

ANA ALEXANDRA SOARES ARANDA DA SILVA

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Rua Professor Agostinho da Silva no.11 3ºE - 2775-021 Parede - Portugal

Experience in Science Education, Training, Administration and Management as the head of Advanced training of the Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência, coordinating all the [Training Programmes](#). 7 years in Education and Training Management, as well as career development. Member of [COLIFE](#) and chair of the [Recruitment and Training Workgroup of EULIFE](#), an alliance of research institutes advocating for excellent research in Europe. Before moving into management, Ana had 8 years-experience as an independent researcher expert in deep-sea biology and ecology. Have trained a research team and set up a laboratory for the morphological and molecular analysis of benthic organisms and sediments through a funded project. The work focused on promoting the sustainable use of marine resources and its value, one of the best natural resources available to Portugal, and at the same time ensuring the systematic assessment of the environmental status and biodiversity preservation, contributing to maintain a good environmental status in the marine environment by 2020, a requisite from the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Valuable social and organizational skills such as communication and leadership skills, strategic and problem-solving thinking, strong teamwork focus and excellent time management and planning skills.

EDUCATION

Postgraduation in Science and Technology Management and Policy – Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas, Universidade Nova de Lisboa	2020	-
Project (in course): IGC PhD Programmes Evolution and evaluation of its contribution to the current life science community in Portugal	2021	
Postdoc: Benthic foraminiferal communities in relation to past and present environmental gradients associated with the Nazaré and Setúbal canyons (Portuguese continental margin) – Universidade de Aveiro, Laboratório Nacional de Energia e geologia (LENG), then Instituto Português do Mar e da Atmosfera (IPMA), Portugal	2006 2014	-
PhD in Oceanography – University of Southampton, UK		
Thesis: Benthic Protozoa community attributes in relation to environmental gradients in the Arabian Sea	2001 2005	-
MSc Coastal Zone Management – Bournemouth University, UK		
Internship and thesis: NGO Plan International Philippines: Fish catch monitoring of three municipalities off the coast of Isabela province (Palanan, Divilacan and Maconacon) and the possible fisheries management implications for the area - Philippines	1998 1999	-
BSc (Hons) Marine Biology with Ecology – University of Plymouth, UK		
Thesis: Spatial variation of meiofauna on a tropical sandy beach	1995 1998	-

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2017 – present Head of Advanced Training at the Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência since 2018 and before started as the PhD Programme Assistance. The work involves all the administrative procedures from opening and managing the calls for applications, to processing fellowships, project management, website contents developing and updating, for the IGC Undergraduate Summer School Programme, MSc Projects PhD Programmes and Postdoctoral Training. Besides the assistance on the formal education, now coordinating all the training and career development of young researchers, ensuring that IGC provides scientific training as well as professional development and career development to all young researchers and students.

- Budget preparation, management and reporting
- Applying for external funding
- Management and processing of student recruitment
- Organization and management of all training documents
- Classes, courses, workshops, retreats, event organization
- Alumni database maintenance and development
- Dissemination of IGC Training through website, extensive mailing lists curated for each purpose, social media dissemination
- Organization of transferable and complementary training to young researchers

2015 – 2016 Career Break as a mother and dance teacher

2009 – 2014 Principal investigator (PI) from the University of Aveiro, Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT) funded project **Deepsea foraminifera from the Portuguese Margin – DeepForams**. The main aim of the project was to characterize benthic foraminiferal communities in order to observe ecological patterns associated with canyon versus non-canyons in the Portuguese margin, assess biodiversity of poorly known species (soft-shelled species), increase the molecular database on soft-shelled foraminifera and try to gain insights onto to the origins of early foraminifera. The project involved:

- all the management, including project reports and a workshop organization
- collaborative work with researchers from the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton (NOCS), UK and the Molecular Systematics Group (MSG) of University of Geneva, Switzerland
- set up the laboratory for the morphological and molecular analysis of benthic organisms and sediments at the Instituto Português do Mar e da Atmosfera (IPMA)
- Training of several students (technical, undergraduate and postgraduate)
- several science outreach activities were done for children of pre-school and primary school years.

2006 – 2014 Participant in the European projects **HERMES** (Hotspot Ecosystem Research on the Margins of European Seas) and its successor **HERMIONE** (Hotspot Ecosystem Research and Man's Impact on European Seas), having contributed for the increase in knowledge on the biodiversity of benthic foraminifera from the Portuguese submarine canyons, considered to be hotspots of biodiversity. Has participated as well in national projects:

- **LusoMarBol** (Integrating molecular approaches into marine biodiversity research in Portugal: implementing DNA barcoding and investigating phylogeographic patterns)
- **SWIMGLO** – (The Gloria-SWIM plate boundary Faults connection and its importance on the propagation of tectonic deformation and deep)
- **CoolNematode** (Development of a novel molecular approach for the rapid assessment of the biodiversity changes of benthic nematode assemblages during habitat recovery of *Zoostera noltii* seagrass beds), contributing with the expertise in benthic foraminifera and molecular barcoding of deep sea species.

During these years have also been involved in 5 other science, 5 science management and three outreach thought the arts project applications both as PI and collaborator.

EXPERIENCE AS SCIENTIFIC ADVISER

Supervisor of 3 postgraduate researchers (Ana Costa) working under the project DeepForams, at UGM, LNEG, and at CESAM, University of Aveiro. Have also supervised an undergraduate project thesis from the University of Aveiro and two undergraduate summer school students (one from the University of Lisbon and another visiting from University of Kiel, Germany). In the laboratory have trained four professional lab technician students.

TRAINING

2022 Leadership Course for heads of services at IGC

2021 Training on Interpersonal Communication

Statistics and Quantitative Biology. July 1st – 5th 2019. The course covered probability theory, uncertainty, independence, measurement, estimation, hypotheses assessment, power analysis and experimental design, using the software R.

Programming in Python for Biologists (PPB17). November 27th – November 30th 2017, The Gulbenkian Training Programme in Bioinformatics, IGC, Portugal

Course of Identification of Non-indigenous species of the Portuguese Coast, given by Dr. Miriam Tuaty Guerra and Maria José Gaudêncio at IPMA thought the BioMarPT project.

Course on Oceanography: basic principles and main processes, given by Prof. Dr. Carlos Gil Martins, Instituto de Ciências Biomédicas Abel Salazar, Universidade do Porto, Portugal.

Course on Molecular Phylogeny: Principles, techniques, and problem solving, given by Dr. Gonzalo Giribet, Harvard University, USA and Dr. Ward Wheeler, American Museum of Natural History, USA.

HERMES 2nd training Workshop: Integrated Sustainable Management of Marine Resources: Future Trends in Science, Law, Policy and Management.

Intensive training at MSG in molecular techniques including: DNA extraction, PCRs, electrophoresis gel, purifications, sequencing, cloning, sequence alignment and molecular data analysis using Neighbour-Joining and Maximum Likelihood methods, using the programmes ClustalX, Seaview and Phylo-Win.

Training in electronic microscopy: Transmitted Electron Microscopy (TEM) at the Biomedical Imaging Unit, Southampton General Hospital, UK; High Voltage Electron Microscopy (HVEM) Microscopy at the Wadsworth Center, Albany, USA and Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) at NOCS.

RESEARCH CRUISES

Has participated in several oceanographic cruises (8): on the Oman and Pakistan margins of the Arabian Sea, Irish Margin on board British research vessels and on the Portuguese margin on board British, Dutch and Portuguese research vessels. During the cruises, has worked with several equipment to collect water, sediment and biological samples.

PUBLICATIONS

EMBO Report: Time for change in research careers: Are we as research organizations doing everything we can for postdocs? [DOI 10.15252/embr.202154260](https://doi.org/10.15252/embr.202154260)

EULIFE Best Practices for Postdoc Career Support in the Life Sciences - [A Hands-On Guide for Research Institutions](#)

7 ISI publications in international journals: Deepsea Research, Marine Biology e Zootaxa (h'index 7) with 313 citations
13 oral and 11 poster presentations in international conferences like World Conference of Marine Biodiversity, Deep-Sea Biology Symposium, European Marine Biology Symposium and Forams.

1 webpage <http://deepforams.web.ua.pt/DeepForams/Homepage.html>

Reviewer for international journals: Polar Biology, International Journal of Oceanography and Deep-Sea Research.
Evaluator for projects in Marine science.

OTHER RELEVANT KNOWLEDGE

Experience using the operating systems Windows and OS. Experience in using: MS office, Google Docs and forms, Wordpress, Adobe Acrobat Pro, Photoshop. Basic knowledge in programming in Python and R. Together with programmers have been developing new software using Django.

LANGUAGES

Portuguese (mother tongue); English (Bilingual); Spanish and French (Basic)

ADICIONAL INFORMATION

Have lived in Mozambique, Portugal and United Kingdom; Have worked in the Phillipines, Switzerland and the United States and have travelled the world as the daughter of a diplomat.

RYA sailing and powerboating level 3 and 4; PADI diving certificate; IDTA tap and Modern Dance grades and have given dance classes for adults.