

Maria da Conceição de Jesus Rêgo Paiva has a Ph.D. in Science and Engineering of Polymers and Composites from the University of Minho and a Lic. in Chemistry from the Faculty of Science of the University of Porto. She is an Associate Professor at the University of Minho and, from 2000 to 2003, was a Visiting Assistant Professor at Clemson University, Center for Engineering Fibers and Films, SC, USA. She develops research in the areas of i) modification of nanoparticle surfaces and interfaces for the preparation of functional polymer matrix composites, ii) development of low-cost carbon fibers and iii) plastics and the environment, from the perspective of recycling and environmental characterization of plastic waste. She participated in 40 research projects of which she coordinated 6, and published more than 90 articles in international peer-reviewed journals. She supervised 8 completed PhD thesis and has 6 ongoing, and more than 45 completed Master dissertations. Currently, she is a Fellow of the Leibniz Institute for Polymer Research, Dresden, Germany.