

## REPORT

### Short term study visit of TFNS researchers to NOVA University of Lisbon (UNL), NOVA School of Science and Technology (FCT), Lisbon, Portugal

March 6-13<sup>th</sup> 2023

Four senior researchers from University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Technology Novi Sad (TFNS) visited UNL in the period 6-13 March 2023 as a part of the activities planned within TwiNSol-CECs project dedicated to the objectives of WP5 - Strengthening the research management and administration capacities of TFNS: Prof. Nataša Đurišić-Mladenović, Project Coordinator and Co-leader of WP2, Prof. Biljana Pajin, Dean of TFNS, Project Manager for Financial, Administrative, and Legal issues and Leader of WP6, Prof. Zita Šereš, TFNS Vice Dean for Science, Project Manager for the Strategic issues and Co-leader of WPL5, and Prof. Dragana Šoronja-Simović, Co-leader of tasks 2.2 and 5.1. The host of this visit was Prof. Joao Crespo, Leader of WP2 and WP5, who arranged details of the visit program with Mrs. Juliana Monteiro, Executive Director at Innovation, Research & Impact Strategy Office (IRIS) at FCT-UNL.

Besides discussing the issues important for WP5, this visit was also a chance to discuss current WP2 activities on development of the Road Map for strategic stepping up the TFNS excellence in emerging environmental contaminants research. And last but not least, development of the joint research within task 4.2 was considered with UNL researchers led by Prof. Dr. Joao Crespo.

Visit consisted of six working days with morning and afternoon working sessions dedicated to different topics in accordance to the timetable enclosed to this Report. All the sessions were organized as interactive discussion with representatives of different department of IRIS and FCT – UNL.

TFNS team was introduced to the FCT Dean, Prof. Jose Julio Alferes, FCT Vice-Dean for Innovation and Research, Prof. Eurico Cabrita, and FCT Executive Administrator, Dr. Maria Cesaltina Charreu Frade (Figure 1). This was an occasion to present TFNS and its main achievements in education and research, including the TwiNSol-CECs project. The monograph of TFNS published for 60 years anniversary of TFNS was donated together with the TwiNSol-CECs brochure and the notebook.

Different aspects of financial management of Horizon Europe projects, including TwiNSol-CECs, and of the reporting to EC were discussed with Sara Hourmat, Financial Project Manager at FCT, on Monday morning meeting (Figure 2), and Bernardo Hourmat, Funding Advisor at Business Development & Funding Department of IRIS on Thursday morning meeting (Figure 3), when also other aspects of pre-award activities of IRIS were explained. These sessions were very helpful for overlooking the main elements necessary for setting the institutional unit for research management and administration, which is one of the TwiNSol-CECs goals. Juliana Monteiro, Executive Director of IRIS, joined these meetings for wrap-up sessions to emphasize the importance of the institutional research management and advise possible routes how to start similar unit at TFNS.

Meetings with representatives of NOVA.id and Madan Parque (Science Park) arranged for Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning, respectively, had a goal to illustrate the research institutions

in which creation FCT was involved, and through which FCT researchers have been involved in innovative research in connections with other research groups and stakeholders.

“NOVA.id based at FCT acts as the legal front institution of R&D units, from different scientific fields, carrying out R&D work in research labs and managing financial and administratively R&D&I projects. NOVA.id organises qualified human resources training and consulting expertise, and knowledge dissemination and technology transfer activities.”<sup>1</sup> Two representatives of NOVA.id, José Alves, Head of department and Carolina Francisco, Head of International Funds Unit gave intro into the NOVA.id structure and answered the questions on the institute functioning (Figure 4).

Madan Science Park is a science and technology park established in 1995 and active since early 2000, whose mission is to play an interface role between FCT and businesses. Madan Park hosts more than 50 companies distributed within different programs. Belma Rizvanović, Project Manager/Strategic Partnership, and Alcino Pascoal, Advisor to the Board at Madan Park, presented the Park and its facilities (Figure 5), but also its structure, mission, and how to map the stakeholders and involve them into the research, and how to emphasize the social value of research, two important aspects also for TwiNSol-CECs.



Figure 1 Introduction of TFNS and TwiNSol-CECs representatives to the FCT Dean Prof. Jose Julio Alferes, FCT Vice-Dean for Innovation and Research Prof. Eurico Cabrita, and FCT Executive Administrator Dr. Maria Cesaltina Charreu Frade, on March 07, 2023

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.novaidfct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/FACTSHEET\\_description\\_NOVAIDFCT\\_vf.pdf](https://www.novaidfct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/FACTSHEET_description_NOVAIDFCT_vf.pdf)



Figure 2 Meeting with Sara Hourmat, Financial Project Manager at FCT, on March 06, 2023



Figure 3 Meeting with Bernardo Hourmat, Funding Advisor at Business Development & Funding Department of IRIS, on March 9, 2023, while Filomena Marques hosted all the meetings and took the photos during visit to IRIS

Representatives of Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Department at IRIS, Marta Cerejo, Intellectual Property & Tech Transfer Manager, and Pedro Almeida - Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Manager, presented all the elements this Department provides to FCT and NOVA.id researchers in the valorization of knowledge and technology, acting at the interface between Industry and Academy, both in terms of Industrial Property protection and Technology Transfer (Figure 6). Special section of the meeting was dedicated to IP issues within twinning projects such as TwINSol-CECs.



Figure 4 Meeting with NOVA.id representatives, José Alves and Carolina Francisco, on March 06, 2023



Figure 5 Meeting with representatives of Madan Science Park, Belma Rizvanović and Alcino Pascoal, on March 07, 2023

Representatives of International Division at FCT, Marina Margues, responsible for international students' recruitment and other matters concerning internationalization, and Tania

Simoes, responsible for incoming students with non-Erasmus agreement, presented procedures for Erasmus mobility and infrastructure for incoming students to FCT (Figure 7). Erasmus agreement between FCT and TFNS was discussed and agreed to be arranged after the visit. After the meeting, the TFNS researchers visited the FCT Library and were introduced into the facilities available to FCT students (Figure 7).



Figure 6 Meeting with representatives of Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Department at IRIS, Marta Cerejo, Intellectual Property & Tech Transfer Manager, and Pedro Almeida - Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Manager, on March 07, 2023

The morning session of the last day of the visit was dedicated to the presentation on the Impact Department at IRIS. Impact Managers Rui Fernandez and Miguel Martins presented the structure behind the NOVA's Research Portal as a support for the FCT institutional and individual researchers' visibility and scientific impact. This structure relies on inputs from Scopus, administrated by IRIS impact managers in order to uniform the bibliographic data, feeding the Pure platform of NOVA University of Lisbon, which is a ground of the NOVA's Research Portal, synchronized with Orcid, and the bibliometric platform SciVal. The NOVA's Research Portal is a public portal that allows experts and the general public to discover Research Units, Researcher profiles and the science being developed at NOVA University of Lisbon and all its constituting faculties.

Besides the institutional issues important for setting the scene for creation of research management and administration unit at TFNS (within WP2 of TwiNol-CECs), one day of the visit was dedicated fully to discussion on experimental set for performing the project research under task 4.2 within WP4; it is planned as a PhD thesis of young researcher, Jelena Šurlan, a TwiNSol-CECs team member. This meeting was led by Prof. Joao Crespo, who gathered visiting TFNS researchers and colleagues from FCT and ITQB: Dr. Claudia Loureiro, Dr. Carla Portugal, Dr. Carla Brazinha, and Dr. Vanessa Pereira. To have efficient arrangements of the experimental scheme, the meeting was also organized online to include directly in the discussion TFNS researchers from Novi Sad: Dr. Nikola Maravić, Dr. Igor Antić,

and Jelena Šurlan, all members of the TwiNSol-CECs team. Assignments were agreed in order to continue the experiment planning, which will be conducted at TFNS and also at FCT during the study visits of TFNS team members.



Figure 7 Meeting with representatives of International Division at FCT Marina Marques and Tania Simoes on March 09, 2023



Figure 8 Meeting with representatives of Impact Department at IRIS, Bruno Miguel Pack Martins and Rui Andre da Graca Pinto Fernandes on March 13, 2023

Special session of the visit was dedicated to discussing the new project proposal and the steps for successful proposal preparation, expected to be submitted in the second half of 2023.

At the very end of the visit, the upcoming project activities in 2023 were discussed, including online trainings by FCT representatives, study visits to FCT for joint research, and the mid-term meeting of Project Steering Team. Within a final wrap up session the agreed assignments and possible dates for visits are summarized.



Figure 9 Meeting with FCT researchers led by Prof. Joao Crespo, dedicated to setting the experimental scheme within the project task 4.2

**Timetable of the visit to  
NOVA University of Lisbon (UNL) - NOVA School of Science and Technology (FCT)  
06-13 March 2023**

**6 March 2023**

10 - 12.30 Financial Management Division at FCT NOVA  
14.30 - 16.00 Interface Institute of FCT NOVA – NOVAid

**7 March 2023**

10 – 10.30 Introduction to FCT Dean Prof. Jose Julio Alferes, FCT Vice-Dean for Innovation and Research Prof. Eurico Cabrita, and FCT Executive Administrator, Dr. Maria Cesaltina Charreu Frade  
10.30 - 12.30 Science Park at FCT NOVA – Madan Parque  
14.30 - 16.00 Intellectual property and technology transfer sector at IRIS

**8 March 2023**

10 - 12.30 Setting the experimental scheme for the project task 4.2  
14.30 – 16.00 Setting the experimental scheme for the project task 4.2 – online meeting with TFNS

**9 March 2023**

10 - 12.30 Pre-award Department at IRIS  
14.30 - 16.00 International Relation Division at FCT (responsible for Erasmus), Visit to FCT Library

**10 March 2023**

10 - 12.30 Preparation of the TwiNSol-CECs Strategy  
14.30 -16.00 Discussion on new project proposal

**13 March 2023**

10 - 12.30 Impact Department at IRIS  
14.30-15.30 Arrangements of the upcoming project study visits and meetings  
15.30 - 16.00 Wrap up of the visit

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