



MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS 2023

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR HOSTING MARIE CURIE FELLOWS

HOST INSTITUTION

NOVA FCSH | School of Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Unit: CICS.NOVA

RESEARCH GROUP AND URL

RG3: Cities, Environment and Regional Development
<https://www.cics.nova.fcsh.unl.pt/research/research-groups/3-cities-environment-and-regional-development>

SUPERVISOR (NAME AND E-MAIL)

Iva Pires
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SHORT CV OF THE SUPERVISOR

Iva Miranda Pires is Associate Professor at NOVA School of Social Sciences and Humanities, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa; she has a PhD in Human Geography, from University of Lisbon. She is the coordinator of the PhD program in Human Ecology. She is a senior researcher at CICS.Nova, the Interdisciplinary Centre of Social Sciences. Since 2018 she is member of the Advisory Board of the National (Portuguese) Commission to Combat Food Waste. She was involved in the coordination or as team member of several research projects funded by the Portuguese Science Foundation (FCT) as well as international projects. She coordinated two projects funded by FCT (2006-2013) and the project Making Science work in Society (2010-13), Acções Integradas Luso-Britânicas Luso- financed by CRUP. She co-coordinated a project on food waste in Portugal, PERDA (Project on the Study and Reflection on Food Waste) a Green Ideas Award 2011, the first study on food waste and the first estimate on food loss and waste in the FSC in Portugal. She was the scientific coordinator of FELOW Mundus (2013-2017), an Erasmus Mundus mobility program led by UNL, joining 17 Universities, 6 European and 11 Latin American universities. She was the coordinator of an EU KA2 Erasmus+ project Read4Succeed (2019-2022) and of the Portuguese team in an Erasmus+ project With Nature to Mutual Understanding (2016-2019). Presently she is member of an Erasmus KA220-HED project A new academic path for EU Project managers: narrowing the gaps to enable better project design and management in Europe (EUPM) (2021–2024). She is a team member (as an expert) of the project European Consumer Food Waste Forum (2021-2023), coordinated by the Joint Research Center (JRC) with the support of DG SANTE that aims to gather data and identify a variety of evidence-based, practical solutions to reduce food waste at the consumer level, including household and food services.

Her main scientific areas of research are human ecology, sustainable development, food systems and food waste, social and economic geography. As regards her academic experience she has several publications on these topics, including books, book chapters and academic papers. She was visiting professor at Brazilian as well as European Universities. She organized and participated in seminars, symposia, conferences, and national and international congresses and workshops. She also supervises several master and PhD thesis. She has experience and skills on science communication, namely on food waste. She works practically with schools on activities for food waste prevention, with consumer engagement to create awareness for sustainable consumption forms, food waste and solutions and with various stakeholders to reduce food waste and to increase public awareness on it.

5 SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Pires, I (2023). Sixty years of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the challenges ahead to create a healthy food system for people and planet, In Bernadett Csurgó, Nicole Mathie and Boldizsár Megyesi (editors) Rural society, power, and social integration (being published).
- Pires, I.; Machado, J.; Rocha, A.; Liz Martins, M. (2022). Food Waste Perception of Workplace Canteen Users—A Case Study. Sustainability, 14 (3): 1324. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su14031324>



- Vizinho A.; Cabral I.; Nogueira C.; Pires I., Bilotta P. (2021). Rural Renaissance, Multifunctional Landscapes, and Climate Adaptation: Trilogy Proposa; from Grassroots Innovation and Participatory Action Research Projects, in Leal Filho W., Luetz J., Ayal D. (eds) Handbook of Climate Change Management (pp 1-23). Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-22759-3_55-1
- Pires, I., Fernandez-Zamudio, M., Vidal-Mones, B., Beltrão-Martins, R. (2020). The Impact of COVID-19 lockdown on Portuguese household's food waste behaviors. *Human Ecology Review*, 26 (1):59-69.
- Bruckmeier, Karl; Pires, Iva (2018). Innovation as transformation – integrating the socio-ecological perspectives of resilience and sustainability, in Pinto, H.; Noronha, T.; Vaz, E. (Ed.) Resilience and Regional Dynamics: an International Approach to a New Research Agenda (chapter11, pp209-232). Regional Science Series. Switzerland: Springer International. ISBN 978-3-319-95134-8; ISBN 978-3-319-95135-5 (e-Book).

PROJECT TITLE AND SHORT DESCRIPTION

Transforming Food Systems

The issues related to food (supply and demand) will pose enormous challenges in the near future, requiring a transition to more sustainable food systems and changes in consumption patterns. Among these challenges are the need to feed a growing global population, reducing food insecurity, and at the same time, the urgency to reduce the ecological footprint associated with food production and distribution, which has an impact on climate change - another major challenge facing humanity. In addition to climate instability, rising energy prices, and scarcity of natural resources (such as water), other unexpected situations such as pandemics and conflicts affect food production and lead to price increases. At the same time, globally, about one-third of the food produced is lost or wasted, while 822 million people are food insecure. The COVID-19 pandemic has pushed an additional 135 million people into that situation, and the impact of the war in Ukraine is yet to be assessed. In the EU, 55 million tons of food are lost or wasted every year, resulting in associated environmental, economic, and social costs. In Western countries, most of this waste occurs in households, where food is purchased, prepared, and consumed at home and out-of-home (in school or workplace canteens, restaurants, hotels, etc.). Understanding consumer behaviour and their decisions regarding food is thus essential.

On the other hand, in the context of food modernity, social, economic, and cultural transformations occurring in contemporary society have impacts on food and dietary practices. This includes the trend to homogenise food, diets and food cultures, as well as the medicalization of food, the increase in the number of food contacts replacing main meals, unhealthy diets that both overfeed and malnourish us, leading to serious public health problems with the rise of lifestyle diseases that have turned into true epidemics (such as obesity). But there is also a growing awareness of risk among consumers who distrust the food chain, which has become a source of uncertainty, anxiety, and fears as a result of successive food crises.

We welcome students interested in discussing these topics from a multidisciplinary approach.

SCIENTIFIC AREA WHERE THE PROJECT FITS BEST*

Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)

***Scientific Area where the project fits best** – Please select/indicate the scientific area according to the panel evaluation areas: Chemistry (CHE) • Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC) • Economic Sciences (ECO) • Information Science and Engineering (ENG) • Environment and Geosciences (ENV) • Life Sciences (LIF) • Mathematics (MAT) • Physics (PHY)