

Research Support Office

The University of Aveiro works continuously to become one of Europe's leading research institutions and a key player in the construction of the European Research Area. In this regard, it encourages researchers to establish links with colleagues in Portugal and in other countries, responding jointly to calls for proposals for national and international funding programmes, and has a dedicated office to support such activities.

The Research Support Office works as the main contact point and interface unit for Research Units and Associated Laboratories, researchers, funding agencies and other relevant stakeholders in the research and innovation ecosystem. Our extensive and ever-expanding network has a strong international character and a presence around the world which has served to boost several project proposals.

The office provides high quality advisory, administrative, technical, contracting and financial services to researchers of all disciplines at the University, assisting the research community in its efforts to secure external funding (national, regional, international; grants, awards and prizes).

Formed by highly skilled officers with mixed backgrounds, the main action lines of the office are 1) Research development; 2) Strategy support and implementation and 3) Research grants and contracts. The office thus covers most of the life-cycle of the projects, working closely with faculty and researchers in order to identify funding opportunities and bring together interdisciplinary groups of researchers with common interests; disseminating funding information, partnership opportunities, as well as training events; supporting and coordinating strategic activities/projects; providing advice on costing and submission of grant applications as well as University's authorization for submission; supporting negotiations of contract terms with funders and collaboration agreements with other HEIs and public sector collaborators and formalizing of contracts and agreements.

Over the last years, the Office has also been involved in identifying and acquiring tools to ease the research activity, as the access to SciVal, an Elsevier platform designed for performance evaluation and bibliometric analysis based on data from Scopus and to ResearchConnect, an IdoX platform that provides a curated, global database of research funding opportunities. Also, the active involvement of the Office in the application and creation of the Competence Center for Research Data Management (UAveiro RDM Center) will provide the UAveiro with the possibility to enhance and expand its existing capabilities in open science and research data management.

During 2024, 418 national and international research and technology transfer projects have been active in UAveiro, of which 59 funded by ERASMUS+ (KA2), 23 by Horizon 2020, 62 by Horizon Europe and 9 by INTERREG. The UAveiro is the host institution of 12 ERC Grants and 1 ERA Chair, coordinator of 4 Twinning projects and 3 HE projects aiming to contribute to the EU Missions, among other relevant and strategic European projects.

The research projects are developed under the 20 research units hosted by UAveiro in different scientific areas, 14 classified as Excellent and 4 classified as Very Good in the last evaluation process promoted by the National Foundation for Science and Technology. 8 of these research units were labelled or integrate Associated Laboratories. The excellence of its staff and quality of its infrastructures have been essential to the University of Aveiro to carry out crosscutting research that contribute to the society – locally, nationally and internationally.

RESEARCH SUPPORT OFFICE

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