

ERA Chair project (2.5 M€) funded by the European Commission's Horizon 2020 programme is launched

Lisbon, 29th July, 2015 – iMM Lisboa was recently awarded a prestigious ERA Chair grant by the European Commission, under the Horizon 2020 programme. To achieve the overall goal of leveraging the attractiveness and research excellence of the institute, iMM Lisboa has opened a recruitment process to select an outstanding researcher in immunity and infection research field. The appointed Chair will be pivotal to iMM Lisboa's ambition to grow to a world leading position in biomedical research.

EXCELLtoINNOV ERA Chair project

The overall aim of EXCELLtoINNOV will be accomplished through the achievement of concrete objectives over the next 5 years, the first of which being the [attraction of an ERA Chair](#) and her/his team. Some of the objectives that will follow include: raising the success rate and diversify iMM Lisboa participation in European Union (EU) funded and co-funded initiatives; to potentiate a better integration of iMM Lisboa in regional, national and international business community; and to expand overseas collaborations.

iMM Lisboa will follow European Commission (EC)'s recommendation on open, efficient, transparent and supportive recruitment procedures. Applications to the ERA Chair position received until 30th September will be reviewed by an international selection panel. Short-listed applicants will be interviewed at iMM Lisboa by December 2015.

About Horizon 2020 Programme

Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU research and Innovation programme ever with nearly €80 billion of funding available over 7 years (2014-2020). The goal of the programme is to ensure Europe produces world-class science, removes barriers to innovation and makes it easier for the public and private sectors to work together in delivering innovation.

About ERA Chair call

Under Horizon 2020, a strong packet of measures with up to €800 million in funding is available for widening participation of low-research performing Member States like Portugal. Such actions include the ERA Chairs instrument that will support eligible research organisations to attract and maintain high quality human resources as well as implement the structural changes necessary to achieve excellence on a sustainable basis. Of the 13 projects awarded in the first Horizon 2020 call on ERA Chairs, Portugal secured 77 M€ to implement 4 projects in the next 5 years.

About iMM Lisboa

The [iMM Lisboa – Instituto de Medicina Molecular](#) is a leading Portuguese private non-profit research institute that offers a vibrant scientific environment, aiming to nurture innovative ideas in basic, clinical and translational biomedical research. Created in 2002, iMM Lisboa has established itself as a leading national and internationally competitive biomedical institute. Its strategy has been defined by promotion of excellence, leveraged by high-quality human resources, increasing expenditure in infrastructures and knowledge transfer to the society.

Under Horizon 2020, iMM Lisboa group leaders have already secured: three ERC Consolidator grants; two Health, demographic change and wellbeing societal challenge research projects (one coordinated by iMM Lisboa); one Marie-Sklodowska-Curie (MSCA) RISE action (coordinated by iMM Lisboa); and three MSCA-ITN action (one coordinated by iMM Lisboa).