Evaluation Results

Project: PTDC/CPC-HAT/1688/2014
Title: Mapa da Habitação: Reflexão crítica sobre a arquitectura habitacional apoiada pelo Estado em Portugal (1910-1974)

FCT's decision (Artigo 11º do Regulamento)

Recommended for Funding - Total Funding: €199.679,00

Evaluation Panel Statement and Rating

Criterion A - (i) Relevance and originality of the project proposed (based on the state-of-the-art in a determined scientific area and previous work done by the proposing team); (ii) Methodology adopted for carrying out the project; (iii) Expected results and their contribution to scientific and technological knowledge; (iv) Resulting publications and articles; (v) Contribution towards promoting and disseminating science and technology; (vi) Production of knowledge that can be incorporated into and applied to the business sector, if applicable.

Rating: 8
Comments: (i) The panel agreed this is a thorough and well thought through application. Its particular strength lies in its multidisciplinary approach that brings existing atomistic research into a larger study and scope. (ii) The methodology is excellent; well defined and coherent with the "key research question". Each task clearly lays out the activities with the assigned roles of the researchers involved. However, item 1 (Documental) could be better detailed, especially regarding the "photographic references". (iii) The project foresees outstanding expected results concerning new insights on the topic through the multidisciplinary engagement, a working database for the analysis of data, various knowledge exchange events that serve as feedback instruments and strong outputs linked to the international academic community. (iv) The range of outputs is excellent and realistic. The book following the conference is well conceptualised in that it will include proceedings and international comparative cases to indicate future directions. The integration of knowledge exchange throughout the project is outstanding. However, it would have been important to provide a strategy for the sustainability of the open access database for the period after the project conclusion. (v) The project has excellent integrated dissemination plans: the international conference on '20th century Public Housing under debate' serving as international comparison and dissemination; the exhibition will make the research accessible to a wider audience; booklets serve as dissemination tools for debate to feed back into the research progress and to raise awareness. (vi) The project can be expected to have significant impact on the building sector, architecture practice, housing policy, and the heritage sector.

Criterion B - (i) Scientific productivity of the team (references to publications and citations in published works, other relevant indicators); (ii) Abilities and skills to adequately execute the proposed project (team configuration, Principal Investigator's (PI) qualifications); (iii) Ability to involve young researchers in training; (iv) Availability of the team and non duplication of objectives in relation to other projects underway; (v) The degree of internationalization of the team; (vi) Degree of success in previous projects in relation to the Principal Investigator (PI) (in the case of young PIs, this requirement must be assessed based on the potential revealed by the PIs curriculum vitae in the absence of prior concrete accomplishments); (vii) Level of commitment of any companies participating in the project (if applicable).

Rating: 8
Comments: (i) The PI is very experienced with relevant expertise in the proposed topic. The team as a whole has an excellent track record and relevant expertise in social/community housing in architecture, social science, archiving, history with relevant publications and experience in research collaborations. (ii) The PI holds senior positions and responsibilities and brings the appropriate expertise to lead this project. Espegel also has an excellent track record with involvement in research projects. (iii) The project is outstanding in terms of young researcher involvement. (iv) The two current projects by the PI started in 2012 and presumably will end in 2015? There are no other projects mentioned. (v) The team has a strong international element in terms of staff and consultant as well as in terms of integration and comparative studies with the European state-of-the-art including the international conference and book publication. (vi) The PI has been working on two closely related research projects that presumably finish in 2015 (running since 2012, funded by FCT) which prepared the ground for this application. (vii) n/a
Criterion C - (i) Organization of the project in terms of the proposed objectives and resources (duration, equipment, size of the team, institutional and management resources); (ii) Institutional resources of the proposing and participating entities (technical-scientific, organizational and managerial and, when appropriate, co-funding capacity on the part of companies).

Rating: 9

Comments: (i) The project has an excellent structure of integration of the various methodologies implied in both the research component and the database/documentation side. The exhibition will happen in the intermediate period of the project which is an excellent way to enable feedback integration. Each task is clearly described in its step for step processes and who carries what responsibility at what time. There is also a clear involvement of international/external consultants with specified roles within project tasks; respective of their task involvement they will also participate in team meetings. The application also provides a brief overview on the role and responsibilities of each involved institute, which has been very helpful. Regarding management there is a robust structure to ensure close monitoring throughout; especially with regard to the subdivision of the team into smaller production-oriented teams each headed by a member of the core team. Investigation bursaries and post-docs will be advertised every year and close collaboration with MA students as participants in the project. The requested Human Resource funding is well justified with clear tasks for each BPD/BI. The three consultants (5,000 each) have also clearly identified tasks, which justifies this resource. The acquisition/service procurement budget (33,000) is detailed and justified. (ii) n/a.

Criterion D - Contribution to the body of knowledge and competence of the National Science and Technology System (expected effects and results).

Rating: 9

Comments: The project's outcomes are expected to bring together singular research in the area of social/community housing in Portugal in the designated period, to establish a substantial database with documentary and reference materials that will serve a new attempt of interpretation that extends the focus of architecture to the engagement with larger economic, social and political dimensions. The project is ambitious in its scope, however, through its robust methodology with clearly identified objectives, milestones and timeline, it gives every confidence that it will produce realistic and significant outcomes in terms of academic research with impact in the international academic community, policy makers, architectural profession and resonance with the wider public.

Criterion E - Potential economic value of the technology (if appropriate), namely in terms of its impact on the competitiveness of the national socio-economic system.

Rating: 9

Comments: The potential economic value of this research project is not anticipated, however the impact on future housing policy can be expected to have significant impact with economic resonance. The panel scored this criterion with an average score of the application.

Overall Rating: 9

Overall Comments: This is a very good example for an outstanding application where a large database component is constructed to serve as foundation for clearly identified and distinguished interpretive academic research and access. It brings together an excellent team of researchers who have conducted singular research in aspects related to this project including architects, sociologists, historians and archivists, at different stages in their career (seniors, post-doc, and PhD and master students). Estegel has conducted a similar documentary approach in a project in the context of Spanish community houses and is a core member of the team. There is no mentioning that a similar large-scale and multidisciplinary project exists in Portugal to date. As such it can be expected to have significant impact for future methodological approaches and knowledge exchange strategies. The application proposes an exemplary integrated knowledge exchange strategy throughout the duration of the project. The plan to hold an exhibition at the intermediate stage of the project is beneficial in order to integrate any important feedback into the research/publication process. The project as a whole appears to be inclusive and aims to conduct rigorous research and interlinking it with the international community. As such its claims are modest with clearly identified aims, objectives and milestones. With a robust management structure and a cascading of responsibilities of monitoring and supervision, it gives every confidence that it will achieve its goals and make a significant contribution to the debate in this field. The fact that is has not identified specific housing estates or locality was not an issue in view of the panel since it does not claim to map all of Portugal's communal housing, but departs from a clearly identified literature analysis on which it builds and aims to extend the existing debate through archival research into primary sources, documentation, database linkage, interpretation, publications, presentations and dissemination. The application presents a clear work plan with detailed descriptors for each task and specific role of the allocated researchers and also provides an overview on the role of the involved institutes. The resourcing is justified and the project appears to provide very good value for money. The involvement of many young researchers, integrated in the MA programme at FA/UP is a particular strength of the application which contributes to research training and research career trajectories of early career researchers. This project has been recommended by the panel with the highest priority of funding.
Panel Recommended Funding [¹]: € 199,679.00

[¹] According to budget availability, the total funding recommended by FCT might be different from the one recommended by the panel.

Comments: The requested funds are all well justified and appropriate to the scope of the research and the work plan.

Panel Recommended Funding for Human Resources: € 72,407.00

Comments: The allocation of funds for participating research is appropriate and well justified; the involvement of many young researchers is a particular strength of the project.

Position of the PI relative to FCT’s decision and panel evaluation (to be completed by 07-09-2015)

Do you accept FCT’s decision in accordance with the submitted work plan and the Panel budget recommendations?

Yes

Administrative or procedural comments (optional) - in english

0/3000

Technical or scientific comments (optional) - in english

0/3000

Note: For any questions concerning this page, please see Notas e Informações.

Divulgação do resultado anunciado por email em 05-08-2015 12:18:00.