

PhD CONNECTOR GRANTS APPLICATION FORM – DO NOT ALTER THIS FORM

LS4FUTURE will evaluate proposals for PhD students' missions according to the extent to which they meet the requirements of this scheme as described in its framework. Upon selection by a review panel composed of LS4FUTURE thematic line coordinators or their representatives, outcomes will be communicated to applicants at the end of July 2026. LS4FUTURE subscribes to the One Health concept, working towards environmental and human health to ensure a sustainable future for humankind and our planet. Part of its mission is to increase participation in international research initiatives.

Eligible missions must:

- o Contribute directly to the student's PhD project.
- o Strengthen or consolidate collaboration with a European laboratory offering complementary expertise beyond the student's primary field.

Applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- o Be a PhD student of one of the 5 participating institutions (ITQB, NMS, NIMSB, IPO and iBET) **and** affiliated with one of the LS4FUTURE research units (iNOVA4Health, MOSTMICRO, or Green-IT).
- o Have completed the first 18 months of their doctoral degree.

Missions can be funded up to **€1250 each**. Application forms must not exceed four pages. They must be submitted via email to ls4future@ls4future.pt, copying the PhD supervisor as well as the host laboratory supervisor. The email must include the student's CV (2 pages) and a letter of support (1 page) from the host supervisor.

Section 1: Applicant ID	
Name of PhD applicant	
LS4FUTURE Institution	
LS4FUTURE Research Unit	
PhD programme or fellowship	
PhD start date (<i>prior Jan 2025</i>)	
PhD Supervisor(s)	
Thematic Line(s) aligned with your project	

Section 2: Host and Mission ID	
Host Supervisor	
Host Research Institution/Country	
Mission dates (<i>from Sep to December</i>)	

Section 3: Student track record and motivation. Briefly describe your background, relevant skills, and motivation for undertaking this mission. Explain how you can benefit from the proposed mission and environment.

Section 4: Mission summary and its contribution to the PhD project. Please provide a concise overview of the objectives of the proposed mission. Describe how the mission will advance your PhD research. Indicate expected scientific outputs (e.g. methods, data, skills, publications, proposals, outreach).

Section 5: Mission activities and feasibility. Describe the work to be carried out, methods to be learned/applied, and interactions with the host group. Clearly outline the planned activities and justify their feasibility within the proposed timeframe.

Section 6: Host Institution and collaboration value. Describe the expertise of the host supervisor and institution, explaining the added value of the mission to the collaboration between your lab and the host lab. Highlight the complementary and/or multidisciplinary expertise offered by the host beyond your primary research field. Justify why this expertise or environment is not readily available in Portugal.

Section 7: Budget Overview (up to €1250) - Please indicate:

- Estimated travel and accommodation costs, including screenshots of 2 flights and 2 accommodation quotes
- Additional funding sources (if applicable)

The Coordination Office will book travel and accommodation upon award. No reimbursements will be made.

Letter of support from the host supervisor (this section can be removed from the application form)

Please include a 1-page letter of support from the host supervisor that addresses the following points on which you will be evaluated. Instructions for supervisor:

- **The student's track record and motivation 30%** – include your assessment of the student's academic achievements, research potential, and motivation to benefit from the proposed mission.
- **Contribution of the mission to the PhD project 20%** – describe how the proposed mission will strengthen the student's PhD research project
- **Scientific quality and feasibility of the mission 20%** – explain your perspective on the scientific relevance and practical feasibility of the proposed activities
- **Host suitability, complementarity, multidisciplinary, and collaboration value 30%** – highlight the suitability of the lab environment and the complementary and/or multidisciplinary

expertise offered, mentioning the added value of this mission to the collaboration and knowledge exchange with the student's lab.