

**GENERAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
UNIVERSIDADE DE LISBOA
AND
THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR BAMBOO AND RATTAN**

1. INTRODUCTION

Universidade de Lisboa, located at Alameda da Universidade - Cidade Universitária, 1149-004 Lisboa - Portugal, represented by its Rector, Professor António Cruz Serra; and
The International Centre for Bamboo and Rattan (ICBR) of the State Forestry Administration of China, located at Beijing, represented by its Director General, Prof. Jiang Zehui, hereinafter referred to as “parties”, establish this Agreement, considering that it is in their best common interest to develop cooperation activities in their own areas, in accordance with the binding legal rules and regulations.

2. THE OBJECT

The purpose of this Agreement is to establish cooperation between the parties involved, in order to develop academic, scientific and cultural activities under the scope of sustainable green cities, nature-based economy and sustainable societies as well as ecosystem’s sustainable management and utilization, with due consideration to their respective European and Asian scientific, technological and innovation contexts and to its global relevance in climate change. Special relevance will be attributed to interdisciplinary research and development activities, including those prioritized by the University of Lisbon’s College Food, Farming and Forestry (F3) and the research, technology, development and innovation activities pursued by ICBR.

3. ACTIVITIES

The parties agree upon the development of the following activities:

1. Research and teaching.
2. Technical cooperation.
3. Joint projects.
4. Academic staff and other professional exchanges.
5. Student exchanges.
6. Documentation and information.

All cooperation projects developed within the scope of this document will be the object of a jointly agreed Specific Agreement or Addendum, whose duration should not exceed the term date of this Agreement. These joint projects aim at encouraging the creation of joint teams for the submission of applications to national and international funding programmes.

3.1 - Research and teaching - The parties commit to cooperate in research and teaching at both undergraduate and postgraduate level.

3.2 - Technical cooperation - The parties commit to establish cooperation procedures for the planning and implementation of studies and projects in their areas of expertise.

3.3 - Joint projects - The parties commit to promote joint programmes for studies and projects, and to encourage the creation of joint teams for the submission of applications for international funding programmes, through the Specific Agreements or Addenda.

3.4 - Academic staff and other professional exchanges - The parties commit to promote the exchange of academic staff and other professionals for teaching, research, advisory activities, and experience sharing, through the Specific Agreements or Addenda.

3.5 - Student exchanges - The parties commit to promote professional and student exchanges at undergraduate, graduate, or research levels, based on the principle of reciprocity. The parties commit to grant scholarships for exchange students, whenever possible.

3.6 - Documentation and information - The parties will always ensure that they are mutually up-to-date and extensively informed about the development of every cooperation action, through sending documentation and sharing the results of previous non-confidential studies. The joint production of documents will be encouraged, including that of scientific and technical articles for journals and scientific events which originate from the activities of this Agreement.

4. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Joint research activities that produce results that are subject to the protection of intellectual property should be considered in the Specific Agreements or Addenda to this Agreement. Both institutions must work together to comply with their own specific Regulations in line with the general orientations that underscore the China-European Union Agreement for Scientific and Technological and Innovation Cooperation.

5. FUNDING

5.1 – The parties involved are responsible for seeking the necessary financial support for the development of activities under this Agreement and the Specific Agreements or Addenda which are signed at a later date.

5.2 – Scholarships may be granted to allow for mobility of staff, professionals and students under this Agreement, with due respect for the principle of reciprocity. The number, requisites, and general conditions concerning these scholarships will be set annually, taking into account the budget defined by each institution.

5.3 – The parties may invite third parties, by mutual consent for financing the implementation of the activities under this Agreement and the Specific Agreements or Addenda which are signed at a later date. The mechanism of the involvement of the third party is to be agreed upon by the parties and included in each Specific Agreement or Addendum.

6. MANAGEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT

The management of this Agreement will be carried out by a Coordinating Committee, composed of representatives from each institution involved, which will be responsible for all the areas involved. The Coordinating Committee will prepare an annual follow-up report by the end date of this Agreement, which must describe all actions carried out, and should present an evaluation of the results achieved.

Each party shall undertake to observe the confidentiality of documents, information and other data received from or supplied to the other party during the period of the implementation of this Agreement and its Specific Agreements or Addenda; the confidentiality rules continue to be binding between the parties notwithstanding its termination.

Any disputes that may arise out of the interpretation and/or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation between the parties.

7. INSURANCE

All participants participating in mobility programmes must provide adequate and valid proof of health insurance for the whole of their mobility period, respecting the terms specified by the host institution before the start of the trip.

8. EFFECTIVE TERM AND ALTERATIONS TO THE AGREEMENT

8.1 This Agreement will become effective upon the date of its signature, and will be valid for a period of 5 years, after which it may be renewed for the same period, subject to the communication and delivery of the intention to do so by one of the parties, by a minimum of 90 days before the end of the term date of this agreement.

8.2 Any alteration to this Agreement has to be accepted by both parties, and will be subject to the same procedure as that used for the first agreement.

8.3 In the event of termination, both institutions will take all necessary measures to avoid any negative impacts to themselves or others, and all ongoing actions will be implemented until their conclusion.

This Agreement was read by both parties, who being aware of its full extent, hereby sign it in duplicate.

Signed on 14/05/2018

Prof. Doutor António Cruz Serra
Rector

Prof. Jiang Zehui
Director General