- Human and natural systems are still severely affected by frequent and destructive natural hazards (wildfires, floods, etc.) causing high environmental, human and socio-economic costs every year. Therefore, further research in environmental sciences using new and adapted methodologies is of high scientific value and, on this respect, the main objective for 2016 is to develop, test and use different methods for the space-time mapping, analysis and modelling of environmental data with focus on natural hazards.
- Wildland fires are an integral component of many ecosystems. The environmental and societal impacts of the fires depend on several fire behaviour attributes which, in turn, are determined by the fire environment. On this respect, the objective is to identify and characterize the drivers of burn severity variation in large fires as well as to understand and model the fire behaviour and systematize its prediction on a global scale, towards more sustainable prescribed burning practices in Europe.
- Provide statistical models that could be useful for research in microbiology and microorganism studies. Namely to study F. *Huffmanela sp.* (Nematoda: Trichosomoididae) from *Microchirus azevia* captured off Portuguese coast. Concerning ecological studies it is intended to provide more accurate Mark Release Capture models for insects population: and disseminate results of adult demography, spatial distribution and movements of *Phengarisalcon* (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) populations in Portugal.
- Continuing to develop scientific research centered within the timber construction area, specifically analyzing and modeling floor structures. This means, not only to center the research in the same area as the doctoral thesis, but also to cover other related areas as is the structural rehabilitation and the use of bio-based products to obtain new structural solutions, among others.
- Analysis of the antigenotoxic properties of Ginkgo biloba and Dittrichia viscosa extracts and investigation of the mechanisms of protection. Investigation of a natural biodegradable antifungal plant extract to be used in biological farming.



- Development of propolis-based products for different applications.
- Isolation of individual bioactive phytochemicals present in the presently assessed matrices (edible and by-products).
- Evaluation of the isolated compounds on their biological activity in vitro, through cellular models.
- Extension of the present set of matrices under study to new interesting products and species, as well as newly identified agro-industrial by-products.
- Characterization of vegetable foods and medicinal and aromatic plant phytochemical composition and biological properties aiming at innovative nutritional and pharmacological applications for the management of age related diseases (such as Diabetes type 2, Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease, Colorectal Cancer as well as Cardiovascular and Neurodegenerative diseases).

2.6 Outreach activities

CITAB researchers organised and took part in almost 50 outreach activities over the year. Activities were highly varied, ranging from talks or Skype conferences given at schools, talks and communications at trade or public fairs and festivals, visits to schools and training of volunteers. Talks or events, such as IrriGOlive and INNOFood seminars, were organised with stakeholder needs in mind. The 10th Iberian and 7th Iberoamerican Conference on Environmental Contamination and Toxicology with the theme Environmental Sustainability: insights to the future was partly organised by CITAB and held at UTAD between the 14th and 17th of July 2015. A summary of outreach activities, listed in chronological order, is given below:

- 1. CIENCIA P'RA QUE TE QUERO Pole CITAB-UMINHO For children 6 to 10 years | 21 February to 20 June (last Saturday of every month)
- 2. LAB DAY Pole CITAB-UMINHO for high School students | 16 February
- Tertulia FNACiência "E o Douro aqui tão perto Investigação e ciência em viticultura"
 19 February
- 4. Seminar "A Floresta e a Atualidade. Ameaças Bióticas ao Setor Florestal" | 12 13 March
- 5. Exhibition "Bichos Nús, Um Outro Olhar" | 10 March 31 July
- 6. Exhibition Photo Vitis 13 March 10 April
- 7. International Tree day | UTAD | CM VILA REAL | RI 13 | 350 primary school children CITAB|19 March
- 8. Presentation of the Ciencia Viva Centre | Agrupamento de Escolas de Amarante | 19 March
- 9. Seminar "Sustentabilidade da Viticultura de Encosta: algumas ferramentas para a sua gestão"- ADVID | 20 e 26 March
- 10. Skype conference with students from Escola de Santa Maria Feira, about the theme "Desflorestação e Alterações Climáticas" | 25 March



- 11. Seminar CM Vila Real "Hora do Planeta" João Santos 28 March
- 12. "Café Ciência" in the Portuguese Parliament | 09 April
- National Festival on Biotechnology Pavilhão do Conhecimento Ciência Viva |10 11
 April
- 14. Training "Monitorização da Qualidade Ecológica dos Cursos de Água" | 11 12 April
- 15. Skype conference with students from Escola Secundária de Resende, about the theme "Desflorestação e alterações climáticas" ClimaEduMedia | 13 April
- 16. Conference on Obesity (by José Maria Tallon) | 23 April
- 17. Open conference, by Núria Pascual Seva, from València Polytechnic University | 28 April
- 18. Skype conferences with students, about the theme "Agriculture, viticulture and climate change" ClimaEduMedia | 16, 22 April 20 May
- 19. Open conference with Joanna Chudzian, Faculty of Economy and Science University of Warsaw | 13 May
- 20. AgroBioPlant "Da uva ao vinho: da fisiologia, à bioquímica e biotecnologia" Festa Ciência UMinho | 14 May
- 21. Skype conference: climate change, fire and forests in the Gerês National Park ClimaEduMedia | 27 May
- 22. Ciência Acontece! "Alimentos, Nutrientes & Calorias". | 29 May
- 23. Conference "IrriGOlive" for olive oil producers | 5 June
- 24. Seminar "Novos desafios da cereja" Festa da cereja de Alfandega da Fé | 07 June
- 25. Workshop: final evaluation of the Innofood project | 22 June
- 26. Pole CITAB UMinho Pediu Ciência | 09 July
- 27. The 10^{th} Iberian and 7^{th} Iberoamerican Conference on Environmental Contamination and Toxicology $|14^{th} 17^{th}$ July
- 28. XIV Trade Fair Aguiar da Beira | 23-26 July
- 29. XXIII MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN CONFEDERATION OF MEDITERRANEAN MYCOLOGY-CEMM | 8-13 November 2015
- 30. CIENCIA P'RA QUE TE QUERO Pole CITAB-UMINHO Microbios Amigos ou Inimigos Eis a questão | 17 October
- 31. Seminar "Impacto das alterações climáticas na vinha e no vinho" | 23 October
- 32. "Uma Tarde com o Freixo" | 31 October
- 33. CIENCIA P'RA QUE TE QUERO Pole CITAB UMINHO Micróbios: De Fugir a Sete Pés! | 21 November
- 34. Science and Technology Week Ana Sofia Faria Escola Barcelos | 23 November
- 35. Science and Technology Week Ana Barros Gastronomia Molecular (Colegio São José)
- 36. Science and Technology Week Ana Sofia Santos cavalos são nossos amigos | 23 27 November
- 37. Science and Technology Week Ana Lúcia Pinto Sintra "Cisgénese versus transgénese: soluções para problemas velhos da viticultura" | 25 November
- 38. Science and Technology Week Isaura Castro "Videiras vivas Perspetiva da Genética Molecular e Biotecnologia" | 25 November



- 39. Science and Technology Week Marchia das Neves Paiva Cardoso "És amante da natureza e das atividades ao ar livre? Vem conhecer alguns perigos inimagináveis: As espiroquetas" | 25 November
- 40. "Guia de Azeites 2015" | 09 December
- 41. ClimaEduMedia: Report and Interviews | Clima Edu Media | Prof. Henrique Trindade, Domingos Lopes, João Santos | 11 December.

3 Productivity metrics

3.1 – Publications in peer reviewed journals

A total of 157 JCR articles were published within the thematic strands of **Sustainability of Agri**food and Forestry Ecosystems in a changing environment and **Technology & innovation in Agri**food and Forestry chains for a more competitive bioeconomy in 2015

- 1. Albuquerque, C. Morinha, F., Magalhães, J., Requicha, J., Dias, I., Guedes-Pingo, H., Bastos, E., Viegas, C. 2015. Variants in the interleukin-1 alpha and beta genes, and the risk for periodontal disease in dogs. Journal of Genetics 94: 651-659. 10.1007/s12041-015-0576-z.
- 2. Alves-Pimenta, S., Ginja, M.M., Colaço, J., Fernandes, A.M., Melo-Pinto, P., Colaço, B., 2015. Curvature Radius Measurements from the Ulnar Trochlear Notch in Large Dogs. The Anatomical Record 298: 1748-1753. 10.1002/ar.23194.
- **3.** Amraoui, M., Pereira, M.G., DaCamara, C.C., Calado, T.J., 2015. Atmospheric conditions associated with extreme fire activity in the Western Mediterranean region. Science of the Total Environment 524: 32-39. 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2015.04.032.
- **4.** Anderson, W.R., Cruz, M.G., Fernandes, P.M., McCaw, L., Vega, J.A., Bradstock, R.A., Fogarty, L., Gould, J., McCarthy, G., Marsden-Smedley, J.B., Matthews, S., Mattingley, G., Pearce, H.G., van Wilgen, B.W., 2015. A generic, empirical-based model for predicting rate of fire spread in shrublands. International Journal of Wildland Fire 24: 443-460. 10.1071/wf14130.
- **5.** Andrade, C., Belo-Pereira, M., 2015. Assessment of droughts in the Iberian Peninsula using the WASP-Index. Atmospheric Science Letters 16: 208-218. 10.1002/asl2.542.
- 6. Andreani, T., Fangueiro, J.F., Jose, S., Santini, A., Silva, A.M., Souto, E.B., 2015. Hydrophilic Polymers for Modified-Release Nanoparticles: A Review of Mathematical Modelling for Pharmacokinetic Analysis. Current Pharmaceutical Design 21: 3090-3096, WOS:000357937500005.
- Andreani, T., Kiill, C.P., de Souza, A.L.R., Fangueiro, J.F., Doktorovova, S., Garcia, M.L., Gramiao, M.P.D., Silva, A.M., Souto, E.B., 2015. Effect of cryoprotectants on the reconstitution of silica nanoparticles produced by sol-gel technology. Journal of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry 120: 1001-1007. 10.1007/s10973-014-4275-4.
- **8.** Andreani, T., Miziara, L., Lorenzon, E.N., de Souza, A.L.R., Kiill, C.P., Fangueiro, J.F., Garcia, M.L., Gremiao, P.D., Silva, A.M., Souto, E.B., 2015. Effect of mucoadhesive polymers on the in vitro performance of insulin-loaded silica nanoparticles: Interactions



- with mucin and biomembrane models. European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics 93: 118-126. 10.1016/j.ejpb.2015.03.027.
- **9.** Andreani, T., Silva, A.M., Souto, E.B., 2015. Silica-based matrices: State of the art and new perspectives for therapeutic drug delivery. Biotechnology and Applied Biochemistry 62: 754-764. 10.1002/bab.1322.
- 10. Angelo Rodrigues, M., Dimande, P., Pereira, E.L., Ferreira, I.Q., Freitas, S., Correia, C.M., Moutinho-Pereira, J., Arrobas, M., 2015. Early-maturing annual legumes: an option for cover cropping in rainfed olive orchards. Nutrient Cycling in Agroecosystems 103: 153-166. 10.1007/s10705-015-9730-5.
- **11.** Aragão, F.R., Moreira, M.H., Gabriel, R.E., Abrantes, C.G., 2015. Should menopausal characteristics be considered during cardiorespiratory exercise prescription in postmenopausal women? Climacteric 18: 278-283. 10.3109/13697137.2014.938042.
- **12.** Ayadi, I., Monteiro, S.M., Regaya, I., Coimbra, A., Fernandes, F., Oliveira, M.M., Peixoto, F., Mnif, W., 2015. Biochemical and histological changes in the liver and gills of Nile tilapia *Oreochromis niloticus* exposed to Red 195 dye. RSC Advances 5: 87168-87178. 10.1039/C5RA13127H.
- **13.** Azevedo, M.-M., Pinheiro, C., Dias, A.C.P., Pinto-Ribeiro, F., Baltazar, F., 2015. Impact of an Educational Hands-on Project on the Antimicrobial, Antitumor and Anti-Inflammatory Properties of Plants on Portuguese Students' Awareness, Knowledge, and Competences. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health 12: 2437-2453. 10.3390/ijerph120302437.
- **14.** Bacchetta, L., Rovira, M., Tronci, C., Aramini, M., Drogoudi, P., Silva, A.P., Solar, A., Avanzato, D., Botta, R., Valentini, N., Boccacci, P., 2015. A multidisciplinary approach to enhance the conservation and use of hazelnut Corylus avellana L. genetic resources (vol 62, pg 649, 2015). Genetic Resources and Crop Evolution 62: 807-808. 10.1007/s10722-015-0258-y.
- **15.** Barros, A., Gironés-Vilaplana, A., Texeira, A., Baenas, N., Domínguez-Perles, R., 2015. Grape stems as a source of bioactive compounds: application towards added-value commodities and significance for human health. Phytochemistry Reviews 14: 921-931. 10.1007/s11101-015-9421-5.
- **16.** Barros, P. Vale-Gonçalves H. M., Paupério J., Cabral J. A. & Rosa G., 2015. Confirmation of European snow vole Chionomys nivalis (Mammalia: Rodentia: Cricetidae) occurrence in Portugal. Italian Journal of Zoology (2015) 1-7.
- **17.** Botequim, B., Zubizarreta-Gerendiain, A., Garcia-Gonzalo, J., Silva, A., Marques, S., Fernandes, P.M., Pereira, J.M., Tomé, M., 2015. A model of shrub biomass accumulation as a tool to support management of Portuguese forests. iForest Biogeosciences and Forestry 8: 114-125. 10.3832/ifor0931-008.
- **18.** Carmello, J.C., Pavarina, A.C., Oliveira, R., Johansson, B., 2015. Genotoxic effect of photodynamic therapy mediated by curcumin on *Candida albicans*. FEMS Yeast Res 15 (4) fov018. 15.10.1093/femsyr/fov018.
- 19. Carneiro, M., Colaço, B., Brandão, R., Azorín, B., Nicolas, O., Colaço, J., Pires, M.J., Agustí, S., Casas-Díaz, E., Lavin, S., Oliveira, P.A., 2015. Assessment of the exposure to heavy metals in Griffon vultures (Gyps fulvus) from the Iberian Peninsula. Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety 113: 295-301. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ecoenv.2014.12.016.



- **20.** Carvalho, A., Graça, C., Carocha, V., Pêra, S., Lousada, J.L., Lima-Brito, J., Paiva, J.A.P., 2015. An improved total RNA isolation from secondary tissues of woody species for coding and non-coding gene expression analyses. Wood Science and Technology 49: 647-658. 10.1007/s00226-015-0709-9.
- **21.** Carvalho, A.C., Gomes, A.C., Pereira-Wilson, C., Lima, C.F., 2015. Redox-dependent induction of antioxidant defenses by phenolic diterpenes confers stress tolerance in normal human skin fibroblasts: Insights on replicative senescence. Free Radical Biology and Medicine 83: 262-272. 10.1016/j.freeradbiomed.2015.02.022.
- 22. Carvalho, M.I., Pires, I., Dias, M., Prada, J., Gregorio, H., Lobo, L., Queiroga, F., 2015. Intratumoral CD3+T-Lymphocytes Immunoexpression and Its Association with c-Kit, Angiogenesis, and Overall Survival in Malignant Canine Mammary Tumors. Analytical Cellular Pathology ID 920409, 8. 10.1155/2015/920409.
- 23. Carvalho, M.I., Pires, I., Prada, J., Ferreira, A.F., Queiroga, F.L., 2015. Positive Interplay Between CD3(+) T-lymphocytes and Concurrent COX-2/EGFR Expression in Canine Malignant Mammary Tumors. Anticancer Research 35: 2915-2920, WOS:000354267200056.
- 24. Coimbra, A.M., Peixoto, M.J., Coelho, I., Lacerda, R., Carvalho, A.P., Gesto, M., Lyssimachou, A., Lima, D., Soares, J., Andre, A., Capitao, A., Castro, L.F., Santos, M.M., 2015. Chronic effects of clofibric acid in zebrafish (*Danio rerio*): a multigenerational study. Aquat Toxicol 160: 76-86. 10.1016/j.aquatox.2015.01.013.
- **25.** Conde, A., Regalado, A., Rodrigues, D., Costa, J.M., Blumwald, E., Chaves, M.M., Geros, H., 2015. Polyols in grape berry: transport and metabolic adjustments as a physiological strategy for water-deficit stress tolerance in grapevine. J Exp Bot 66: 889-906. 10.1093/jxb/eru446.
- 26. Costa, C., Pereira, S., Lima, L., Peixoto, A., Fernandes, E., Neves, D., Neves, M., Gaiteiro, C., Tavares, A., Gil da Costa, R.M., Cruz, R., Amaro, T., Oliveira, P.A., Ferreira, J.A., Santos, L.L., 2015. Abnormal Protein Glycosylation and Activated PI3K/Akt/mTOR Pathway: Role in Bladder Cancer Prognosis and Targeted Therapeutics. Plos One 10(11), e0141253. 10.10.1371/journal.pone.0141253.
- **27.** Costa, R., Fraga, H., Malheiro, A.C., Santos, J.A., 2015. Application of crop modelling to portuguese viticulture: implementation and added-values for strategic planning. Ciência e Técnica Vitivinícola 30: 29-42. 10.1051/ctv/20153001029.
- **28.** Dávila, J., Morinha, F., Blanco, G., 2015. Eleven new polymorphic microsatellite markers for the Red-billed chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*). Conservation Genetics Resources 7: 81-83. 10.1007/s12686-014-0293-6.
- **29.** de Morais, A.B., Pereira, A.B., de Moura, M.F.S.F., Silva, F.G.A., Dourado, N., 2015. Bilinear approximations to the mixed-mode I–II delamination cohesive law using an inverse method. Composite Structures 122: 361-366. 10.1016/j.compstruct.2014.11.058.
- **30.** de Moura, M.F.S.F., Fernandes, R., Silva, F.G.A., Dourado, N., 2015. Mode II fracture characterization of a hybrid cork/carbon-epoxy laminate. Composites Part B-Engineering 76: 44-51. 10.1016/j.compositesb.2015.02.010.
- **31.** de Sousa, A.L., Calcadas Dias Gabriel, R.E., Faria, A.M., Aragao, F.R., Rodrigues Moreira, M.H., 2015. Behaviour of temporal parameters of the ground reactive forces for the



- walking of postmenopausal women. Acta of Bioengineering and Biomechanics 17: 119-127. 10.5277/abb-00122-2014-03.
- **32.** de Sousa-Pereira, P., Cova, M., Abrantes, J., Ferreira, R., Trindade, F., Barros, A., Gomes, P., Colaco, B., Amado, F., Esteves, P.J., Vitorino, R., 2015. Cross-species comparison of mammalian saliva using an LC-MALDI based proteomic approach. Proteomics 15: 1598-1607. 10.1002/pmic.201400083.
- **33.** Dias, C., Dominguez-Perles, R., Aires, A., Teixeira, A., Rosa, E., Barros, A., Saavedra, M.J., 2015. Phytochemistry and activity against digestive pathogens of grape (*Vitis vinifera* L.) stem's (poly)phenolic extracts. Lwt-Food Science and Technology 61: 25-32. 10.1016/j.lwt.2014.11.033.
- **34.** Donno, D., Cerutti, A.K., Prgomet, I., Mellano, M.G., Beccaro, G.L., 2015. Foodomics for mulberry fruit (*Morus* spp.): Analytical fingerprint as antioxidants' and health properties' determination tool. Food Research International 69: 179-188. 10.1016/j.foodres.2014.12.020.
- **35.** Dourado, N., de Moura, M.F.S.F., Morel, S., Morais, J., 2015. Wood fracture characterization under mode I loading using the three-point-bending test. Experimental investigation of Picea abies L. International Journal of Fracture 194: 1-9. 10.1007/s10704-015-0029-y.
- **36.** Dourado, N., de Moura, M.F.S.F., Xavier, J., Pereira, F.A.M., 2015. A New Procedure for Mode I Fracture Characterization of Cement-Based Materials. Strain 51: 483-491. 10.1111/str.12165.
- **37.** Dunck, B., Lima-Fernandes, E., Cassio, F., Cunha, A., Rodrigues, L., Pascoal, C., 2015. Responses of primary production, leaf litter decomposition and associated communities to stream eutrophication. Environmental Pollution 202: 32-40. 10.1016/j.envpol.2015.03.014.
- **38.** Fangueiro, D., Pereira, J., Bichana, A., Surgy, S., Cabral, F., Coutinho, J., 2015. Effects of cattle-slurry treatment by acidification and separation on nitrogen dynamics and global warming potential after surface application to an acidic soil. J Environ Manage 162: 1-8. 10.1016/j.jenvman.2015.07.032.
- **39.** Fangueiro, D., Surgy, S., Fraga, I., Cabral, F., Coutinho, J., 2015. Band application of treated cattle slurry as an alternative to slurry injection: Implications for gaseous emissions, soil quality, and plant growth. Agriculture Ecosystems & Environment 211: 102-111. 10.1016/j.agee.2015.06.003.
- **40.** Fangueiro, J.F., Silva, A.M., Garcia, M.L., Souto, E.B., 2015. Current nanotechnology approaches for the treatment and management of diabetic retinopathy. European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics 95: 307-322. 10.1016/j.ejpb.2014.12.023.
- **41.** Faria, A.S., Paiva-Cardoso, M.d.N., Nunes, M., Carreira, T., Vale-Goncalves, H.M., Veloso, O., Coelho, C., Cabral, J.A., Vieira-Pinto, M., Vieira, M.L., 2015. First Detection of Borrelia burgdorferi sensu lato DNA in Serum of the Wild Boar (*Sus scrofa*) in Northern Portugal by Nested-PCR. Ecohealth 12: 183-187. 10.1007/s10393-014-0973-4.
- **42.** Faustino-Rocha, A.I., Ferreira, R., Oliveira, P.A., Gama, A., Ginja, M., 2015. N-Methyl-N-nitrosourea as a mammary carcinogenic agent. Tumor Biology 36: 9095-9117. 10.1007/s13277-015-3973-2.



- **43.** Fernandes, A.M., Franco, C., Mendes-Ferreira, A., Mendes-Faia, A., da Costa, P.L., Melo-Pinto, P., 2015. Brix, pH and anthocyanin content determination in whole Port wine grape berries by hyperspectral imaging and neural networks. Computers and Electronics in Agriculture 115: 88-96. 10.1016/j.compag.2015.05.013.
- **44.** Fernandes, A.M., Melo-Pinto, P., Millan, B., Tardaguila, J., Diago, M.P., 2015. Automatic discrimination of grapevine (Vitis vinifera L.) clones using leaf hyperspectral imaging and partial least squares. Journal of Agricultural Science 153: 455-465. 10.1017/s0021859614000252.
- **45.** Fernandes, P.M., Fernandes, M.M., Loureiro, C., 2015. Post-fire live residuals of maritime pine plantations in Portugal: Structure, burn severity, and fire recurrence. Forest Ecology and Management 347: 170-179.10. 1016/j.foreco.2015.03.023.
- **46.** Fernández-Cabo, J.L., Majano-Majano, A., Crocetti, R., Xavier, J., Widmann, R., Arce-Blanco, M., 2015. Assessment of wire-frame analysis models of a historical planked timber arch. Proceedings of the ICE Structures and Buildings 168: 680-694. 10.1680/stbu.14.00049.
- **47.** Ferreira, D., Freixo, C., Cabral, J.A., Santos, R., Santos, M., 2015. Do habitat characteristics determine mortality risk for bats at wind farms? Modelling susceptible species activity patterns and anticipating possible mortality events. Ecological Informatics 28: 7-18. 10.1016/j.ecoinf.2015.04.001.
- **48.** Ferreira, L., Almeida-Aguiar, C., Parpot, P., Fonseca, A.M., Neves, I.C., 2015. Preparation and assessment of antimicrobial properties of bimetallic materials based on NaY zeolite. RSC Advances 5: 37188-37195. 10.1039/c5ra04960a.
- **49.** Ferreira, L.M.M., C., R., Santos, A.S., Mayes, R.W., Rodrigues, M.A.M., Osoro, K., 2015. Application of long-chain alcohols as diet- composition markers in sheep fed on grass—white clover and heather—gorse plant species. Grass and Forage Science (2015) 70 (1), 30-43.
- 50. Ferreira, R., Oliveira, P., Martins, T., Magalhaes, S., Trindade, F., Pires, M.J., Colaco, B., Barros, A., Santos, L., Amado, F., Vitorino, R., 2015. Comparative proteomic analyses of urine from rat urothelial carcinoma chemically induced by exposure to N-butyl-N-(4-hydroxybutyl)-nitrosamine. Molecular Biosystems 11: 1594-1602. 10.1039/c4mb00606b.
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- **52.** Figueiredo, N., Carranca, C., Goufo, P., Pereira, J., Trindade, H., Coutinho, J., 2015. Impact of agricultural practices, elevated temperature and atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration on nitrogen and pH dynamics in soil and floodwater during the seasonal rice growth in Portugal. Soil & Tillage Research 145: 198-207. 10.1016/j.still.2014.09.017.
- **53.** Fraga, H., Costa, R., Moutinho-Pereira, J., Correia, C.M., Dinis, L.T., Goncalves, I., Silvestre, J., Eiras-Dias, J., Malheiro, A.C., Santos, J.A., 2015. Modeling Phenology, Water Status, and Yield Components of Three Portuguese Grapevines Using the STICS Crop



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- **54.** Fragoso, M., Marques, D., Santos, J.A., Alcoforado, M.J., Amorim, I., Garcia, J.C., Silva, L., Nunes, M.d.F., 2015. Climatic extremes in Portugal in the 1780s based on documentary and instrumental records. Climate Research 66: 141-159. 10.3354/cr01337.
- **55.** Froufe, E., Varandas, S., Teixeira, A., Sousa, R., Filipova, L., Petrusek, A., Edsman, L., Lopes-Lima, M., 2015. First results on the genetic diversity of the invasive signal crayfish Pacifastacus leniusculus (Dana, 1852) in Europe using novel microsatellite loci. Journal of Applied Genetics 56: 375-380. 10.1007/s13353-015-0272-y.
- **56.** Garcia-Santos, S., Monteiro, S., Malakpour-Kolbadinezhad, S., Fontainhas-Fernandes, A., Wilson, J., 2015. Effects of Cd injection on osmoregulation and stress indicators in freshwater Nile tilapia. Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology C-Toxicology & Pharmacology 167: 81-89. 10.1016/j.cbpc.2014.09.002.
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- **58.** Gil da Costa, R.M., Oliveira, P.A., Vasconcelos-Nobrega, C., Arantes-Rodrigues, R., Pinto-Leite, R., Colaco, A.A., de la Cruz, L.F., Lopes, C., 2015. Altered expression of CKs 14/20 is an early event in a rat model of multistep bladder carcinogenesis. International Journal of Experimental Pathology 96: 319-325. 10.1111/jep.12145.
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- **60.** Gonzalez, D., Cabral, J.A., Torres, L., Santos, M., 2015. A cohort-based modelling approach for managing olive moth Prays oleae (Bernard, 1788) populations in olive orchards. Ecological Modelling 296: 46-56. 10.1016/j.ecolmodel.2014.10.012.
- 61. Gonzalez-Fernandez, M.L., Perez-Castrillo, S., Ordas-Fernandez, P., Lopez-Gonzalez, M.E., Colaco, B., Villar-Suarez, V., 2015. Study on viability and chondrogenic differentiation of cryopreserved adipose tissue-derived mesenchymal stromal cells for future use in regenerative medicine. Cryobiology 71: 256-263. 10.1016/j.cryobiol.2015.07.007.
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- **72.** Laranjeira C., S.F., L.F., Borges, A., Cristelo, N., 2015. k-e Flow Modeling of Osmosis. Tecnología y Ciencias del Agua, VI (5), 5-16.
- **73.** Leal, S., Campelo, F., Luz, A.L., Carneiro, M.F., Santos, J.A., 2015. Potential of oak treering chronologies from Southern Portugal for climate reconstructions. Dendrochronologia 35: 4-13. 10.1016/j.dendro.2015.05.003.
- **74.** Lima, C.F., Costa, M., Proenca, M.F., Pereira-Wilson, C., 2015. Novel structurally similar chromene derivatives with opposing effects on p53 and apoptosis mechanisms in colorectal HCT116 cancer cells. European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences 72: 34-45. 10.1016/j.ejps.2015.02.019.
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The respective quartile of papers published by the Centre in 2015 are listed in Table 3.

Quartila Number of papers

Table 3. A summary of all indicators of The Research Centre

Quartile	Nullibel of pupers
Q1	77
Q2	44
Q3	20
Q4	16
Total Geral	157

In addition to this 157 papers in JCR Journals, the Research Centre published several other type of manuscripts, including in international journals, ISI proceedings, and international and national conference meetings as abstracts, national journals, books and chapters in books (Table 4 and Figure 2).



Table 4. Summary of all indicators of the Research Centre during 2015

Type of publication	Number
Abstracts Book	39
Books & Chapter in Books	9
Conference Proceedings	29
ISI Proceedings	18
National Journals	4
Other International Journals	16
SCI Index	157
Total	270

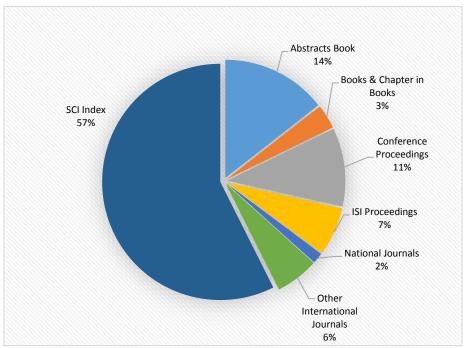


Figure 2. Percentage of each type of publication.



3.2 – International projects

CITAB researchers participated in 11 international projects over 2015:

	Project	Funding
1	"Eurolegume - Enhancing of legumes growing in Europe through sustainable cropping for protein supply for food and feed". Consortium coordinator: Eduardo Rosa. Starting date: January 2014, duration: 48 months (FP7-KBBE-2013-7 – GA 613781). http://www.eurolegume.eu/	€ 742.816,34
2	ReUseWaste - Recovery and Use of Nutrients, Energy and Organic Matter from Animal Waste. CITAB Coordinator: Henrique Trindade. Starting date: January 2012, duration: 48 months (FP7-PEOPLE-2011-ITN). http://www.reusewaste.eu/	€ 212.796,06
3	"IB Project - Production of new bioactive compounds by plants and bacteria using new and improved halogenases". CITAB coordinator: Alfredo Aires. Starting date: May 2014, duration: 36 months (Era-net CA EIB.13.008 NBCPBH)	€ 100.000,00
4	SmartAgriFor- Collaboration to develop a business plan for the Centre of Agriculture and Forestry. CITAB/UTAD Coodinator: Eduardo Rosa. Starting date: June 2015, duration: 12 months (H2020 - WIDESPREAD-2014-1 GA 664599). http://www.smartagrifor.eu/	€ 42.250,00
5	"InnoVine- Combining innovation in vineyard management and exploration of genetic diversity for a sustainable European viticulture". CITAB Coordinator: Hernâni Gerós. Starting date: January 2013, duration: 48 months (FP7-KBBE-2012-6). http://www.innovine.eu/home.html	N/A
6	"Copper uptake and detoxification in grapevine" Bilateral Cooperation Portugal- Tunisia. CITAB Coordinator: Hernâni Gerós. Starting date: January 2013, duration: 24 months	N/A
7	MedWildFireLab - Global Change Impacts on Wildland Fire Behaviour and Uses in Mediterranean Forest Ecosystems, towards a « wall less » Mediterranean Wildland Fire Laboratory. CITAB Coordinator: Paulo Fernandes. Starting Date: October 2014, duration 30 months (Era-net).	€ 10.000,00
8	Evolution and endemism in a morphologically cryptic group of aquatic insects (Ephemeroptera, Baetidae) on the islands of northeastern Macaronesia. CITAB Coordinator: Samantha Hughes. Starting Date: 2013, duration 24 months	€ 600,00
9	IMPACT - Developing an Integrated Model to Predict Abiotic habitat CondiTions and biota of rivers for application in climate change research and water management. CITAB Coordinator: Samantha Hughes. Starting Date: February 2013, duration 30 months.	N/A
10	European initiative on Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRM). CITAB Coordinator: Samantha Hughes. Starting Date: January 2014, duration 12 months.	N/A
11	MARCADUERO "MARCA DUERO DURADERO: Sostenibilidad, Calidad y Promoción". CITAB coordinator: Ronaldo Gabriel. Starting Date: June 2011, duration: 52 months (0363_MARCADUERO_2_E)	€ 106.980,00



3.3 – National projects

CITAB researchers participated in 32 national projects over 2015:

	Project	Funding
1	INNOFOOD - INNOVation in the FOOD sector through the valorization of food and agro-food by-products. CITAB coordinator: Ana Barros. Starting date: January 2014, duration: 18 months (NORTE-07-0124-FEDER-0000029)	€ 602.710,21
2	VITINOV – Innovation in Harvesting Systems for Steep Slope Viticulture. CITAB coordinator: Eduardo Rosa. Starting date: September 2014, duration: 36 months (PRODER 52306). Promotor: Symington Vinho SA	€ 107.695,92
3	ModelVitiDouro - Prediction model for grapevine development and production in the Douro Demarcated Region. CITAB coordinator: João Santos. Starting date: June 2014, duration: 36 months (PRODER 53774). Promotors: Adegas representativas da RDD: Mesão Frio (Baixo Corgo), Favaios (Cima Corgo) e Freixo de Espada à Cinta (Douro Superior).	€ 100.130,04
4	Mais Proteína. CITAB coordinator: Eduardo Rosa. Starting date: January 2014, duration: 36 months (PRODER 52506). Promotor: Frescura Sublime Lda	€ 140.373,00
5	Gold Cherry – Improving the quality of cherry production. CITAB coordinator: Berta Gonçalves. Starting date: April 2014, duration: 22 months. Promotor: Manuel Joaquim Ferrão Aires, Unipessoal (ProDer 53626).	€ 107.919,40
6	Integrated strategies for increasing the productivity of almond in Trás-os- Montes. CITAB coordinator: Ana Paula Silva. Starting date: January 2014, duration: 24 months. Promotor: Cooperativa Agrícola de Alfândega da Fé, CRL (ProDer 54609).	€ 56.449,97
7	RegCast - Fertigation in chestnut - an innovative approach to groves managing. CITAB coordinator: José Laranjo. Starting date: November 2013, duration: 36 months. Promotor: Geosil – Empreendimentos Agrosilvícolas S.A. (ProDer 47451).	€ 10.447,65
8	Ergofito - Evaluation of the impact of the use of Ergofito in chestnut. CITAB coordinator: José Laranjo. Starting date: May 2014, duration: 36 months. Promotor: AgroRioBom. (ProDer 52428).	129.265,37€
9	NEucBark - New Valorization Strategies for Eucalyptus spp. Bark Extracts. CITAB coordinator: Cristóvão Lima. Starting date: June 2013, duration: 24 months (PTDC/AGR-FOR/3187/2012)	€ 33.659,00
10	Animal slurry management: sustainable practices at field scale. CITAB coordinator: Henrique Trindade. Starting date: January 2012, duration: 36 months (PTDC/AGR-PRO/119428/2010)	€ 45.000,00
11	WineBioCode - Desenvolvimento de biossensores para rastreabilidade do vinho na Região Demarcada do Douro. CITAB coordinator: Ana Barros. Starting date: March 2012, duration: 36 months (PTDC/AGR-ALI/117341/2010)	€ 17.749,20



12	Developing processes and technologies aiming the production of ink disease resistant chestnut rootstocks, compatible with national varieties certified with molecular markers. CITAB coordinator: José Laranjo. Starting date: January 2012, duration: 36 months. Promotor: Certifruteiras.com Lda. (ProDer PA 45967)	€ 15.791,75
13	GreenVitis - Effects of soil management on productivity and sustainability of grape vineyards system. CITAB coordinator: Armindo Afonso Martins. Starting date: January 2012, duration: 39 months. Promotor: Quinta do Vallado Lda. (ProDer PA 43879)	€ 413.397,29
14	IrrigOlive - Deficit irrigation on olive, in the region of "Terra Quente Transmonta", to optimization water resources, productivity and olive oil quality. CITAB coordinator: Anabela Silva. Starting date: January 2012, duration: 39 months. Promotor: Aviaz Produção e Comercialização de Vinhos e Azeites, Lda - (ProDer).	€ 202.257,88
15	KlimHist - Reconstruction and model simulations of past climate in Portugal using documentary and early instrumental sources (17th-19h). CITAB coordinator: João Santos. Starting date: March 2012, duration: 36 months (PTDC/AAC-CLI/119078/2010)	€ 19.678,00
16	Introdução de telas antigranizo em macieira avaliação de efeitos colaterais e impacte económica. Mallus, Cagest, Instituto Politécnico de Bragança. CITAB coordinator: C. Correia. Starting date: 2015, duration: 36 months. Promotors: Mallus. (ProDer PA 54824)	€ 120.661,95
17	SambucusFRESH - Improving productivity and quality in the production of elderberry in fresh, chilled and frozen. CITAB coordinator: Eunice Bacelar. Starting date: June 2012, duration: 36 months. Promoter: Regiefrutas (QREN Co-promoção 23109)	€ 248.242,96
18	SerCast- Reinforce of chestnut productivity in Sernancelhe municipality. CITAB coordinator: José Laranjo. Starting date: May 2012, duration: 36 months (Protocol with Sernancelhe Municipality)	€ 44.609,00
19	WUSSIAAME - Water use, survival strategies and impact of agrochemicals on water resources in agricultural Mediterranean ecosystems. CITAB coordinator: Aureliano Malheiro. Starting date: February 2012, duration: 36 months (PTDC/AAC-AMB/100635/2008)	€ 51.574,00
20	SUSTAINSYS - Environmental Sustainable Agro-Forestry Systems CITAB Coordinator: Rui Cortes. Starting Date: January 2014, duration 18 months (NORTE-07-0124-FEDER-0000044)	€ 600.863,65
21	Biobase. Thematic Networks of Information and Dissemination CITAB Coordinator: António Crespi. Starting Date: March 2014, duration 24 months. Promotor: Corane (ProDer 52986)	€ 100.666,95
22	Chave In - Conceptualization, development and dissemination of an interactive system for identifying the Portuguese vascular flora, with emphasis in the North, based on an illustrated dichotomous key. CITAB Coordinator: António Crespi. Starting Date: March 2014, duration 36 months (ProDer 52751)	€ 32.190,82
23	Zebrafish (Danio rerio) anaesthesia and potential implications in research – reduction, replacement and refining. CITAB Coordinator: Sandra Mariza Monteiro. Starting Date: July 2013, duration 24 months (PTDC/CVT-WEL/4672/2012)	€ 159.965,00



24	Cryptococcus gattii environmental survey: Europe and Mediterranean area. CITAB Coordinator: Ana Sampaio. Starting Date: 2013, duration: 36 months (ISHAM Cryptococcus working group).	N/A
25	Economountain, Economy of biodiversity in the Vila Pouca de Aguiar mountains. CITAB Coordinator: Aurora Capapé. Starting Date: July 2012, duration: 36 months. (Fundo EDP Biodiversidade)	€ 50.000
26	IND_CHANGE - INDicator-based modelling tools to predict landscape CHANGE and to improve the application of social-ecological research in adaptive land management. CITAB Coordinator: João Cabral. Starting Date: July 2013. Duration: 36 months (PTDC/AAG-MAA/4539/2012)	€ 14.629,00
27	EcoVitis - Maximizing Eco-services into Douro Demarcated Region vineyards. CITAB Coordinator: Laura Torres. Starting Date: January 2011, duration: 40 months. Promotor: Real Companhia Velha (Proder 24043)	€ 495.122,00
28	Micoproject - Development of mycorrhizal inoculants and mycological management in marginal áreas. Promotor: Bioinvitro. 82 months. QREN/ADI 1589	€ 417.183,71
29	Promotion and valuation of native forest species. CITAB Coordinator: João Carvalho. Staring date: June 2013, duration: 36 months. (Associação Nacional Conservação Natureza – QUERCUS)	N/A
30	ENOEXEL – From vineyards to wine: targeting grape and wine excellency. CITAB coordinator: Pedro Melo Pinto. Starting Date: January 2014, duration: 18 months - NORTE-07-0124-FEDER-000032	€ 49.552,89
31	Fracture behaviour of cortical bone under mixed-mode I+II loading. CITAB coordinator: José Morais. Starting Date: April 2012, duration 36 months (PTDC/EME-PME/119093/2010)	€ 24.000,00
32	Hyper - Application of hyperspectral imaging and neural networks to viticulture. CITAB coordinator: Pedro Pinto. Starting Date: April 2012, duration: 39 months PTDC/EEA-AUT/121056/2010	€ 74.910,00



3.4 – Industry contract research

During 2015, 4 major contract research were held with private companies:

	Designation	Contractor	Total Value
1	Baixo Sabor hydroelectric dam (AHBS) - Integrated Environmental Monitoring Program (PIMA), (PRT-2015- 00715) - PGM Birdlife, MC 9; PGM Otter, MC 6; PGM Pyrenean desman , MC 7; PGM Herpetofauna, MC 10; PGM Bats, MC 5. Starting Date: January 2015, duration 12 months	EDP – Gestão da Produção de Energia, S.A.	€ 175.414,00
2	Monitoring birds and bats of mortality in the Marco Alto Windfarm during the 3rd year of the operational phase. Starting Date: March 2014, duration 13 months	Parque Eólico de Gevancas, Lda	€ 12.000,00
3	Characterization of the reference ecological situation of Bestança Valley, with regard to fauna and flora. Starting Date: March 2015, duration 12 months	City Hall of Cinfães	€ 40.000,00
4	Clinical trial with animals. Starting Date: December 2014, duration 12 months	Merial Europe	€ 1.400,00



4 List of CITAB Members in 2015

DIRECTOR

Eduardo Augusto dos Santos Rosa

VICE-DIRECTOR

Pedro José de Melo Teixeira Pinto

VICE-DIRECTOR

Rui Manuel Vítor Cortes

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Samantha Jane Hughes

MEMBERS

Alfredo Augusto de Carvalho Aires
Alberto Carlos Pires Dias
Luis Filipe Sanches Fernandes
Mario Jorge Modesto Gonzalez Pereira
Pedro Miguel Mestre Alves da Silva



SUSTAINABLE AGRO-FOOD CHAINS

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR JOÃO CARLOS ANDRADE DOS SANTOS

RESEARCHERS IN THE GROUP (PH.D. ONLY)

Alfredo Augusto de Eduardo Augusto dos Manuel Fernandes

Carvalho Aires Santos Rosa Ferreira

Amelia Maria Lopes Dias Eunice Luis Vieira Areal Maria da Conceição Lopes

da Silva Bacelar Vieira dos Santos

Amin Karmali Fernanda Maria Lopes- Maria Eugénia dos Santos

Ana Alvares Ribeiro Ferreira Nunes

Marques de Aguiar Francisco Manuel Pereira Maria João Pires

Ana Isabel R. Novo Peixoto Maria Solange Mendonça

Amorim de Barros Helder José Chaves Fraga Leite

Ana Luisa Ferreira Pinto Henrique Manuel da Mário Manuel de Miranda

Moura da Cunha Fonseca Trindade Furtado Campos Cunha

Ana Paula Calvão Moreira Isaura Alberta Oliveira de Nélson Filipe Lopes da Silva Castro Machado

Ana Sofia Santos Ivo Vaz de Oliveira Patricia do Céu Oliveira

Anabela Afonso João Carlos Andrade dos Ribeiro

Fernandes Silva Santos Paula Alexandra Martins

Aureliano Natálio Coelho João Henrique J. O. de Oliveira

Malheiro Negrão Paula Cristina Ribeiro
Berta Maria de Carvalho João Paulo Fonseca da Coutinho de Oliveira

Berta Maria de Carvalho João Paulo Fonseca da Coutinho de Oliveira
Goncalves Costa Moura Piebiep Goufo

Bruno Jorge Antunes Jorge Bernardo Lacerda Raul Dominguez Perles

Colaço de Queiroz Regina Arantes Rodrigues

Carlos Alberto e Silva Jorge Ventura Ferreira Sónia Alexandra de

Venâncio Cardoso Almeida Martins

Carlos Alberto Antunes José Gomes Laranjo Susana Maria Gomes
Viegas José Luis da Silva Pereira Caldas da Fonseca

Carlos Manuel Correia José Manuel Moutinho Tânia Sofia Cordeiro

Changhe Zhang Pereira Martins

Cristina Maria Mendes Lia-Tânia Rosa Dinis Tatiana Andreani

Andrade Luis Miguel Joaquim Valdemar Pedrosa

Dario Joaquim Simões Marques Antunes Carnide

Loureiro dos Santos Luís Miguel Soares Ribeiro

Domingos Manuel Leite da Cunha

Mendes Lopes

OTHER RESEARCHERS IN THE GROUP (Ph.D. ONLY)

Alfredo Dias Helena Maria Vala Correia Maria Isabel Pinho Pessoa

Ana Alexandra Ribeiro Isabel Maria Cravo Aguiar Amorim

Coutinho de Oliveira Pinto Mina Olinda da Conceição Pinto

Ana Cristina Bairrada João Paulo Baptista Carnide

Fortuna Carneiro Paulo Jorge Gouveia

Ana Lúcia Lopes Pinto e João Ramalho Sousa Simões da Silva Oliveira Sintra Santos Paulo Manuel Antunes

Ana Maria Araújo de Beja John Griffith Jones Mendes Gordo

Neves Nazaré Pereira Luis Jesus Rivas Soriano Ruth Maria de Oliveira

Ana Maria Marques Manuel João Teles de Pereira

Valentim Oliveira Sandra Raquel de Sousa

Ana Sofia Rodrigues Margarida Maria Correia Monteiro

Domingos Xavier Marques Susana Maria Pinto de

Filomeno Carlos Viegas Maria do Rosário Alves Carvalho

Fernando de Pablo Davila Ferreira dos Anjos Teresa Maria dos Santos

Fernando Pedro Falcão Maria Isabel Mendes Pinto

Raimundo Guerra Marques Cortez Vicente de Seixas e Sousa

Fernando Ramos

OTHER RESEARCHERSIN THE GROUP (NON PH.D. ONLY)

Ana Isabel Rocha Faustino Cátia Sofia Pereira Braga Maria Elisabete T.S.

Ana Sofia Lopes Mil- Pontos Franco

Homens Célia Ferreira Rocha M.ª José Santos Pereira

Andreia Leonor Vieira Cristiana Fernandes Correia

Bento da Silva Rodrigues Marta Alexandra Nunes

Andreia Marilise Carneiro Helena Maria Fernandes da Silva

de Carvalho Ferreira Nuno Miguel Franco Paula

Ângela Marina Oliveira Hortense Alves Fernandes Santos

Mucha Hugo Alexandre de Sónia Patrícia Seabra

António Costa Teixeira Oliveira e Silva Campos

António J. M. Nogueira Luis Filipe Pires Braz Tiago Monteiro -

Beatriz J. F.R Oliveira Manyou Yu Henriques

AGROBIOPLANT RESEARCHERS

RESEARCHERS IN THE GROUP (Ph.D. ONLY)

Alberto Carlos Pires Dias Cristina Alexandra de Almeida Aguiar Ana Cristina Gomes da Cunha Cristóvão Fernando Macedo Lima

Artur Jorge da Silva Conde Franklin Gregory

Cristina Maria da Silveira e Silva Pereira Henrique Luís Silva de Noronha

Wilson Hernâni Varanda Gerós



Olga Maria F. Pereira Coutinho Rui Pedro Soares de Oliveira

Cátia Inês Rodrigues dos Santos

Viviana Maria Martins Varajão

OTHER RESEARCHERS IN THE GROUP (Ph.D. ONLY)

Isabel Maria Cravo Aguiar Pinto Mina

OTHER RESEARCHERSIN THE GROUP (NON PH.D. ONLY)

Cláudia Marta Libreiro Pinho

TRAINING

Ana Abraão Manuela Andreia Gonçalves Carneiro Ana Cristina Pontes Carvalho Márcia Raquel Gomes de Carvalho Ana Sofia Lopes Mil-Homens Maria Adelaide Homem Perdigão Pito André Daniel Mendes Lemos Maria Elisabete T. da Silva Franco André Miguel Pinho Moreira Maria Margarida de Oliveira Mota

Andreia Marilise Carneiro de Carvalho Marslin Gregory António José Madeira Nogueira

Marta Abigail dos Santos Cardoso Beatriz Justina F.Ramos de Oliveira Marta Alexandra Nunes da Silva

Carla Sofia Calçada Maxwell Y, Owusu-Twum

Carla Sofia Pereira Dias Meriem Taghouti

Catarina Isabel Guedes Teixeira Miguel Pedro Antunes de Oliveira

Nikola Grcic

Cátia Sofia Pereira Braga Pontos Nuno Miguel Franco Paula Santos

Ricardo Costa

Cátia Vanessa Queijo Brito Célia Ferreira Rocha Richard Maykel Gonçalves Breia

Rose Marie Oliveira Ferreira de Sousa Chenyao Yang

Sandra Cristina Santos do Cabo Cláudia Coelho

Dário Lúcio Ferreira de Jesus Sara Bernardo David Jerónimo Oppolzer Sílvia Afonso Ermelinda Isabel Martins da Silva Sofia Correia

Irene Pereira Gouvinhas Sónia Patrícia Seabra Campos

Iva Prgomet Sweta Singh

Ivo Pavia Tiago Monteiro - Henriques

Joana Fangueiro Vanessa Cristina Monteiro Ferreira Luis Filipe Pires Braz Vânia Cristina Santos Sena Graça

Luis Filipe Ribeiro da Rocha Weina Hou

Magda Semedo



ECOINTEGRITY PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

PAULO ALEXANDRE MARTINS FERNANDES

RESEARCHERS IN THE GROUP (Ph.D. Only)

Ana Cristina Ramos Sampaio Luís Filipe Sanches Fernandes

Ana Maria Monteiro Paiva Coimbra Malik Amraoui

António Augusto Fontainhas Fernandes Maria das Neves M. M. Paiva Cardoso

Antonio Luis Crespi Maria de Fátima Magalhães Gonçalves

Estela Maria Bastos M. de Almeida Mário Gabriel Santiago dos Santos

Felisbina Queiroga Mário Jorge Modesto Gonzalez Pereira

Guilhermina Miguel da Silva Marques Paula Maria Seixas de Oliveira Arnaldo

Hélder Filipe dos Santos Viana Paulo Alexandre Martins Fernandes

João Alexandre F. A. Santos Cabral Rui Manuel Furtado Bezerra

João Soares Carrola Rui Manuel Vitor Cortes José Albino Gomes Alves Dias Samantha Jane Hughes

José Tadeu Marques Aranha Sandra Mariza Veiga Monteiro

Laura Monteiro Torres Simone da Graça Pinto Varandas Liliana do Carmo S. F. A. Caramelo

OTHER RESEARCHERS IN THE GROUP (Ph.D. Only)

Aurora Carmen Monzón Capapé João Paulo Fidalgo Carvalho
Carla Maria Alves Q. Amaral Marinho Leónia do Carmo Santos Nunes

Carmen Hernández Gómez Luis Miguel Ferreira Pontes Martins

Edna Carla Janeiro Cabecinha da Câmara Maria Helena Rodrigues Moreira
Sampaio Nuno Cláudio da Rocha Meses Pedro

Frederico Meireles Alves Rodrigues Sofia Gabriel Garcia Santos

OTHER RESEARCHERS IN THE GROUP (non Ph.D. Only)

Ana Sofia Andrade de Faria Luís Pedro Mendes Freitas

Carlos Alberto R. Loureiro da Silva Maria da Conceição C. Rodrigues
Cristina da Conceição Ribeiro Carlos Maria Irene Fraga dos Santos

Diogo Carvalho Marta Couto Ferreira

Hélia Marisa do Vale-Gonçalves Paula Alexandra da Costa Sousa Botelho

Joaquim Barreira de Jesus Pinto Rodrigues

Luís Filipe Roxo de Almeida Regina Maria Bessa Santos

Luis Manuel Lourenço Félix Rita Coelho Bastos



Sandra Liliana Cardoso da Costa

Tiago Nuno Dias e Neto

TRAINING

Ana Catarina Gonçalves Luzio
Anabela Cristina Marques da Nave Rodrigues
André Ribeiro da Fonseca
Carlos Gonçalves Rossa
Cátia Filipa Pinheiro dos Santos
Darinka Gonzalez
Francisco José Guedes Morinha
Joana Parente
Lav Sharma
Maria Inês de Almeida Páscoa
Marisa de Oliveira Lopes
Sandra Isabel Ribeiro Pereira
Teresa Raquel Duque Enes
Tiago Santos
Vitor Rodrigues Pereira



BIOSYSTEMS ENGINEERING

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

JOSÉ LUÍS PENETRA CERVEIRA LOUSADA

RESEARCHERS IN THE GROUP (Ph.D. Only)

Carlos Afonso de Moura Teixeira José Manuel Cardoso Xavier

Carlos Manuel José Alves Serôdio Maria Isabel Dias

Irene Cristina Salgueiro Oliveira Mário Manuel Dinis Ginja

João Luís Pereira Pedro Alexandre Mogadouro do Couto

José Joaquim Lopes Morais Pedro José de Melo Teixeira Pinto

José Luís Penetra Cerveira Lousada Ronaldo Eugénio Calçada Dias Gabriel

OTHER RESEARCHERS IN THE GROUP (Ph.D. Only)

Amadeu Duarte da Silva Borges

António Manuel Ribeiro de Sousa

Carlos Filipe C. Rompante da Cunha

Cristóvão Lucas dos Santos

Fábio André Magalhães Pereira

José Carlos Silva Cardoso

José Manuel Alves Ribeiro

Marco Paulo Duarte Naia

Maria Emília Calvão Moreira da Silva

Maria Eunice da Costa Salavessa

Norberto Jorge A.Parente Gonçalves

Nuno Manuel Lucas Vieira Lopes

Paulo Alexandre Cardoso Salgado

Pedro Manuel da Conceição Custodio

Pedro Miguel Mestre Alves da Silva

Valéria Reva



OTHER RESEARCHERS IN THE GROUP (non Ph.D. Only)

Alexandra Luísa Ribeiro Dias Ana Paula Santana David Neves Silva Florbela Rocha Aragão Hugo Daniel Pinto da Silva João Manuel Cardoso Martins João Paulo Coelho Maria Sofia Rodrigues Alves Pimenta Telmo Rui Dias Bento

TRAINING

Christophe Teixeira Jorge Marcelo Quintas de Oliveira Véronique Imperatriz Medeiros Gomes