REPORT FROM THE EXTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD of CEDIS

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Date:

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Having analysed CEDIS activities in the period between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2023, and on the basis of the criteria of evaluation established in Annex 1 of the "Rules of Procedure for the External Advisory Board", these are my findings and recommendations in relation to:

Criteria A

1) clear statement on the advancement of knowledge and respective impact with a reference to publications or any other relevant research and innovation indicators:

excellent

2) degree of internationalisation and collaborative research of CEDIS outputs:

Excellent

3) advanced training of researchers including Master's and PhD students or postdocs:

There was not so much information on the achievements in this regard in the report

4) the development and consolidation of careers at different levels, including the integration of researchers into permanent positions, and the impact of FCT scientific employment instruments on the activities of CEDIS:

There was not so much information on the achievements in this regard in the report

5) the quality of hosting conditions of researchers, such as, mentoring plans, gender and equality and inclusiveness actions and fair and transparent evaluation mechanisms, among others:

There was not so much information on the achievements in this regard in the report

6) promotion and dissemination of scientific and technological research, dissemination of results and actions to promote scientific culture, including, the organization of conferences, colloquia, and seminars:

excellent

7) knowledge and technology transfer, such as the creation of spin-offs or industry partnerships:

Excellent for knowledge; not sure if technology applies as much

8) effort to secure funding from diverse sources, national and international (e.g. ERC, EU funding, regional and/or other from funding agencies):

good

9) preservation, curation and dissemination of CEDIS results and data, respecting the principles and practices of Open Science; promotion of scientific and technological culture (outreach); actions of scientific, technological, cultural, artistic, social or economic relevance to society; existence of Data Policies:

There was not so much information on the achievements in this regard in the report

Criteria B

10) evidence of international and national recognition of the research team:

Excellent, high-level publications

11) evidence of interaction and benefits for society:

Very societally-relevant research, good outreach activities

12) skills and composition of the research team to adequately execute the proposed programme:

Excellent

13) ability to successfully compete for national and international research grants and contracts:

I would think this quality team is in a very good position to compete for funding

Criteria C

14) quality, merit, relevance, impact, originality/differentiation, and ambition of the objectives and the overall proposed strategic programme for the next five years, including ethical concerns, whenever applicable, Open Science, gender and data policies, budget, and programmatic:

excellent

15) appropriate ·CEDIS management and organizational structure, including science communication and outreach activities, citizen science, technology transfer and IP protection policies:

There was not so much information on the achievements in this regard in the report

16) Plans for advanced training, particularly the scientific conditions to support PhD programmes, evidencing the benefit to the PhD programme from the proximity of research activity of CEDIS:

There was not so much information on the achievements in this regard in the report

17) Adequate HR management, including developing the condition to attract and retain qualified human resources, such as plans for hiring new researchers:

There was not so much information on the achievements in this regard in the report

18) Career development strategy for researchers at all stages of their careers, regardless of their contractual situation, including for researchers on fixed-term contracts. Please refer to the R&D Unit strategy for countering precarity and integrating researchers into permanent career positions. Whenever applicable, please refer to applications within the FCT-Tenure programme, namely CEDIS Chairs, in coherence with the dimension of CEDIS, its current Human Resources profile, and its trajectory:

There was not so much information on the achievements in this regard in the report

Sacha Garben

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