



Frequently Asked Questions

What is this and what is this for?

The BIODIV Annual Meeting is a meeting between the students of the doctoral programme in Biodiversity, Genetics and Evolution (BIODIV) from the Universities of Porto and Lisbon. This meeting is meant to promote the exchange of scientific ideas and foster social and academic connections within the doctoral programme.

When?

From the 4th to the 6th of May, 2026 (Monday to Wednesday).

Where?

At **Vila do Conde**.

Address of the **venue**:

Centro Municipal da Juventude

Avenida Júlio Graça

4480-672 **Vila do Conde**

More information on how to get there: [Municipal Youth Center](#)

For whom?

For BIODIV Doctoral Programme PhD students based in Porto and Lisbon.

What is going to happen exactly?

The preliminary program will be available on our website and in PDF. The theme of this year's meeting will be "One Health – From Genes to Ecosystems".

What is the official language of the meeting?

As always, we wish to promote diversity and intercultural dialogue, so we will conduct our meeting in **English**. Therefore, all abstract submissions and presentations should be prepared in this language.

What kind of activities will happen during the event?

All activities will be mentioned in the schedule of the preliminary programme, but we wish to detail some of the most relevant to you:

- 1. Plenary talks:** This year, the three plenary talks will be focused on the motto of our meeting, “One Health – From Genes to Ecosystems”. We have invited three speakers who will tell us about their work and how their research brings meaningful contributions to the meeting. We hope these talks will help you to reflect on your own scientific and professional interests and inspire you in your own research endeavours.
- 2. BIODIV student talks:** One of the main goals of the Annual Meeting is to foster the exchange of ideas and knowledge with each other. As such, student talks will be one of the main aspects of our programme! You can submit your abstract for either a **Talk** or a **Poster** (see below for details). We welcome you to take this opportunity to present your PhD project to the BIODIV community. You can discuss your research plan, current results, future directions, etc. Submissions are not restricted to the motto of the meeting!
- 3. Roundtable:** An open discussion about mental health in science and in the PhD path. It will be an opportunity for the students to show their perspectives and concerns with the input from professionals and show our side to the representatives of our PhD program.
- 4. Social activities:** We want to make sure you will have plenty of opportunities to hang out with your PhD colleagues, get to know each other, and foster new and meaningful connections. Social events will include an informal poster session, ice-breaking activities, a group dinner, and a field trip, an opportunity to explore the protected area of Corno de Bico.

How can I register and how should I submit my abstract?

Registrations for the Meeting are now open. If you are interested in attending the meeting, please use the following link:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScmzUIzpbdlKgcVTvOA3Por6rVk5uGsZNs3fUwmKh7RQd0qxQ/viewform?usp=header>

Abstract submissions are now open. If you are interested in submitting your abstract and presenting your work, please use the following link:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScnKDFHwfWfQ7vW0bCZaKohpozaNZtVUHkXQHdm4dmzzgu_2w/viewform?usp=header

What can I present?

There are three possible types of communication:

1. Oral communication of 10 min, with 5 min discussion immediately after (**Talk**)
2. Oral communication of 3 min, with 2 min question immediately after (**Flash talk**)
3. Poster, presented during the poster session (**Poster**)

All types of communications are limited and will be selected by the Scientific Committee. Priority will be given to 3rd and 4th year students.

If you submit a Talk and your abstract is not selected, you may be invited to present a Poster or Flash talk instead.

Does my submission have to be under the motto of the meeting?

No! While we are preparing several activities aiming to foster dialogue across disciplines, students' submissions do not have to focus on these themes! We want to hear about what you have been doing during your PhD, your project, results, struggles, prospects, etc.!

When will I know if my oral communication was accepted?

We plan to let you know if you were selected by **April 13th 2026**.

I'm doing a poster communication. Can you print my poster?

Yes. BIODIV will cover the costs of printing all posters for the Meeting. To make sure we have time to print your poster, please send us your **Poster pdf file through email, by April 27th 2026**, to biodivannualmeeting@gmail.com.

If you fail to send your file by this deadline, we cannot ensure the printing of the poster.

Are there any guidelines for poster size?

Yes. All posters should be prepared in **A0 portrait format (120 cm height and 80 cm width)** so that they can fit the available poster stands.

I'm doing an oral communication. Should I deliver my PowerPoint in advance?

Yes. Please send us your presentation through **email, until April 29th 2026**, to biodivannualmeeting@gmail.com.

Alternatively, we will collect presentations during the registration (**Monday, May 4th**).

If you wish to deliver your file **in person**, please bring it in a pen drive USB.

Which costs are covered by the Doctoral Programme?

If you're from **Lisbon**, travel costs related to **transportation** (by bus) between Lisbon and Porto (on May 3rd and May 6th) will be covered. **Accommodation** in a Hostel between May 3rd and 6th will also be covered for participating students based in Lisbon.

If you decide on transportation and accommodation options other than those provided by the Doctoral Programme, expenses will not be covered.

Please note that costs related to public transportation (metro, bus, etc.) within Porto/Vila do Conde are not covered.

For **all participants** (from both Porto and Lisbon), **meals** (coffee breaks and lunches on May 4th, 5th and 6th) and **social events** (poster session, social dinner, and field trip) are also covered.

Which meals are included?

Besides coffee breaks, there are four main meals included in this meeting:

- Lunch on May 4th (Vila do Conde; see details below)
- Lunch on May 5th (Corno de Bico canteen).
- Social Dinner on May 5th (location to be announced; see details below)
- Lunch on May 6th (Vila do Conde; see details below)

Meals will include vegan options. If you have any food restrictions (e.g., lactose intolerance, celiac disease, or any other intolerances or diseases), please let us know in the registration form.

The **Poster Session** will take place in the late afternoon on the first day, in the meeting venue in **Vila do Conde** and it will include snacks and drinks.

The **lunches** at the meeting venue in **Vila do Conde**, on May 4th and 6th will be in a **buffet** format.

The **lunch** on 5th will be held in the Corno de Bico canteen.

The **Social Dinner**, on May 5th will be held in a **restaurant**.

Where will I stay during the meeting?

All students from Lisbon who register for accommodation will be provided with one near the venue of the Meeting. The exact **location and other relevant information are to be announced**.

How am I receiving my bus ticket?

Don't worry. The ticket will be assured by the organizing committee at the time and place of the departure to be defined.

How will I move around Porto/Vila do Conde?

To get around Porto and Vila do Conde during the event, we will either walk or use public transport (metro and/or bus). Public transport costs within Porto are not covered by the BIODIV Doctoral Programme, so please make sure that your **ANDANTE card** is charged!

You can buy and top up your **ANDANTE card** at ticket machines and ticket offices in metro stations. Keep the purchase/recharge receipt with you, as you will need it in case your card malfunctions.

Alternatively, you can use the **ANDA app** on your smartphone to buy and validate your tickets. Make sure your phone has the required functionalities before opting for this option.

What will happen on the field trip (May 5th)?

On this day, we will organise **social activities** in the Centro de Educação e Interpretação Ambiental ([CEIA](#)) in the **protected landscape of Corno de Bico** (Paredes de Coura, Viana do Castelo (41.913333, -8.4925)). Activities will include a visit to the interpretation center and a hike in the area. We advise the participants to wear comfortable clothes and shoes suitable for long walks, as well as to bring water and sun protection. Transportation by bus between Vila do Conde and Corno de Bico will be provided for all students.

I still have questions! How can I contact you?

Feel free to contact us at biodivannualmeeting@gmail.com.