BIG – enhancing the research and innovation potential of Técnico - Lisbon through **B**lockchain technologies and design **I**nnovation for social **G**ood
Grant Agreement: 952226

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Kick-Off Project Meeting Minutes

Project Acronym: BIG

Grant Agreement No: 952226

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Venue: Instituto Superior Técnico, Informática II (Sala Tribolet) - Av. Rovisco Pais 1, 1049-001 Lisboa

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Instituto Superior Técnico

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Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome from the Project Coordinators and brief presentation of the project
2. Overview of Work Packages
3. Appointment of Management Structure
4. Appointment of the search committee
5. Announcement venues for the ERA Chair Holder Call
6. Proposal of the ERAChair website
7. ERAChair holder call text

Participants list

Participant name	Institution/ Department	Attendance
Prof. Luis O. Silva	IST	Present
Prof. José Santos-Victor	LARSyS/IST	Present
Prof. José Carlos Monteiro	IST	Present
Prof. Isabel Trancoso	INESC-ID; IST	Present
Prof. Nuno Nunes	ITI/LARSyS; IST	Present
Prof. Rodrigo Rodrigues	INESC-ID; IST	Present
Prof. Valentina Nisi	ITI/LARSyS; IST	Present
Prof. Augusto Esteves	ITI/LARSyS; IST	Present
Prof. Joana Mendonça	IN+; IST	Present
Prof. Paolo Romano	INESC-ID; IST	Present (remotely via zoom)
Prof. Miguel Pupo Correia	INESC-ID; IST	Present
Alexandra Mendes	ITI/LARSyS	Present (remotely via zoom)

1. WELCOME FROM THE PROJECT COORDINATORS AND BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE PROJECT

Prof. Nuno Nunes and Prof. Rodrigo Rodrigues started the meeting by briefly presenting the project by focusing on BIG's objectives, research strategy and expected outcomes. There was a brief presentation of each participant and their role on the project.

2. OVERVIEW OF WORK PACKAGES

WP1 – Project Management
This Work Package was presented by Prof. Nuno Nunes, who was nominated the leader of the WP. The main objective of this WP is to monitor and coordinate the project development and budget spending. Prof. Nuno Nunes will ensure that the technical and financial features are conducted properly throughout the project.

There was an explanation of the total budget and which expenses would fit in each category. The coordinator highlighted that the majority of the budget was allocated for Human Resources but there was budget for travel and accommodations - to increase IST research capacities; equipment for the BIGLAB and other goods and services.
The budget table was presented with the amount's distribution among the categories.

WP2- Recruitment of ERA Chair, Research and Support Team
Prof. Rodrigo Rodrigues was nominated the Leader of the WP2. This work package focuses on the Recruitment of the ERA Chair Holder and its team.
Special attention was payed to the recruitment of the ERA Chair Holder. The participants discussed the difficulty in hiring experts in the field, considering the Portuguese salary levels, which aren't competitive when compared to other countries in Europe.
Regarding the recruitment of the ERA Chair Research Team, it was explained that the 3 researchers will be hired at the level of Assistant Professors. In terms of research expertise, the goal is to hire on expert in blockchain technologies, one in Design Innovation and another in Social Innovation and Policy. Prof. Nuno stressed that these 3 researchers should be the bridge between the research units. The recruitment of the ERA Chair team will be done once the recruitment process is complete.

WP3- Development of Research Capacities to Participate in the ERA
Prof. Valentina Nisi was nominated the Leader of this Work Package, whose goal is to strengthen the research capacity of Técnico – Lisbon, LARSyS and INESC-ID and to promote its long-term sustainability. It was explained that Researchers, PhD students and Faculty from both Research Units can and should benefit from this opportunity to gain training on preparing for H2020 project applications, build relationships and expand the network of partners and international organizations.

WP4 - Deployment of BIGLab, Test Beds and Living Lab

Prof. Miguel Pupo Correia was nominated the leader of this Work Package. Its main objective is to enable Técnico, LARSyS and INESC-ID to enhance the existing research labs with new equipment blockchain and distributed ledger technologies. The budget of 48000€ is for the purchase of laptops, servers, tablets and mobile devices.

WP5- Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation

Prof. Joana Lobo Antunes and Alexandra Mendes are responsible for this Work Package. The activities of this WP should maximize the impact of BIG at national and international levels.

WP6 - Independent Evaluation

The coordinators of the project, prof. Nuno Nunes and prof. Rodrigo Rodrigues were nominated the leaders of this WP that focuses on the evaluation of the impact of the project.

3. APPOINTMENT OF MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

The project coordinators proposed the following members for the ERAChair Board and Research Management Unit:

Era Chair Board:
- Prof. Nuno Nunes
- Prof. Rodrigo Rodrigues
- Prof. José Santos-Victor
- Prof. Inês Lynce
- President of the Scientific Council of IST

Research Management Unit:
- Prof. Nuno Nunes
- Prof. Rodrigo Rodrigues
- Prof. Valentina Nisi
- Prof. Miguel Pupo Correia

4. APPOINTMENT OF THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

Prof. Nuno Nunes and Prof. Rodrigo Rodrigues, explained to the partakers of the meeting, the reason for selecting each member of the Search Committee. Prof. Nuno Nunes's research interests lay in design and innovation for social good while Prof. Rodrigo Rodrigues research interests evolve around blockchain and distributed systems. Hence, their fields of expertise extend to all the following members, creating a hotbed for pioneering creativity and innovation.
- Prof. Nuno Nunes, IST, ITI / LARSyS
- Prof. Rodrigo Rodrigues, IST, INESC-ID

- Prof. Sonia Mokhtar, CNRS
- Prof. Rachid Guerraoui, EPFL
- Prof. Srini Devadas, MIT
- Prof. Donatella Sciuto, Polimi
- Prof. Elena Simperi, Soton
- Prof. Chris Speed, UEd
- Dr. Neha Narula, MIT
- Dr. Miguel Castro, Microsoft Research

5. ANNOUNCEMENT VENUES FOR THE ERA CHAIR HOLDER CALL

The venues for the announcement of the ERA Chair holder were presented at the meeting. Springer Science, Communications of the ACM and IEEE Computer were selected.

6. PROPOSAL OF THE ERACHAIR WEBSITE

A proposal of the project website was presented to the meeting participants by prof. Nuno Nunes.
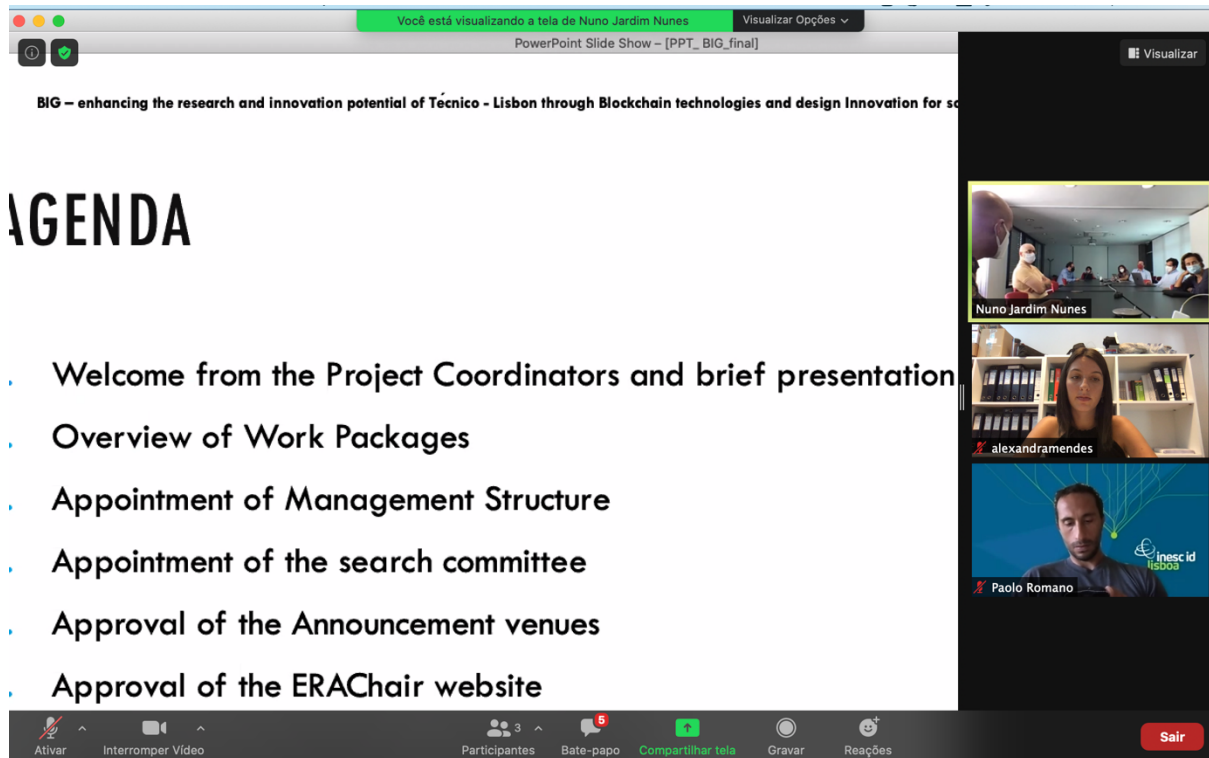
7. ERACHAIR HOLDER CALL TEXT

Prof. Nuno Nunes proposed a draft text for the ERAChair Holder Call for applications. The proposed text will be sent to the Search Committee for evaluation and feedback.

ACTION PLAN

Action	Due Date
Produce the Kick-Off Meeting Minutes	30/09/2020
Meeting with each WP leader, every 3 months, to evaluate the project progress	31/12/2020
Launch the Call for the ERAChair Holder	31/12/2020
Launch the Call for the ERAChair Research Manager	30/11/2020

ANNEX 1

Figure 1. Kick-Off meeting of BIG