

Pedido de informação

Pedido da A3ES

Remetente:

CAE

Assunto:

The CAE request for more information about the NCE Phd in Agribusiness & Sustainability

Pedido:

Once analyzed, the PAPNCE of the PhD in Agribusiness and Sustainability, CAE considers that to make a more sustained analysis, it needs the answer to some questions

5 - It is not totally clear who the target students will be (8.2). The report does not clarify the target remitting to "internal management data" of the institutions. This point should be better clarified.

Resposta da IES

Resposta:

This PhD was designed with both (inter)national demand and supply side benchmarking criteria and the EU's Horizon 2020 objectives and policies in mind, to meet the needs of both students and the agroforestry and food sector. It aims to transcend national boundaries, attracting students with a wide range of academic qualifications and skill-sets, some of whom will already possess professional experience.

Those with masters degrees in management, economics, agroforestry, food and environmental sciences may be more familiar with the PhD's themes, but students from other areas (e.g. engineering, oenology, sociology and anthropology) may also be attracted. Since both the host institutions offer first and masters degrees in the above disciplines, some of their own students will apply; this demand will be complemented by students with a similar profile from other national institutions teaching these subjects. International candidates, particularly those from institutions with which UTAD and UÉ have cooperation agreements, will also be attracted. Data for 2015-16 indicate that UTAD enrolled 140 students in the 7 masters degrees that match the thematic areas of the PhD (economics, management and agrarian sciences). With students enrolled in similar courses at UÉ, this would give a maximum "in-house" recruitment universe of over 250 students. Also, the host institutions' research activities allow them to recruit junior research fellows (JRFs) with masters degrees and appropriate research interests, whose participation in the course – while not generating additional revenue – would enrich the projects being conducted by research fellows, programme attractiveness and the teaching-learning experience.

Professionals working in the agroforestry and food sector, and in others with rural sustainability concerns (e.g. biofuels and large retail suppliers) are another key focus that includes staff from private and non-profit organizations, entrepreneurs, and technical- and policy-related professionals in public bodies. Partnerships already established by UTAD and UÉ with sector stakeholders via research collaboration and commissioned studies will attract further students.

This PhD also aims to recruit high quality applicants worldwide, particularly from Lusophone and Latin American countries, thereby enhancing its internationalization and visibility, and generating other advantages. Having participants from abroad will also promote global inter-institutional research collaboration and contribute to the programme's long-term sustainability. The use of (inter)national networking and continuous benchmarking will also help to assure the future sustainability of the course.

The incorporation of a wide variety of skills and innovative know-how into the programme via contributions by teachers, researchers and stakeholders, by further boosting quality, relevance and sustainability, will enrich the course's final outcomes.