

Anno 2024

Tit. VII

Cl. 1

Fasc. 2024-VII/1.12

N. Allegati /

Rif. _____

rv/RA/MF

Object: Selection procedure for a departmental research grant in the Academic Recruitment field 05/A1 - Botany - fund PRIN 2022

THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT

- Given art. 22 Law 30th December 2010 n. 240 which establishes, within the financial resources, the assignment of fellowships for collaboration in research activities;
- Given the Decree of the Ministry for Education, University and Research, n. 102 on 9th March 2011, which establishes the minimum amount payable;
- Given the Decree of the Ministry for Education, University and Research, n. 336/2011 and n. 855/2015, determining scientific area by art. 15 Law 30th December 2010 n. 240;
- Recalling the Regulations concerning the assignment of grants for collaboration in research activities (hereinafter Regulations) issued by Rector's decree n. 903 on 24th July 2013, Recent changes made by Rector Decree 28 April 2021, n. 347, effective from May 14, 2021;
- Called the Director of the Department Decree rep. n. 107 on 8th April 2024, approving the activation of a selection for the provision of a departmental grant for conducting research activities of the duration of 12 months, under the guidance of the of the scientific responsible of the research, prof. Nicoletta Cannone;
- Ascertained that the amount of the check referred to in this notice is financially covered by the fund "CANNIC230831PRIN22" - ID 15330 - Project PRIN 2022 - Area LS8 - Title: "SOS - Success of Salix shrubs encroachment..." - CUP J53D23006770006 funded by the European Union - Next Generation EU





ORDERS

Art. 1 - Object

Notice of a competition by qualifications and interview announced for the assignment of n. 1 departmental grant for collaboration in research activities lasting 12 months for the academic recruitment field of 05/A1 - Botany to the Department of Theoretical and Applied Sciences.

Title of the research: **“SOS - Success of Salix shrubs encroachment leading to a major vegetation and landscape change in the Italian Alps”**.

Research Project:

“Shrub encroachment is a widespread response to climate change in the European Alps where a new successional pathway, likely triggering major vegetation changes, is occurring with the encroachment of pioneer Salix shrubs into several habitats across a 1000 m elevation gradient from the subalpine to the nival belt. SOS aims understand the mechanisms of the success of these encroaching Salix shrubs compared to the target species of the encroached habitats by addressing plant traits, phenology, and photosynthetic performances and the associated soil physicochemical characteristics. Multidisciplinary analyses will allow assess and quantify the natural variability of the environmental conditions associated with the five more abundant Salix encroaching shrubs and compare them with those of the three target species of the encroached habitats. The study will be performed in upper Valtellina (Italian Central Alps) at three valleys (Braulio; Foscagno; Gavia) adopting a species-specific approach”.

Responsible Scientists: prof. Nicoletta Cannone.

Art. 2 - General requirements

All those who have obtained a:

- Master's Degree in Environmental Science (Class 75) awarded pursuant to M.D. 270/2004

and who have an appropriate scientific-professional curriculum to carry out research activities established by this competition notice can participate in this public selection.



A similar academic qualification obtained abroad and recognized as equivalent to the Italian qualification by the competent academic authorities.

Preferential requirement are:

- **master's thesis and/or bachelor's degree internship on topics related to climate change impacts on plant components in the alpine and/or polar environment;**
- **previous specific experience related to the study of climate change impacts on alpine plant species and climate change mitigation;**
- **previous specific experience in dendrochronological analysis of alpine shrub species; previous specific experience in analysis of CO₂ and/or CH₄ fluxes and analysis of photosynthetic activity at the leaf level conducted in alpine and/or arctic environments;**
- **integrative teaching activities on topics related to the impact of climate change on the plant component;**
- **attendance at environmental PhD courses on specific topics related to climate change impacts in alpine and polar areas.**

Candidates must have no criminal record.

Applicants in possession of degrees earned abroad, who have not obtained the declaration of equivalence, must enclose in the application form a translation into Italian and a declaration of value of the foreign degree by a qualified Italian Diplomatic or Consular Representative in the country of origin, according to the current Laws on the subject.

The degree earned abroad can be declared admissible by the Judging Commission, only for purposes related to the selection.

Qualifications must be possessed on the expiration date established for the submission of the application form.

Those who have already received grants according to law n. 240 of 30 December 2010 for more than 6 years, except for the period corresponding to a PhD without scholarship within the maximum limit of the legal duration of the related course, cannot participate in the selection. For the purpose of the duration of the grant, periods spent on maternity or sick leave are not relevant according to the current regulations.

Art. 3 - Incompatibility



Personnel employed in universities and in other public institutions as of art. 22 paragraph 1, Law 240 30th December 2010 can participate in the competition, but must resign in the case of winning the Fellowship.

Civil Servants in different institutions from those mentioned in the paragraph above can be awarded the fellowship but must be placed on leave without salary for the duration of the Fellowship. The Fellowship is not compatible with registration in undergraduate courses, graduate courses, PhD with scholarship or with a School of Specialization in the medical area, in Italy or abroad and with registration in other School/Courses which require obligatory attendance and prevent carrying out activities established in the contract.

Relatives and in-laws within and including the fourth degree of a professor who is a member of the Department or the Structure requesting the institution of the Fellowship, or of the Rector, the General Director or a member of Administrative Council of the University cannot participate in the competitions for the assignment of fellowships.

The Fellowship cannot be accumulated with scholarships in anyway awarded except with those awarded by national or foreign institutions useful for integration, for stays abroad, of the research formation of Fellows. The Fellowship cannot be accumulated with employed work, with contracts of collaboration or with income from free-lance activities, carried out in a continuous way.

Art. 4 - Application and deadlines

The application for participation in the selection, as well as qualifications held, the do-documents and publications voted helpful for the competition **must be submitted, under penalty of exclusion, via computer**, using the computer application dedicated to page: <https://pica.cineca.it/uninsubria/dista2024-adr001>.

The computer application will necessarily require the possession of an e-mail address in order to perform the self-registration system. The candidate will have to enter all data required for the production of the application and attach the documents in PDF format. You can attach a maximum of n. 30 documents for publications and n. 30 documents for other qualifications to evaluate, and maximum 30 Mb size.

The application form must be completed in all its parts, as indicated in the electronic procedure, and must include:



- Curriculum of the scientific and professional activities
- Copy of an identity document valid

No other forms of submission of applications or useful documentation for participation in the procedure are allowed.

Within the application deadline, the system can be saved in draft mode. The date of electronic submission of the request for participation in the selection is certified by the computer system that will be received by automatically sent via e-mail.

At the end of the period for submission, the system will no longer allow access and sending the electronic form.

To every application will be assigned an identification number which, together with the competition code in your application information must be specified for any subsequent communication. The process of compiling and submitting electronic applications must be completed **no later than 04 May 2024, 12:00 pm.**

The presentation of the application form must be completed and concluded as follows:

- **Sign your document with ConFirma**

In order to sign digitally the application it is necessary to have an hardware (e.g. smart card or USB with digital signature certificate issued by an approved certification body) compatible with ConFirma service. After signing, applicants can download the signed pdf application.

- **Sign the application digitally on your electronic device**

In order to sign digitally the application it is necessary to have an hardware (e.g. smart card or USB with digital signature certificate issued by an approved certification body) and a software for digital signatures in order to create a pdf.p7m file from the pdf file downloaded from this site. The pdf.p7m file must be uploaded in the website again.

- **Sign the application (no digital signature)**

If you can't sign the document digitally as specified in the other sections you need to download the pdf file of the application, print it, sign it in original, scan it in a pdf file and upload it again on the website.

WATCH OUT: the copy of a valid identity document must be included as the last page of the scanned pdf, after the application form pages (this step can be dispensed with if a copy of the



document was uploaded as an attachment of the application form)

They will be declared inadmissible the applications without the signature of the candidate.

Foreign nationals residing in Italy can take advantage of self-certification above, limited to cases where it is necessary to prove conditions, facts and personal qualities certifiable by Italian public or private entities (art. 3 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000).

Foreign nationals not resident in Italy cannot rely in any way on the institute of self (art. 3 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000).

Bonds, certificates and publications produced in a manner different than indicated above will not be taken into account. In application of the rules of self-certification matter, the University will undertake verification of the veracity of substitutive declarations and self-certifications under Presidential Decree n. 445/2000.

It is considered validly made exclusively the documentation received by the final deadline indicated in the notice. It is not eligible for introduction into the evaluation insolvency of their qualifications earned or after the date of deadline of the notice.

It is not allowed to make reference to documents and publications previously submitted for participation in other contests by this or other Administrations.

Candidates must provide their own expenses to the restitution of securities and publications sent for participation in the selection, subject to agreements with the Department of Theoretical and Applied Sciences of the University of Insubria, Varese.

Art. 5 - Information on the implementation of legislation on the prevention of corruption

The University, in implementation of the legislation on the subject, adopted its three-year plan for the prevention of corruption and appointed the Head of the Prevention of Corruption.

The three-year plan is published on the corporate website at: <https://www.uninsubria.it/amministrazione-trasparente/disposizioni-general/piano-triennale-la-prevenzione-della-corruzione-e>

Any reports can be sent to: anticorruzione@uninsubria.it

Art. 6 - Selection Procedure



Selection is made with comparative evaluation of the candidates' CVs who have applied on the basis of qualifications and publications.

The evaluation is complemented by an interview in public session that will focus on the illustration of the candidate's professional experience oriented to assess the suitability for carrying out the research activity covered by the grant.

It will be the responsibility of the Administration to communicate by e-mail to the address indicated in the application by the candidates and at least 7 days in advance, the arrangements for the conduct of the interview.

Failure to attend the interview is considered to be explicit and definitive manifestation of the will of the candidate to give up the selection.

For the interview candidates must be in possession of a valid identity document or an equivalent document recognition pursuant to art. 35, paragraph 2, of Presidential Decree 28/12/2000 by n. 445.

Access to the conversation is open to candidates for which completion of the assessment of the securities, which therefore are not excluded for the reasons set out in art. 7.

The candidates recognized disabilities must expressly specify in their application any aid needed in relation to their handicap and the possible necessity of further time for the performance of any evidence, in accordance with Law 5 February 1992, n. 104.

For the evaluation of the candidates commission has **70** points, of which:

- Scientific and professional curriculum: up to a maximum of **30** points;
- Scientific publications: up to a maximum of **10** points.

For inclusion on the list, following the evaluation of qualifications, candidates must have achieved an overall score of at least **30/70**.

The assessment of the interview can have a maximum score until they reach **30/70**.

For inclusion in the final ranking candidates must have achieved an overall score of at least **42/70**.



QUALIFICATIONS (UP TO **30** POINTS)

- 1) Academic degree maximum **10/70**
- 2) Degree thesis maximum **5/70**;
- 3) doctoral year attendance maximum **6/70**
- 4) PhD thesis maximum **5/70**
- 5) previous scientific research activity (contracts, fellowships, assignments, certificates, research campaigns; etc.) maximum **4/70**

PUBLICATIONS (UP TO **10** POINTS)

- 6) Publications maximum **10/70**

INTERVIEW (UP TO **30** POINTS)

The final list is approved by the Director of the Department and will be posted on the official page of the Register of the University and on the website as notification to those concerned. The merit ranking will be used in the case of the winning candidate not accepting the position or in the case of resignation; in this case, the position will be offered to the next candidate in the ranking, provided that the period proposed for the contract is not less than one year.

Art. 7 - Exclusion

Candidates are admitted conditionally.

The following imply exclusion from the procedure:

- 1) the application sent by a method other than that indicated in Article 4 of the notice;
- 2) the failure to sign the application in the manner specified in Article 4 of the notice;
- 3) the lack of the participation requirements set forth in Article 2 of the notice;
- 4) the existence of situations of incompatibility.

Exclusion is provided for with a motivated decision of the Director of the Department and shall be communicated to the candidate using the e-mail address provided.

Art. 8 - Renouncing of the candidate for the procedure



Any waiver of the candidate to participate in the procedure will be sent as so-and exclusively on the web address shown above, Art. 4 of this announcement, by filling in the form of renunciation.

Art. 9 - Contract of collaboration

The winner will be called on to sign a temporary contract of research activity collaboration drawn up under civil law, within a period specified, otherwise he/she will lose the right.

For research needs, the contract will take effect November 1st, 2024.

This fixed-term contract does not represent, in any way, a permanent contract of employment and does not give right to be admitted to permanent positions within university. The University provides equal opportunities between men and women.

The grant implies carrying out the activities briefly mentioned below at the Department of Theoretical and Applied Sciences of the University of Insubria, under the supervision of Responsible Scientist prof. Nicoletta Cannone within the research programme: "SOS - Success of Salix shrubs encroachment leading to a major vegetation and landscape change in the Italian Alps".

Conditions are indicated by the contract and governed by the Regulations.

The position will cover a period of 12 months and can be renewed for periods of not less than one year up to a maximum of six years total with the same subject, also entered into with different institutions and universities, excluding the period in which the fellowship was received in connection with a PhD without a grant, not exceeding the legal duration of the course.

The contracts referred to in Article 24 of Law 240/2010, intervening with various universities, government, non-state or telematic, as well as with the institutions referred to in paragraph 1 of art. 3 of this notice, may in no case exceed twelve years, even if not continuous. For the purposes of said contract the length of periods spent on maternity leave or for reasons of health, as provided by law are not considered.

Renewal is still subject to a positive assessment of activities by the Department Council, as well as to availability of budgetary funds.



For non-EC citizens the fellowship will start after obtaining the residence permit for scientific research and when the research activity actually begins.

Art. 10 - Recruitment and HRS4R

The recruitment of fixed-term researchers (or Established Researchers, using the European definition) will conform to the European Charter for Researchers (ECR), the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers (CCRR) and the Code of Ethics, code of conduct and principles of research integrity of the University of Insubria, which provide the general framework for the guidelines and requisites for the roles, responsibilities and rights of these positions, thus guaranteeing that selections procedures are open, transparent and meritocratic.

The University of Insubria received the European Quality Award "HRS4R - Human Resources Strategy for Researchers" in February 2019: such certification recognizes organizations their efforts to implement the Charter and Code in their policies and practice, and identifies the universities and institutions which create and promote a stimulating and encouraging research environment.

Art. 11 - Remuneration

The total amount of the 12-month research grant is € 19.456,83 inclusive of the taxes which must be paid by the recipient.

The University will provide medical insurance and third-party civil liability.

The amount is tax free according to article no. 4 of the Law no. 476 of 13/08/1984 and is subject, on social security matters, to the regulations according to article no. 2, paragraph 26 and following amendments and additions, of the Law no. 335 of 8/08/1995.

The grant will be paid in monthly instalments.

Art. 12 - Suspension of the contract for maternity and sick leave

The research activity is suspended for maternity leave.

To such a case there apply the provisions of the Decree of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies of 12/07/2007, published in the Official Journal no. 247 of 23/10/07. Sick leave is regulated by



article no. 1, paragraph 788 of the Law no. 296 of 27/12/2006 and following amendments and additions.

During the period of mandatory maternity leave, the amount paid by the National Institute for Social Security (INPS), according to article no. 5 of the abovementioned Decree of 12/07/2007, will be integrated by the University to match the total amount of the research grant.

The period of mandatory maternity leave must be made up for after the natural expiration of the contract, as provided by the law, upon decision of the Director of the Department.

Art. 13 - Termination by the recipient of the research grant

The recipient has the right to terminate the relationship, by notifying the Director of the Department with a notice of at least thirty days.

Failure to notify will entail withholding remuneration for a sum related to the period of failed notice.

Art. 14 - Termination of the contract

Should the Research Fellow not continue the activities provided for in the research program without justification or in case of serious and repeated shortcomings, the contract may be terminated upon reasoned request of the research Coordinator, authorized by a resolution of the Department's Board.

The contract is automatically terminated, without prior notice, in the following cases:

- undue failure to commence or undue delay of the activity;
- undue suspension of the activity for a period exceeding 15 days;
- serious infringement of incompatibility, according to article no. 25 of the Regulations.
- negative assessment of the research activity on the part of the Department's Board.

The termination provisions are ordered by the Director of the Department.

Art. 15 - PhD and Master's Degrees



The recipient of the research grant can attend, also in excess and without scholarship, PhD courses, provided that they pass admission tests.

The participation of the recipients of research grants in Master's degrees is incompatible.

Art. 16 - Administrative proceedings

According to Law n. 241 dated 7/08/1990, the Department of Theoretical and Applied Sciences, Via J.H. Dunant, 3 - 21100 Varese (VA), e-mail: segreteria.dista@uninsubria.it in charge of the competition notice.

Art. 17 - Processing of personal data

In applying the Legislative Decree no. 196/2003, the University undertakes to respect the confidential nature of the information provided by the candidate. All data provided will be handled only for purposes connected to the selection procedure and to the management of the collaboration relationship, with respect to the current regulations as provided for in the attached document.

Art. 18 - Final regulations and publication

For matters not provided for in this call, please refer to the applicable laws and regulations on the subject.

This call will be published on the University's official online Board and on the "Calls" page of the University, of the Ministry of Education, University and Research and of the European Union websites.

Varese, *date of digital signature*

The Director of the Department
Prof. Mauro Ferrari
Digitally signed