



**PLATAFORMA  
DE INTERFACE  
À CIÊNCIA**

# MAPPING OF THE PORTUGUESE NETWORK OF RESEARCH SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS

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José Avelino Silva, Teresa Costa, and Cláudia Oliveira

**PORTUGUESE PLATFORM OF SCIENCE INTERFACE  
PLATAFORMA DE INTERFACE À CIÊNCIA (PIC)**

24TH ANNUAL EARMA CONFERENCE, PK-6 PECHA KUCHA SESSION 6 (14.15H)  
18 APRIL 2018, BRUSSELS

# WHO WE ARE



**Plataforma de Interface à Ciência (PIC)** is a Portuguese network of professionals working at the interface to science, in areas such as research management, science communication, innovation and value creation, which aims to boost international competitiveness and improve the impact of research.

# WHO WE ARE



## PIC Working Group 1

Professionals from 14 institutions: 5 national regions (Aveiro, Braga, Coimbra, Lisbon, Porto) + 1 international (Brussels, Belgium)

### Moderators:

Cláudia Oliveira

Madalena Martins

António Monteiro

Cláudia Oliveira

Cristina Oliveira

Filipa Borrego

Helena Mendes

Inês Lopes da Fonseca

Joelma Almeida

José Avelino Silva

Madalena Martins

Manuel Silva

Maria João Machado

Paula Pais

Sara Abade

Teresa Costa



# OBJECTIVES WG1

- Analysis of previous surveys / studies to prepare the national survey (e.g. RAAAP, COST BESTPRAC)
- Establishment and selection of key questions (national vs. European)
- Preparation of the survey “Mapping of the Portuguese Community of Science Interface Professionals”
- Coordination of **WG1** with the other working groups:
  - **WG2** (Communication)
  - **WG3** (Training and Professional Development)
  - **WG4** (Science and Benchmarking Policies)

# TIMELINE



Second PIC Conference “Interfaces to Science: Adding Value to Knowledge”  
2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018



Launch of Survey to Portuguese Science Interface Professionals (*ongoing*)  
February 2018 (Deadline 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018)



WG1: Setting of the action plan: design and preparation of the survey to be launched  
Since February 2017



WG establishment (WG1/2/3/4) and monthly communication/interaction among its members  
Since December 2016



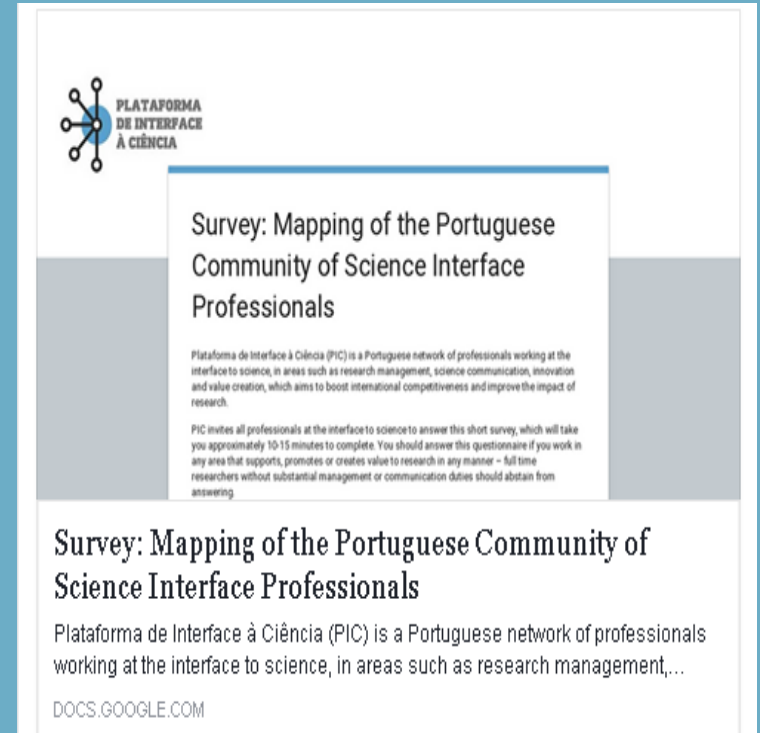
First PIC Conference: “From Challenge to Opportunity-Perspectives for the Research Managers in Portugal”  
24<sup>th</sup> November 2016



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# SURVEY

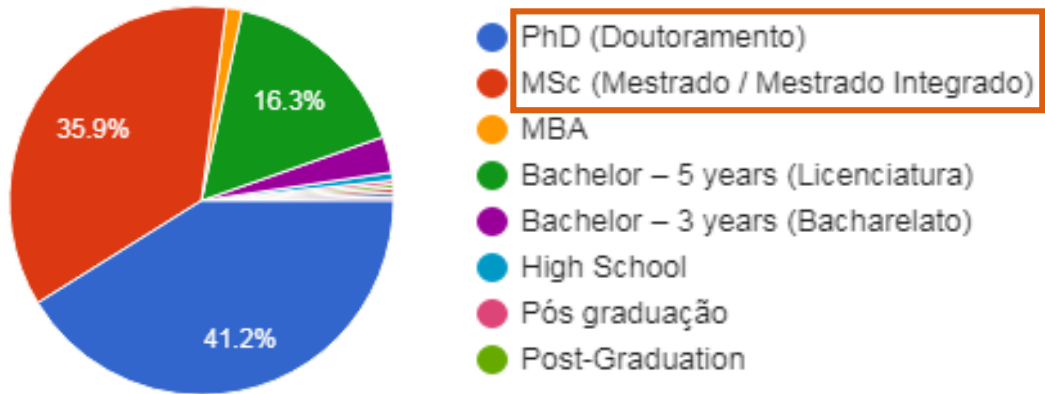
- Objective: Mapping the Portuguese community of Research Support Professionals **gathering information on their career prospects, type of contract, expertise, among other criteria**
- Questions: 36 (in English)
- Response time: 10 to 15 minutes
- Target audience: **any professional working in any area that supports, promotes or creates value for research**
- Dissemination:
  - Associations - PIC, Finca Pé, Cogitec and Scicom.
  - Governmental organizations - Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education, Foundation for Science and Technology  
*(in talks for broader dissemination)*



# OUTCOMES (N=301)

## Qualifications & Experience as Science Interface Professional

### Highest Qualifications (N = 301)



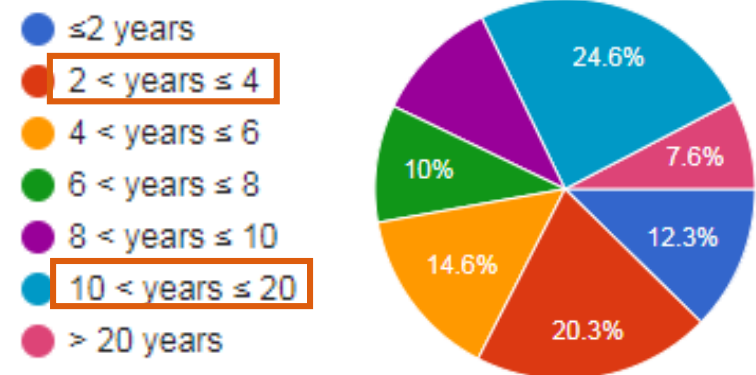
### Demographics (N = 301)

**Female: 70,1%    Male: 29,9%**

**Age (years):**

- ≤20 years: 0%
- 20 - 29 : 9,0%
- 30 - 39 : 47,5%**
- 40 - 49 : 32,2%**
- 50 - 59 : 9,6%
- ≥ 60 : 1,7%

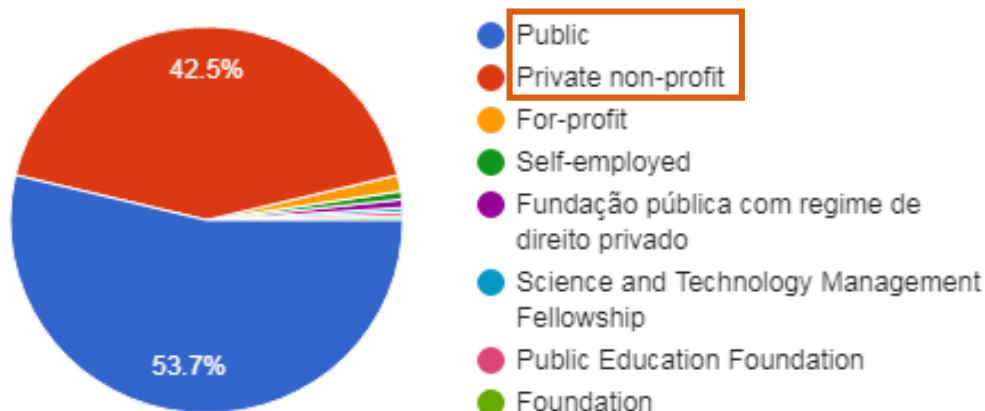
### Years of Experience as Science Interface Professional (N = 301)



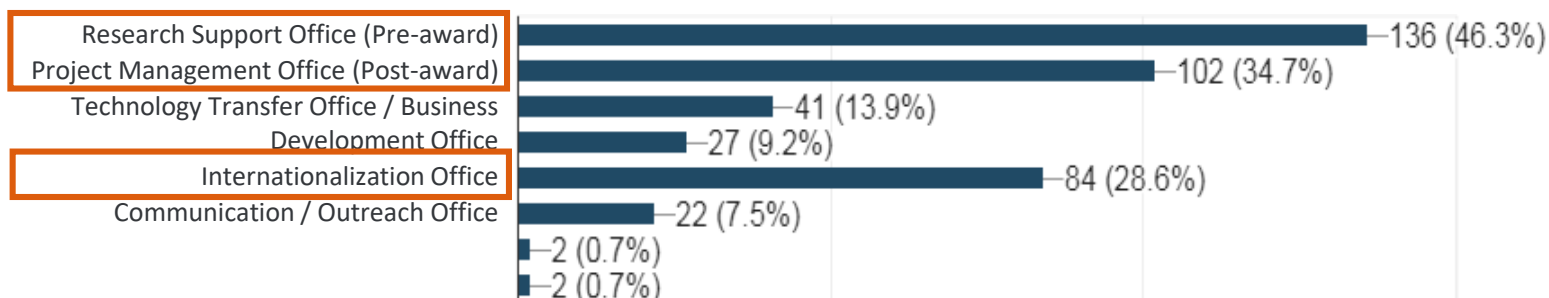
# OUTCOMES (N=301)

## Employer Institution & Main Activities

### Type of employer institution (N = 294)



### Office/Department/Unit characterisation (N = 294)

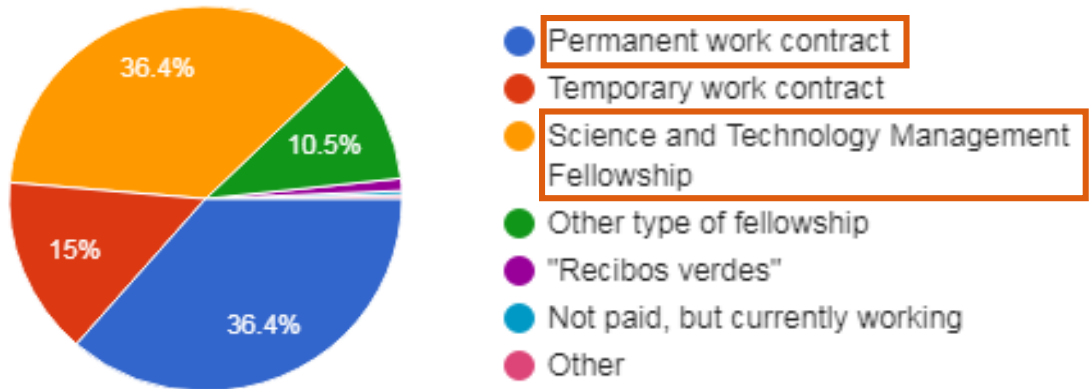




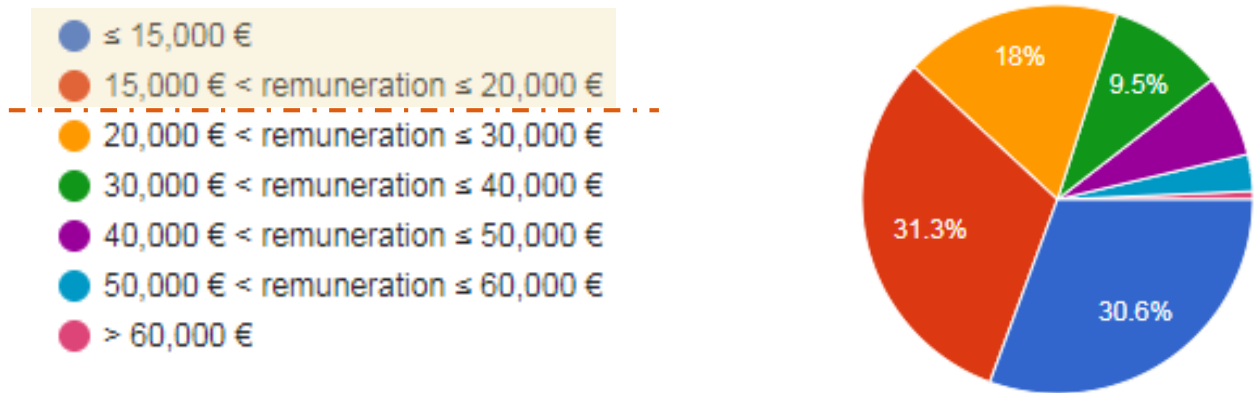
# OUTCOMES (N=301)

## Type of contract & Gross Income

### Type of contract (N = 294)



### Current annual remuneration/gross income (N = 294)



# OUTCOMES (N=301)

## Type of activities

### Currently developed activities (N = 234)



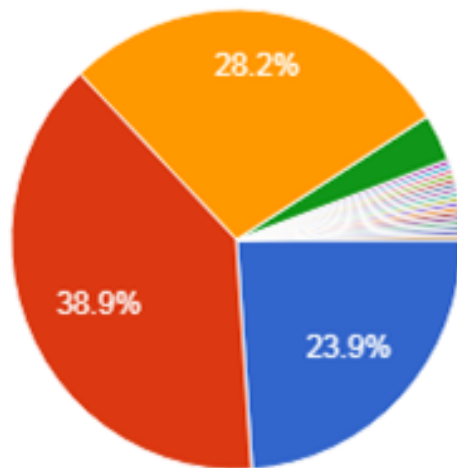
### Research management post-award



# OUTCOMES (N=301)

## Level of Responsibility

### Current level(s) of responsibility (N = 301)



- Leader (director, head, coordinator)
- Manager (with at least some project...)
- Officer/administrator (mainly with as...)
- Consultant (mainly with advising rol...)
- Researcher and collaborator in the...
- I am self employed so I am the coor...
- IP & TT Officer - responsável pela g...
- Scientific Officer

# OUTCOMES (N=301)

## Science Interface Added Value

To what level do you think your Senior management (Directors/Heads of Faculty/Deans, etc.) considers the added value of your role (not your performance) in the organisation?

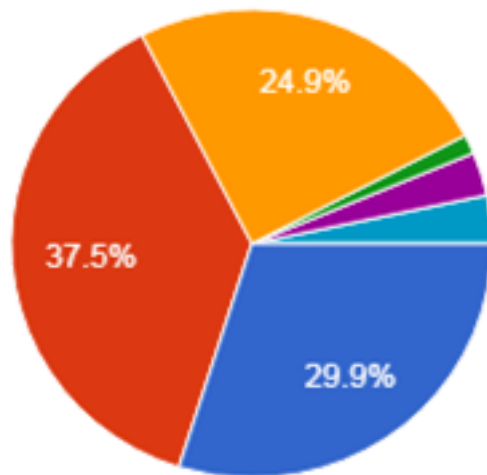
(N = 301)



# OUTCOMES (N=301)

## Science Interface Added Value

To what level do you think the scientific community of your organisation (academics, researchers, etc.) considers the added value of your role (not your performance) in the organisation? (N = 301)

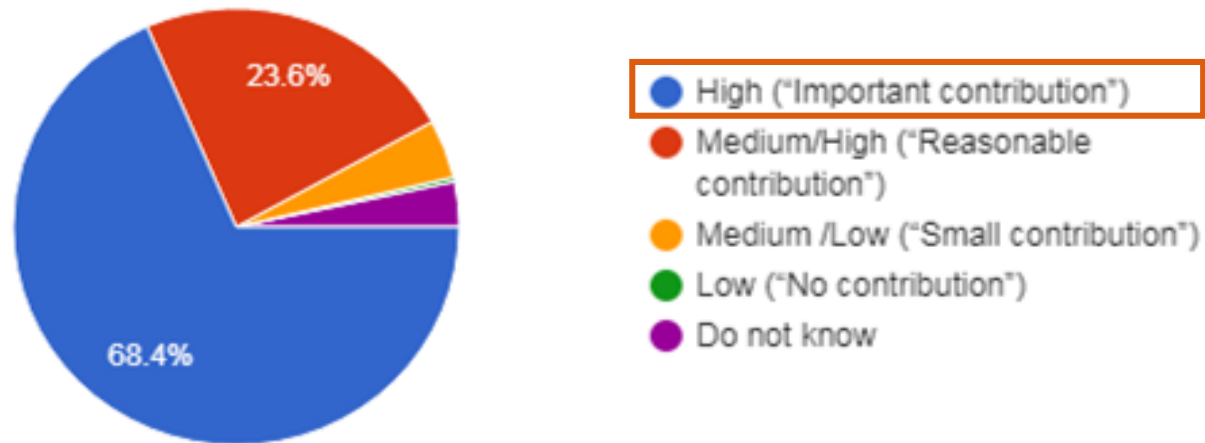


- High ("The remainder of my organisation does recognise fully the importance of the role associated wi...")
- Medium/High ("reasonably recognise the importance of the role associated with my current position")
- Medium /Low ("Mixed feelings")
- Low ("My role is not recognised at all")
- Do not know
- Not applicable

# OUTCOMES (N=301)

## Science Interface Contribution to R&D Development in Portugal

To what level do you think the science interface professionals contribute to the R&D development in Portugal? (N = 301)



# OUTCOMES (N=301)

## Research Management Priorities

Top priorities for the Portuguese Science  
Interface Professionals

Employment  
contracts



# OUTCOMES (N=301)

Most relevant challenges for the Portuguese  
Science Interface Professionals

Research Management  
Challenges

Potential changes of the  
political scenario for  
science at the European  
and National level

Increased expectations  
from society

The need to deal effectively with an  
increasing diversity of international  
cooperation contexts

Increased expectations from  
funding agencies

Increasing complexity of  
contracts and calls

Increasing complexity of  
ethical issues





# OUTCOMES (N=301)

Reasons to stay working in  
areas of Interface to Science

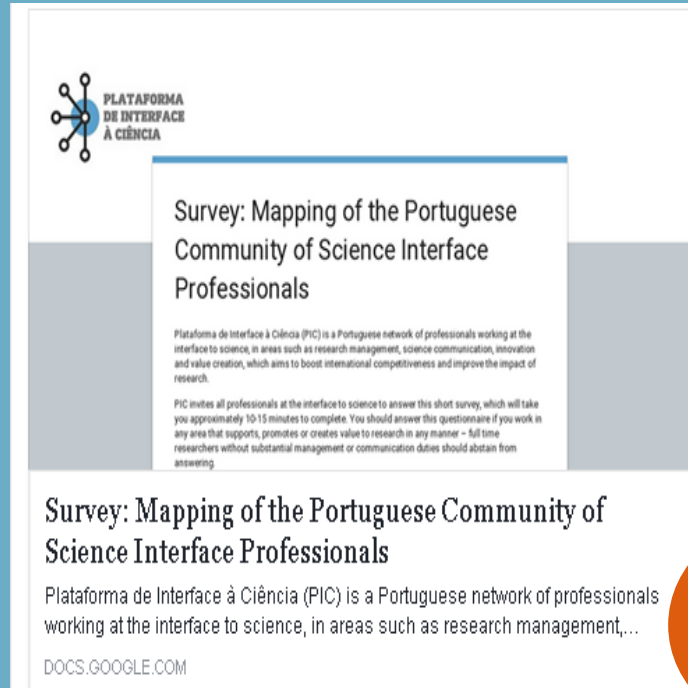
I am making an important contribution (68%)

I am constantly learning something new (65%)

I enjoy the work  
related to R&I  
(51%)

To the Portuguese Interface  
Professionals at the Conference

**TAKE PART !**



**PLATAFORMA DE INTERFACE À CIÊNCIA**

### Survey: Mapping of the Portuguese Community of Science Interface Professionals

Plataforma de Interface à Ciência (PIC) is a Portuguese network of professionals working at the interface to science, in areas such as research management, science communication, innovation and value creation, which aims to boost international competitiveness and improve the impact of research.

PIC invites all professionals at the interface to science to answer this short survey, which will take you approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. You should answer this questionnaire if you work in any area that supports, promotes or creates value to research in any manner – full time researchers without substantial management or communication duties should abstain from answering.

### Survey: Mapping of the Portuguese Community of Science Interface Professionals

Plataforma de Interface à Ciência (PIC) is a Portuguese network of professionals working at the interface to science, in areas such as research management,...

DOCS.GOOGLE.COM

**Deadline  
30<sup>th</sup> April  
2018**

This is your contribution for a better knowledge about our emerging and challenging professions. Please do take the time to answer it; your contribution is very important!

<http://goo.gl/sA98fB>



MAPPING OF THE PORTUGUESE NETWORK OF RESEARCH SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS

# THANK YOU!

## Questions?

**For further information, please contact:**

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Cláudia Oliveira: [claudiarroliveira@gmail.com](mailto:claudiarroliveira@gmail.com)

