



INESC capable-ID

Issue #5 | March 2025

Welcome to the fifth edition of INESC capable-ID, the official newsletter of INESC-ID.

A PRR project impacting the future of responsible AI, a career recognition for Arlindo Oliveira, the new China-Portugal joint laboratory, a thought-provoking keynote on Web3, and a project taking science education beyond borders. These are the highlights of our first spring edition.

In Depth



Explainable, fair and sustainable AI

In May 2024, Luís Oliveira, who had lost his ability to speak due to ALS, made history at the United Nations AI for Good summit, becoming the first ALS patient to demonstrate the use of Halo. Developed under the PRR-funded Centre for Responsible AI (CRAI) and led by Unbabel, Halo translates bioelectrical signals into language, allowing communication without speech or typing, and is one example of the multiple products developed under the project. INESC-ID plays a key role in CRAI's research, with teams working on Responsible AI, Natural Language Processing, and AI efficiency.

[Know more](#)

Awards and Achievements

Arlindo Oliveira receives Career Award

Arlindo Oliveira, INESC-ID researcher, President of INESC, and professor at Técnico, has been honoured with the Career Award from Galp and the Academy of Engineering, a recognition of both his career and the institutions he has contributed to. The award ceremony took place on February 25 at Galp's headquarters, highlighting the social and economic impact of his work and his contributions to engineering.



During the event, Arlindo reflected on the evolution of Artificial Intelligence, emphasizing that "Alan Turing had already answered everything in 1950—he just didn't have a computer." Portugal's President, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, praised Oliveira's national and international achievements, calling him a pioneer of AI in the country.

[Know more](#)

Spotlight



China-Portugal Joint Laboratory

On March 5, the China-Portugal Joint Laboratory on AI and Public Health Technologies was officially launched at Instituto Superior Técnico. This initiative, a collaboration between INESC-ID, Guangzhou Laboratory, Guangzhou Medical University, and Macau University of Science and Technology, aims to develop AI-driven solutions for global public health challenges. The lab will focus on advanced research in AI-powered diagnostics, infection prevention, and public health event response. The ceremony gathered Portuguese and Chinese representatives, reinforcing the commitment to international cooperation in responding to urgent healthcare needs.

People of INESC-ID

Alessandro Gianola

On his first visit to Lisbon, in 2019, for a summer school, Alessandro, a 32-year-old Italian from Bolzano, fell in love with the city and immediately started learning Portuguese—even venturing into reading Fernando Pessoa in the original. In 2023, he fulfilled his dream of moving to Portugal, where he now teaches at Técnico and researches at INESC-ID. His work focuses on information systems and process mining, and currently, through an FCT-funded project, he is improving public administration processes. The only thing he truly misses from Italy is his piano, which he has played since the age of ten.



Carolina Carreira

With a keen interest in usable security, Carolina found her calling in making the technical domain accessible to the community. To pursue this, and on top of being part of the PhD student volunteer team at INESC-ID, she volunteers in several other groups, including CMU's Cylab and the Portuguese Red Cross. Despite a packed agenda, she still finds time for reading, pottery and creating beautiful embroidery. Born in Lisbon, raised in Castelo Branco and Alentejo, she has lived in the USA and is now temporarily in Porto, making it a handful of cities where she has lived. She wouldn't have it any other way.



Manuela Sado

Manuela's journey at INESC-ID began even before its foundation, as her first job was at Fundetec, a company created by INESC's founders. After spending four years in Mozambique—where she worked on the reconstruction and reopening of Hotel Rovuma— in 1999 she returned to Portugal, settled in Barreiro, where she grew up, and joined INESC-ID. As a member of the support staff, Manuela collaborates with the IDSS scientific area and also supports the scientific council and human resources. Her main interests include knitting, nature walks, and traveling. She certainly is a very resourceful woman.



Research Highlights



Rethinking Money, Work, and Society

At the Lisbon Blockchain Winter School 2025, hosted by the BIG Era Chair Project, Seth Goldstein, from CMU School of Computer Science, delivered a thought-provoking keynote on Web3, blockchain, and the future of money. For the specialist, that has been thinking about the topic thoroughly, Web3 is a new social technology that redefines trust in digital interactions, eliminating the need for intermediaries. Goldstein explored how blockchain ensures transparency, enables decentralized governance, and could reshape the global economy. As automation disrupts the labour market, he argued, reputation-based currency and decentralized financial systems may redefine productivity and economic structures, making Web3 one of the most transformative revolutions in history.

[Know More](#)

Reaching In



There and back again: an adventurous meetup by INESC-ID PhD students

Defying the possibility of rain, a group of our PhD students ventured to Parque Natural Sintra-Cascais for their latest INESC-ID PhD meetup. Organised by the PhD Students Volunteer team and the Communications and Outreach Office, the hike started at Barragem do Rio da Mula, went up to Pedra Amarela and back down through Trilho das Pontes, which made up for 3 hours of lively chat, accompanied by the beautiful natural landscape of Sintra and surprisingly sunny weather. While being part of an initiative to encourage community building among our students, this meetup also promoted contact with nature and healthy exercise. Counting down to the next meetup!

Reaching Out



Empowering Teachers and Students of Príncipe Island

At the end of January, a delegation from the Department of Education of the Oeiras Municipality, including the project “Engenharia para Todos” by Técnico and INESC-ID, organised an educational mission to the equatorial São Tomé e Príncipe archipelago. During two intense weeks, 40 local teachers and numerous students received in-person training across several fields. In the sciences, educators and students had the opportunity to explore the treasure trove of fun scientific experiments provided by the

Lab in a Box kit. This initiative, aimed at transforming education through hands-on science, has been relaunched and is now driven by “Engenharia para Todos”.

Know More

We Recommend

Museu Berardo Estremoz

It is for those who are passionate about history, as well as for those who aren't. Inaugurated in the summer of 2020, the Berardo Estremoz Museum, a joint initiative between the Berardo Collection and the Municipality of Estremoz, houses Portugal's largest and most significant private tile collection, featuring 4,500 pieces dating from the 13th to the 21st century. As visitors explore the 36 rooms spread across three floors, they have the opportunity to journey through the evolution of tile art, with a particular focus on Portuguese and Spanish examples. Housed in the Palácio Tocha, the building itself is worth the visit. A wine tasting at the end adds a memorable touch to the experience.



Know more

INESC-ID | Rua Alves Redol, 9 | 1000-029 Lisbon
Tel: +351 213 100 300 | info@inesc-id.pt | www.inesc-id.pt

You are receiving this newsletter because you opted-in to receive communications from INESC-ID. You can unsubscribe at anytime by clicking "unsubscribe" at the bottom of this page.



Created by the Communications and Outreach Office (COO) of INESC-ID.

[Legal Notice](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)