Work Programme 2019

Generic Call for Proposals

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AAPG 2019 Guide*

Submission, evaluation, selection and funding guidelines

* In case of any difference of interpretation, the French version of the present document shall prevail

Applicants are advised to carefully read the entire document as well as the full-text version of the AAPG 2019 and the Regulations concerning the conditions of allocation of ANR funding before submitting research project proposals.
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A. Context of the Generic Call for Proposals 2019

A.1. Objectives of the Generic Call for Proposals

The Generic Call for Proposals 2019 (AAPG 2019) is the “Research and Innovation” component of the ANR’s Work Programme 2019.

AAPG 2019 is directed towards all scientific communities and all public and private players involved in French research, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and very small enterprises. It is designed to give researchers in various disciplines access to co-funding in a large number of research themes (applied or otherwise) in addition to their allocated recurrent funding.

The “Research and Innovation” component of the ANR’s Work Programme 2019, which supports the AAPG 2019, has been structured into 48 research themes:

- **35 research themes** spanning 7 disciplinary areas
  - Environmental Sciences (6 themes)
  - Energy and Materials Sciences (5 themes)
  - Life Sciences (10 themes)
  - Social Sciences and Humanities (4 themes)
  - Digital Sciences (7 themes)
  - Mathematics and its Interactions (1 theme)

- **13 research themes** covering cross-disciplinary challenges that span more than one field of science. These cross-disciplinary – and necessarily interdisciplinary – themes cover the following disciplines:
  - Healthcare – Environment – Society (5 themes)
  - Healthcare – Digital (1 theme)
  - Digital Humanities (1 theme)
  - Society – Digital – Security (1 theme)

The “Research and Innovation” component also supports, within the Generic Call for Proposals, implementation of the French state’s government work programmes and strategic priorities for 2019. Each priority or government work programme is reflected in one or more of the scientific themes of the ANR’s Work Programme and its Generic Call for Proposals. These priorities cover the following themes:

- **Artificial Intelligence** (AI Plan), primarily under theme 5.2 “Artificial intelligence” within the “Digital Sciences” disciplinary area. This priority also covers proposals under disciplinary or interdisciplinary research themes that fall outside this area but involve an AI component.

- **Social Sciences and Humanities** (SSH Plan), primarily under the following themes: 4.1 “Innovation, Work”, 4.2 “Culture, creation, heritage”, 4.3 “Cognition, education, lifelong training” and 4.4 “Inequalities, discriminations, migrations”, within the “Social Sciences and Humanities” disciplinary area. This priority also covers proposals under disciplinary or interdisciplinary research themes that fall outside this area but involve an SSH component.

- **Quantum Technologies**, which comes exclusively under theme 5.7 “Quantum technologies” within the “Digital Sciences” disciplinary area.

- **Antibiotic resistance**, which comes under the following themes: 3.1 “Biochemistry of
living organisms”, 3.2 “Characterisation of structures and structure-function relationships of biological macromolecules”, 3.3 “Genetics, genomics, RNA sciences”, 3.4 “Cellular biology, developmental biology and evolution”, 3.6 “Immunology, infection by pathogens and inflammation”, 3.7 “Molecular and cellular neuroscience – Developmental neurobiology”, 3.9 “Health translational research” and 3.10 “Biomedical innovation” within the “Life Sciences” disciplinary area; theme 2.3 “Molecular chemistry and associated processes for sustainable chemistry” within the “Energy and Materials Sciences” disciplinary area; and the following cross-disciplinary themes: 8.2 “Contaminants, ecosystems and health”, 8.3 “Health-Environment: Environment, pathogenic agents and emerging or re-emerging infectious diseases, adaptations and resistance to antimicrobials”, 8.4 “Public health”, 8.5 “Mathematics and digital sciences for biology and health” and 8.7 “Technologies for health”.

- **Autism among Neurodevelopment Disorders**, which comes under the following themes: 3.3 “Genetics, genomics, RNA sciences”, 3.4 “Cellular biology, developmental biology and evolution”, 3.7 “Molecular and cellular neuroscience – Developmental neurobiology”, 3.8 “Integrative neuroscience”, 3.9 “Health translational research” and 3.10 “Biomedical innovation” within the “Life Sciences” disciplinary area; 4.3 “Cognition, education, lifelong training” within the “Social Sciences and Humanities” disciplinary area; and cross-disciplinary theme 8.7 “Technologies for health”.

- **Translational Research on Rare Diseases**, which comes exclusively under theme 3.9 “Health translational research” within the “Life Sciences” disciplinary area.

Each theme corresponds to a dedicated scientific evaluation panel within the AAPG. The panels dealing with cross-disciplinary or interdisciplinary themes include members who cover all required disciplines.

The scientific coordinator chooses the panel by which his/her proposal will be evaluated at stage 1 (submission of the pre-proposal for PRC, PRCE and JCJC instruments or registration for the PRCI instrument) and this choice cannot be modified during the process.

**A.2. Funding instruments**

There are four funding instruments in the Generic Call for Proposals divided into two categories:

- The **“Collaborative Research”** category proposes three instruments: "Collaborative Research Projects" (PRC), "Collaborative Research Projects involving Enterprises" (PRCE), and "International Collaborative Research Projects" (PRCI).
- The **“Individual”** category relates solely to the “Young Researchers” instrument (JCJC).

The expected impact and characteristics of these different funding instruments determine the key points in the selection and are summarised in Table 1.
Table 1: **Table summarising the four funding instruments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consortium specificities</th>
<th>Instrument characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>International Collaborative Research Projects (PRCI)</strong></td>
<td>Collaboration between at least one French public or assimilated research body applying for ANR funding and at least one foreign partner simultaneously applying for funding from a foreign funding agency as part of a bilateral agreement between the ANR and a foreign agency. Companies may participate, depending on the agreement with the foreign agency.¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collaborative Research Projects involving Enterprises (PRCE)</strong></td>
<td>Collaboration between at least one French public or assimilated research body and at least one company conducting research and development work in France. Potential foreign partners participate with their own funds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collaborative Research Projects (PRC)</strong></td>
<td>Collaboration between at least one laboratory run by a French public or assimilated research body and national or international, public or private, research teams or groups. Collaboration within the same public or assimilated research body between several teams or research teams. Potential foreign partners participate with their own funds. Companies conducting R&amp;D work may participate without effective collaboration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Young Researchers (JCJC)</strong></td>
<td>One single partner corresponding to a French public or assimilated research body. Coordinator who defended his/her doctoral thesis (or equivalent) less than 10 years ago (unless there is a derogation). Collaboration with foreign researchers is possible with own funds. Collaboration with a company conducting R&amp;D work is possible with own funds without effective collaboration.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ See country-specific appendices.
A.2.1. International Collaborative Research Projects (PRCI)

The “International Collaborative Research Projects” (PRCI) funding instrument is specific to bilateral collaborations between at least one French partner which is a public or assimilated research body and at least one foreign partner (eligible for funding from a foreign funding agency that has signed a bilateral agreement with the ANR).

For PRCI type projects, there should be a strong synergy between partners from both countries, with equal involvement of French and foreign partners. This means:

- **Both the French and foreign scientific coordinators being clearly identified** and both being actively involved in coordinating the project;
- A work programme showing well-balanced scientific contributions by partners from each country;
- A description of resources showing well-balanced financial contributions by partners from each country.

Under the Generic Call for Proposals 2019, the countries covered by these bilateral agreements are likely to be:

- In Europe: **Germany, Austria, Luxembourg** and **Switzerland**.
- Worldwide: **Brazil, Canada, Hong Kong, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan** and **Turkey**.

For 2019, French coordinators of PRCI projects must register online their intent to submit a proposal at stage 1 of the AAPG 2019, at the same time as PRC, PRCE and JCJC coordinators submit pre-proposals. Any PRCI projects not registered at stage 1 will not be allowed to submit a proposal at stage 2.

If they have no foreign partner seeking funding from an ANR partner agency, applicants with collaborations based on this type of partnership are requested to choose the PRC or PRCE funding instrument.

It is possible for French or foreign companies to participate in a PRCI within the framework of some bilateral agreements but not all of them (see Table 7).

For each country with which the ANR has entered into a bilateral agreement, there are specific annexes which describe collaboration themes (see Table 2) and specific procedures for submission, eligibility and selection. These annexes will soon be available on the ANR web page dedicated to the **Generic Call for Proposals 2019** and must be consulted before any projects are registered and submitted to the ANR or to the foreign funding agency.

For some international agreements, a “Lead Agency” procedure is set up. Project evaluation is entrusted to one single agency (the “Lead Agency”), which deals with appraising and evaluating projects.

The final selection of PRCI projects is conducted jointly by both agencies based on evaluation elements gathered by the Lead funding agency under the “Lead Agency” procedure, or by both funding agencies under the “Non-Lead Agency” procedure. Each agency then funds its own country’s teams according to its own funding and monitoring procedures.

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2 With regard to well-balanced financial contributions by partners from each country, the economic situation of the countries is taken into account.

3 The list of countries covered by the PRCI instrument has yet to be confirmed at the time of publication of the AAPG 2019 and the AAPG 2019 Guide; please refer regularly to the AAPG web page to see the final list.
PRCI for which the ANR is the Lead Agency

For 2019, the ANR acts as the Lead Agency for PRCI projects involving collaboration with Brazil (FAPESP), Germany (DFG), Austria (FWF), Luxembourg (FNR), or Switzerland (FNS). Therefore, these projects must be registered with (stage 1) then submitted to (stage 2) the ANR, by selecting the “PRCI” instrument, according to the conditions described below. The registration and subsequent project proposal submitted by the French coordinator must clearly indicate who the French and foreign partners are and must identify the French scientific coordinator and the foreign one.

Foreign partners may have to provide the foreign agency with some administrative information and some documents (copy of the project proposal for example). Applicants must refer to the specific annex for the agreement in question, which will be available on the Generic Call for Proposals 2019 web page, and on the foreign agency’s website.

Non-Lead Agency PRCI

For PRCI projects involving collaboration with Canada (NSERC), Hong Kong (RGC), Russia (RSF), Singapore (NRF), Taiwan (MOST) or Turkey (TUBITAK), proposals must be submitted to both funding agencies in question. The ANR submission is a two-stage process: project registration at stage 1 (selecting the PRCI instrument), then submission of a full proposal at stage 2, according to the conditions described below and in the specific annex for the international collaboration.

Both funding agencies evaluate the proposals in parallel. Both proposals must:

- Describe a common scientific project;
- Have the same acronym, title and duration;
- Clearly indicate who the French and foreign partners are and provide the details of the French and foreign scientific coordinators.

Projects must be submitted to the foreign agency in accordance with this agency’s own procedure. Applicants must refer to the specific annex for the agreement in question, which will be soon available on the Generic Call for Proposals 2019 web page, and on the foreign agency’s website.

Table 2: Provisional list of bilateral collaborations, themes and procedures between the ANR and a foreign agency within the framework of the Generic Call for Proposals 2019*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country (agency)</th>
<th>Provisional collaboration themes proposed by the ANR in 2019 (to be confirmed by the foreign agency)</th>
<th>Disciplinary areas concerned</th>
<th>Lead Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Brazil (FAPESP) | • Information and communication technologies  
• Social sciences and humanities | Digital sciences  
Social sciences and humanities | ANR |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country (agency)</th>
<th>Provisional collaboration themes proposed by the ANR in 2019 (to be confirmed by the foreign agency)</th>
<th>Disciplinary areas concerned</th>
<th>Lead Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Canada (NSERC)</strong></td>
<td>Themes of the Canadian SPG-P programme (Strategic Partnership Grants for Projects): • Environment and agriculture • Advanced manufacturing • Information and communication technologies • Natural resources and energy</td>
<td>Environmental sciences Energy and materials sciences Digital sciences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hong Kong (RGC)</strong></td>
<td>All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and the HK agency (except themes related to security)</td>
<td>All (except themes related to security)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Russia (RSF)</strong></td>
<td>• Mathematics • Physics</td>
<td>Mathematics Physics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Singapore (NRF)</strong></td>
<td>• Materials, nanotechnologies, nanosystems • Clean, secure and efficient energy • Industrial renewal • Sustainable mobility and urban systems • Information and communication society</td>
<td>Energy and materials sciences Digital sciences Cross-disciplinary themes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Taiwan (MOST)</strong></td>
<td>All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and the Taiwanese agency (except themes related to security)</td>
<td>All (except themes related to security)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Turkey (TUBITAK)</strong></td>
<td>• Marine geosciences • Seismic risks • Marine ecosystem functioning • Social sciences and humanities • Information and communication technologies • Energy</td>
<td>Environmental sciences Social sciences and humanities Digital sciences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Germany (DFG)</strong></td>
<td>All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and the DFG, except social sciences and humanities*</td>
<td>All except social sciences and humanities**</td>
<td>ANR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Austria (FWF)</strong></td>
<td>All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and the FWF</td>
<td>All research areas</td>
<td>ANR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Luxembourg (FNR)</strong></td>
<td>All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and the FNR agency</td>
<td>All research areas</td>
<td>ANR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Switzerland (FNS)</strong></td>
<td>All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and the FNS</td>
<td>All research areas</td>
<td>ANR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* ANR – foreign agency collaborations and procedures have yet to be confirmed at the time of publication of the AAPG 2019 and the AAPG 2019 Guide; see the specific annexes that will soon be available on the ANR website. ** Social sciences and humanities are subject to a specific ANR-DFG call for proposals outside the AAPG (“FRAL”); the relevant procedures can be found on the ANR website.
Specific bilateral collaborations

In addition to bilateral collaborations under the AAPG 2019 PRCI instrument, there will be specific calls for proposals for other bilateral collaborations with foreign agencies or ministries throughout 2019. These actions, as described in the full-text version of Work Programme 2019, will focus on the following disciplinary areas and themes: energy (Germany – BMBF); global security, civil security and cybersecurity (Germany – BMBF); social sciences and humanities (Germany – DFG); symbiotic interaction (Japan – JST); and marine environments (Quebec – FRQ).

These specific bilateral calls will be subject to the same eligibility rules as proposals submitted for the PRC, PRCE, PRCI and JCJC instruments under the Generic Call for Proposals 2019 (see § B.4.2 and B.5.2, and the “Limit to participation” rule in particular). Coordinators intending to submit a proposal for a specific collaboration must not therefore submit a PRC, PRCE, PRCI or JCJC proposal as a coordinator under the AAPG 2019.

A.2.2. Collaborative Research Projects involving Enterprises (PRCE)

The funding instrument “Collaborative Research Projects involving Enterprises” (PRCE) concerns effective collaboration between at least one public or assimilated French research body and at least one French company conducting research and development in France. This collaboration attempts to yield findings that are advantageous to both parties by enabling public research bodies to address new research issues or address them differently, and by enabling companies that conduct R&D to access high-level public research in order to improve their innovation capacities over different periods.

A project is considered to be carried out through effective collaboration when at least two independent parties pursue a common objective based on a division of labour and jointly define its scope, contribute to its implementation and share its financial, technological, scientific and other risks and results. One or several parties may bear the full cost of the project and thus relieve other parties of any financial risks.

The terms and conditions for PRCE project implementation, in particular as regards contributions to its costs, sharing of risks and results, dissemination of results, rules on the allocation of intellectual property rights and access to them, must be concluded before the start of the project in a consortium agreement.

The provision of research services is not considered a form of effective collaboration. Therefore, companies that are simply providers of technology or services to a project cannot be identified as partners within a PRCE, but can be listed as potential service providers to one of the partners within the framework of a PRC, PRCI or JCJC project.

Collaboration with companies not conducting research and development (SATT, etc.) or with partners whose category cannot be established without in-depth analysis of their economic

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4 See Table 2: Specific bilateral collaborations outside the “International Collaborative Research Projects” (PRCI) Generic Call for Proposals, in the full-text version of Work Programme 2019

5 Pursuant to the rules on State aid for research and development and innovation (see Regulations concerning the conditions of allocation of ANR funding);

6 Effective collaboration is defined within the framework for State funding for Research and Development and Innovation No 2014/C 198/01 (see § 3.2.2 of the Regulations concerning the conditions of allocation of ANR funding).

7 See data sheet on the ANR website (in French)

8 Research body or Company, as defined in the Regulations concerning the conditions of allocation of ANR funding
activity (for example: associations, foundations, technical centres, etc.) is possible but not sufficient to take part in the PRCE instrument. If there are no companies conducting research and development, collaborations involving such partners are asked to choose another funding tool, in particular a PRC.

Any foreign partners\(^9\) involved in a PRCE participate with their own funds.

### A.2.3. Collaborative Research Projects (PRC)

The “Collaborative Research Projects” (PRC) funding instrument includes all forms of cooperation other than those concerned by the PRCI and PRCE instruments (see Table 1). Therefore, the collaboration\(^10\) may include any national or international, public or private teams or groups provided that there is at least one French public or assimilated research body.

The simple provision of technologies or services to conduct a project is not considered a form of collaboration. Therefore, such suppliers cannot be identified as partners in a PRC but can be identified as potential service providers for one of the partners.

The participation of companies conducting research and development in a PRC is possible, but limited to forms of collaboration that cannot be described as effective collaboration.\(^11\) Effective collaborations with companies conducting research and development are asked to choose the PRCE instrument.

Any foreign partners\(^12\) involved in a PRC participate with their own funds.

### A.2.4. Young Researchers Projects (JCJC)

The goal of the "Young Researchers" (JCJC) funding instrument is to prepare the new generation of young research talent to become leaders and pioneers in French scientific research. It must encourage the empowerment of young researchers and encourage them to adopt innovative approaches to overcome scientific and technological hurdles.

The instrument allows young researchers working in France to acquire a scientific independence, explore their own theme of research, build their own team, acquire a project-based research culture and rapidly unleash their innovative talents. The instrument is also a springboard for young French researchers who, thanks to initial support from the ANR, are given a leg up when it comes to submitting a project in response to calls from the European Research Council (ERC), with the greatest chance of success.

As the instrument targets individuals, funding granted by the ANR may only cover the expenditures relating to the young researcher's team. Therefore, only one partner may receive funding and this partner must be a French public or assimilated research body.

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\(^9\) “Foreign Partner” refers to any partner who does not own an establishment or branch in France.

\(^10\) The collaborative nature of a given project is not determined by the number of partners involved but in terms of skills pooled to achieve the project’s objectives. Teams or multidisciplinary groups within the same organisation may therefore put forward projects that could be considered collaborative.

\(^11\) Collaboration is described as effective when at least two independent parties pursue a common objective based on a division of labour and jointly define its scope, contribute to its implementation and share its financial, technological, scientific and other risks and results. One or several parties may bear the full cost of the project and thus relieve other parties of any financial risks.

\(^12\) “Foreign Partner” refers to any partner who does not own an establishment or branch in France.
For the JCJC instrument, the notion of “team” allows collaboration within the same public research body or in the applicant’s laboratory and does not exclude collaboration with researchers from other public research organisations or laboratories. Identifying collaborators or collaborations that use their own funds in a project shall be justified by their contribution of skills to achieve the scientific objectives of the proposed project and the objectives of the JCJC instrument.

To be classified as “Young Researchers” applicants must have defended their doctoral thesis (or obtained any degree or qualification equivalent to an international PhD) less than 10 years ago (i.e. after 1 January 2008). However, young researchers eligible for the JCJC instrument (who have defended their theses within the set time frame) are not obliged to submit their proposals under this instrument and may submit them under the PRC, PRCE or PRCI instruments if the composition and size of the projects justify this.

In 2019, the instrument is only available to young researchers who have a permanent contract with the same public or assimilated research body at the time pre-proposals are submitted, at the time full proposals are submitted and for the time it takes to complete projects.

Young researchers’ salaries are not expenditures that are eligible for ANR funding. However, for researchers who teach, ANR funding may cover the cost of partially releasing them from teaching duties in accordance with rules on the allocation of release voted by the Board of Directors of the establishment managing the funding.

It is not possible to combine JCJC funding with a similar type of funding: ATIP-AVENIR, Momentum CNRS, Emergence, Starting or Consolidator Grants from the European Research Council (ERC), Tremplin-ERC, or another ongoing JCJC project.

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13 Exceptions may be granted. The following events occurring after the PhD is awarded can be taken into account: maternity leave, parental leave, long-term sick leave (more than 90 days), national service. The limit is pushed back for a period equal to the duration of the event. Additionally, for women the limit is extended by one year per dependent child. Where appropriate, supporting documents will have to be provided when the full proposal is submitted.

14 For public research bodies, this means permanent researchers employed in France (tenured or in the process of being tenured). For public bodies and assimilated establishments that employ staff on permanent contracts, if the duration of the contract is shorter than that of the project, the renewal or extension must be possible and assured.

15 See the Regulations concerning the conditions of allocation of ANR funding (http://www.anr.fr/RF; § 3.1.4).
B. The two-stage selection process for the AAPG in 2019

B.1. General process

Projects submitted within the framework of the Generic Call for Proposals 2019 (AAPG 2019) go through a two-stage selection process (see Annex: Provisional schedule for AAPG 2019).

Stage 1 involves identifying PRC/PRCE/JCJC pre-proposals for which it is justified to write full proposals, particularly in terms of project quality and scientific aims (pre-proposal evaluation criteria, see § B.4.3). At the end of stage 1, approximately 2,500 to 3,000 applicants will be invited to submit full proposals at stage 2. For PRCI projects, stage 1 involves a simple registration of intent to submit a PRCI full proposal at stage 2.

Stage 2 is aimed at selecting the best proposals by assessing, in accordance with international competitive project selection principles, the scientific excellence and the quality of construction and potential impact of the project described in a full proposal (full proposal evaluation criteria, see § B.5.3.) At the end of this stage, the ANR publishes the list of projects selected for funding.

B.2. Parties involved in the evaluation and selection process

Project selection at the ANR is based on the principle of peer review. Scientific evaluation panels are convened and external peer reviewers, appointed by the panel members themselves, are called upon for their scientific expertise related to the projects being evaluated:

- The scientific evaluation panels are composed of highly qualified French or foreign individuals from the research communities concerned by the panel.\(^{16}\)
  - The composition of the panel covers all the disciplinary fields and themes related to the projects submitted to the panel.
  - Each evaluation panel is chaired by a “president-referent” (chairperson)\(^{17}\) trained in ANR’s selection process and ethics. He/she heads the scientific evaluation panel bureau consisting of at least two vice-chairs who assist him/her in preparing the panel’s work.
  - Members of the panel are appointed by the ANR for their scientific expertise upon a proposal by the panel’s bureau. They are in charge of evaluating and selecting pre-proposals with the exceptional assistance of external peer reviewers (stage 1), and evaluating and ranking full proposals with the assistance of external peer reviewers and based on the coordinator’s response to feedback from the external peer reviewers, if any (stage 2).

- The external peer reviewers in the areas concerned by the project independently write evaluations of one or more pre-proposals or full proposals without participating in panel meetings.

The ANR Code of Ethics and Scientific Integrity apply to all persons involved in the project selection process.

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\(^{16}\) The composition of the scientific evaluation panels remains confidential throughout the AAPG selection process. The list of panel members is published on the ANR website at the same time as the first AAPG results, i.e. in mid-July.

\(^{17}\) The “president-referent” is appointed for a 1-year term, renewable no more than twice. A call for applications is published on the ANR website annually to renew the “president-referent”.

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B.3. The Scientific Evaluation Panels for the 2019 AAPG

When projects are submitted online, each applicant chooses a scientific evaluation panel, the scientific scope and keywords of which are described in the [Generic Call for Proposals 2019](#).

The project coordinator chooses the panel by which the proposal will be evaluated at stage 1 (submission of the pre-proposal for PRC, PRCE and JCJC instruments or registration for the PRCI instrument) and this choice cannot be modified during the process.

The draft list of panels (see Table 3) may be revised after the submission stage (stage 1) depending on the number and nature of pre-proposals submitted. If modifications are made to this list or to the scope of the scientific evaluation panels, the ANR will inform coordinators affected by this so that a change of assignment can be made. They will be asked to approve this.
Table 3: List of scientific evaluation panels for the research themes covered by the AAPG 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AAPG 2019 reference</th>
<th>Panel name</th>
<th>Panel number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>§ E.1, Theme 1.1</td>
<td>Fluid and solid earth</td>
<td>CE01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.1, Theme 1.2</td>
<td>Living earth</td>
<td>CE02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.1, Theme 1.3</td>
<td>Scientific and technological innovations to support the ecological transition</td>
<td>CE04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.1, Theme 1.4</td>
<td>Biology of animals, photosynthetic organisms and microorganisms</td>
<td>CE20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.1, Theme 1.5</td>
<td>Food and food systems</td>
<td>CE21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.1, Theme 1.6</td>
<td>Dynamics of socio-ecosystems and their components to improve their sustainable management</td>
<td>CE32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.2, Theme 2.1</td>
<td>A sustainable, clean, secure and efficient energy</td>
<td>CE05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.2, Theme 2.2</td>
<td>Polymers, composites, soft matter physics and chemistry</td>
<td>CE06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.2, Theme 2.3</td>
<td>Molecular chemistry and associated processes for a sustainable chemistry</td>
<td>CE07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.2, Theme 2.4</td>
<td>Metals and inorganic materials and related processes</td>
<td>CE08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.2, Theme 2.5</td>
<td>Chemistry: analytical chemistry, theory, modelling</td>
<td>CE29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.3, Theme 3.1</td>
<td>Biochemistry of living organisms</td>
<td>CE44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.3, Theme 3.2</td>
<td>Characterisation of structures and structure-function relationships of biological macromolecules</td>
<td>CE11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.3, Theme 3.3</td>
<td>Genetics, genomics, RNA sciences</td>
<td>CE12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.3, Theme 3.4</td>
<td>Cellular biology, developmental biology and evolution</td>
<td>CE13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.3, Theme 3.5</td>
<td>Physiology and pathophysiology</td>
<td>CE14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.3, Theme 3.6</td>
<td>Immunology, infection by pathogens and inflammation</td>
<td>CE15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.3, Theme 3.7</td>
<td>Molecular and cellular neuroscience – Developmental neurobiology</td>
<td>CE16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.3, Theme 3.8</td>
<td>Integrative neuroscience</td>
<td>CE37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.3, Theme 3.9</td>
<td>Health translational research</td>
<td>CE17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.3, Theme 3.10</td>
<td>Biomedical innovation</td>
<td>CE18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.4, Theme 4.1</td>
<td>Innovation, work</td>
<td>CE26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.4, Theme 4.2</td>
<td>Culture, creation, heritage</td>
<td>CE27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.4, Theme 4.3</td>
<td>Cognition, education, lifelong training</td>
<td>CE28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.4, Theme 4.4</td>
<td>Inequalities, discriminations, migrations</td>
<td>CE41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.5, Theme 5.1</td>
<td>Foundations of digital technology: computer science, automatic, signal processing</td>
<td>CE48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.5, Theme 5.2</td>
<td>Artificial intelligence</td>
<td>CE23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.5, Theme 5.3</td>
<td>Micro- and nanotechnologies for information and communication</td>
<td>CE24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.5, Theme 5.4</td>
<td>Multi-purpose communication networks, high-performance infrastructure, software sciences and technologies</td>
<td>CE25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.5, Theme 5.5</td>
<td>Interaction, robotics</td>
<td>CE33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.5, Theme 5.6</td>
<td>Numerical models, simulation, applications</td>
<td>CE46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.5, Theme 5.7</td>
<td>Quantum technologies</td>
<td>CE47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.6, Theme 6.1</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>CE40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.7, Theme 7.1</td>
<td>Physics of condensed matter and of dilute matter</td>
<td>CE30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.7, Theme 7.2</td>
<td>Subatomic physics, sciences of the universe, structure and history of the Earth</td>
<td>CE31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.8, Theme 8.1</td>
<td>Humans-environment interactions</td>
<td>CE03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.8, Theme 8.2</td>
<td>Contaminants, ecosystems and health</td>
<td>CE34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.8, Theme 8.3</td>
<td>Health-Environment: Environment, pathogenic agents and emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, adaptation and resistance to antimicrobials</td>
<td>CE35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.8, Theme 8.4</td>
<td>Public health</td>
<td>CE36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.8, Theme 8.5</td>
<td>Mathematics and digital sciences for biology and health</td>
<td>CE39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.8, Theme 8.6</td>
<td>The Digital Revolution: relationship to knowledge and culture</td>
<td>CE38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.8, Theme 8.7</td>
<td>Technologies for health</td>
<td>CE19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.8, Theme 8.8</td>
<td>Global security, cybersecurity</td>
<td>CE39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.8, Theme 8.9</td>
<td>Bioeconomy: chemistry, biotechnology, processes and systemic approaches, from biomass to usages</td>
<td>CE39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.8, Theme 8.10</td>
<td>Urban societies, territories, building and mobility</td>
<td>CE43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.8, Theme 8.11</td>
<td>Nanomaterials and nanotechnologies for the products in the future</td>
<td>CE22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.8, Theme 8.12</td>
<td>Sensors, instrumentation</td>
<td>CE09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>§ E.8, Theme 8.13</td>
<td>Factory of the future: human-being, organisation, technologies</td>
<td>CE10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B.4. Stage 1: pre-proposal submission and evaluation procedures, registration procedures

B.4.1. Submitting pre-proposals (PRC/PRCE/JCJC instruments) and registering (PRCI instrument)

The pre-proposal includes:

- A form to be filled in and submitted online
- A document describing the project (maximum of 4 pages including the bibliography) to be uploaded to the submission site
- CVs of the coordinator and any partners’ scientific leaders (to be completed online).

The full proposal must describe the same project as that described in the pre-proposal selected at stage 1. Some of the information may seem straightforward during stage 1, but it is important to record it correctly, checking with the partner’s appropriate administrative and financial departments. Modifications at stage 2 may be considered by the scientific evaluation panels to be too significant, making the full proposal out of line with the pre-proposal and therefore ineligible (see §B.5.2 “Compliance with pre-proposal” criterion).

Registration includes:

- A form to be filled in and submitted online
- CVs of the French and foreign coordinators and CVs of any partners’ scientific leaders (to be completed online).

Online form

The account used to log onto the online submission and registration site must be set up using information on the scientific coordinator\(^\text{18}\) (surname, first name, e-mail address (preferably institution’s e-mail)), even if a third party enters the information online.

The following information must be provided online:

- **Funding instrument**
- **Relevant bilateral agreement** (for PRCI registration)
- **Scientific evaluation panel**
- **Project identification** (acronym, French and English title, duration,\(^\text{19}\) provisional amount of aid requested from the ANR)
- **Partnership**: all partner establishments, partner’s scientific leaders, and main people involved in the project, including their e-mail address and ORCID ID\(^\text{20}\)

\(^{18}\) French scientific coordinator when registering a PRCI project.

\(^{19}\) Where the proposal includes a request for a thesis grant, please ensure that the project duration is long enough for recruitment and completion of the thesis in question, i.e. longer than 36 months. For a PRCI project: (1) the project duration must be the same for the French partners and for the foreign partners involved in the bilateral agreement; and (2) the duration may be limited by the terms of the relevant bilateral agreement (see the specific annex for each collaboration on the dedicated AAPG 2019 web page).

\(^{20}\) ORCID is a non-profit organisation supported by a global community of organisational members, including research organisations, publishers, funders, professional associations, and other stakeholders in the research ecosystem. For more information, go to: [https://orcid.org/](https://orcid.org/)
- RNSR ID (National directory of research structures) for public or assimilated bodies, 21 and SIRET number for companies. Administrative information on associations, foundations and other partner organisations should be provided in a free field.

- The e-mail addresses of the Laboratory Director and the Administrative Director of the establishment managing funding. 22

- Scientific abstracts (non-confidential) in French and in English (no more than 1,000 characters, including spaces).

- External peer reviewers requested to abstain from evaluation (field not compulsory but must be completed at this stage if appropriate): applicants can indicate external peer reviewers (individuals) or laboratories/companies for which there could be conflicts of interest and confidentiality issues if they were involved in evaluating the project. 23

- Key words relating to the chosen evaluation panel and discipline-related key words

- Other information: use of a very large research infrastructure – TGIR, application for a competitiveness cluster label, 24 interest in co-funding. 25

- For JCJC, year in which the doctoral thesis was defended (or any degree or qualification corresponding to the international PhD).

The following information cannot be modified in stage 2: funding instrument, scientific evaluation panel, coordinator, project acronym and title. Applicants are also advised to read the stage 2 eligibility criteria carefully and bear them in mind at the pre-proposal stage (see § B.5.2 Eligibility of full proposals), especially the criteria « Compliance with pre-proposal ».

Applicants’ commitments

The applicant formally declares (by ticking a box in the online form) that all project participants – whether requesting funding or not – have sought and obtained their superiors’ permission to take part in the project. The ANR may send the list of pre-proposals (PRC/PRCE/JCJC) and registrations (PRCI) submitted via its website to laboratory directors and administrative directors of establishments managing funding for projects related to them.

The applicant formally declares (by ticking a box online) that all project participants – whether requesting funding or not – abide by the French National Charter for Research Integrity and the ANR’s Code of Ethics and Scientific Integrity.

21 By indicating the RNSR ID, most of the administrative information on the establishment is automatically completed. If the information on the laboratory’s RNSR ID is inaccurate, missing or in the process of being changed, applicants can indicate the exact or new information in a free field. If the laboratory does not have a RNSR ID, there is a free field in which applicants can enter key information to identify the research body.

22 The Administrative Director of the establishment managing funding, not the administrative officer within the laboratory in question. Project coordinators should obtain the relevant person’s name from the department responsible for managing ANR projects within their managing establishment.

23 This list should be limited to a reasonable length (no more than 5). The ANR reserves the right to check potential conflicts if the list provided is too extensive and makes evaluation impossible.

24 Projects wishing to be labelled by one or more competitiveness clusters must declare this in stage 1 of the selection process. Such requests will not be accepted in stage 2. PRCI proposals are not eligible for labelling.

25 Provisional list of available co-funding arrangements in the Work Programme 2019
Where the proposed project uses genetic resources, the applicant formally declares (by ticking a box online) that all project participants—whether requesting funding or not—abide by the obligations arising from the Nagoya Protocol.²⁶

In accordance with the obligations arising from the French act for a Digital Republic (pertaining to the national open archives plan), the applicant formally undertakes (by ticking a box online), if it receives funding, to: (1) post the full texts of all scientific publications resulting from the research project in an open archive (either directly in HAL or via a local institutional archive); and (2) to provide a data management plan (DMP) at the start of the project, as per the arrangements communicated when the agreement is signed.

Project description

The project description must provide the information needed for its evaluation based on the two pre-defined criteria. Therefore, the following plan must be followed:

- **Context, positioning and objectives of pre-proposal:**
  
  (refers to the evaluation criterion “Quality and scientific aims”)
  
  Describe the objectives and research hypotheses, and the position of the project in relation to the state of the art. Present the methodology used to reach the objectives. Demonstrate the novelty and originality of the project in terms of its objectives and methodology. Describe the project’s ability to address the research issues covered by the chosen theme.

- **Partnership**
  
  (refers to the evaluation criterion “Organisation and implementation of the project” evaluation criterion)
  
  For a collaborative project (PRC or PRCE): Describe the coordinator, and his/her experience of coordinating projects and in the disciplinary area covered by the pre-proposal. Describe the consortium, each partner’s role in achieving the objectives, and how the partners complement one another to that end.
  
  For a JCJC project: Describe the scientific coordinator, his/her position with the host organisation or laboratory, and his/her experience of coordinating projects and in the disciplinary area covered by the pre-proposal. Describe the team that will be involved in the project outlined in the pre-proposal. Demonstrate how the project contributes to promote the coordinator’s level of responsibility or the development his/her own team.

- **Bibliography**
  
  (refers to the evaluation criterion “Quality and scientific aims” evaluation criterion)
  
  List the bibliographical references used for the pre-proposal²⁷

Applicants will be provided with a template, which can be downloaded from the **Generic Call for Proposals 2019** web page.

The project description must:

- **Contain a maximum of 4 pages.**

²⁶ The ANR must obtain documentary evidence of Due Diligence Declarations (DDDs) for all research projects that it funds in 2019. This rule applies retroactively to projects funded in 2018.

²⁷ The bibliography may include preprints that are yet to be published in a peer-reviewed journal, especially those referencing preliminary data.
• Be submitted in an unprotected PDF format (generated using word-processing software, not scanned).
• Be drafted preferably in English. Applicants are strongly advised to draft the document in English as evaluations may be carried out by non-French-speaking scientists. If the project description is written in French, a translation may be requested. If applicants are unable to provide an English translation, they can contact the ANR to find an appropriate solution.

The submission site will not accept any documents exceeding 4 pages or submitted in a format other than PDF.

B.4.2. Eligibility of pre-proposals and registrations

The ANR will only verify eligibility on the basis of information and documents provided on the pre-proposal submission and PRCI registration site by the closure date and time.

When analysing eligibility, the information entered online shall take precedence over that indicated in the project description if these two sources of information conflict with each other, and if the information is incorrectly indicated or missing.

Pre-proposals deemed ineligible will not be evaluated and cannot be the subject of full proposals. Registrations deemed ineligible cannot be the subject of full proposals.

Pre-proposals or registrations may be declared ineligible at any stage of the process.

Table 4: Eligibility criteria according to funding instrument

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PRCI</th>
<th>PRCE</th>
<th>PRC</th>
<th>JCJC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completeness of pre-proposal</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limit to participation</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limit to coordination</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniqueness of proposal</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner receiving funding</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Themes funded by other funding bodies</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Completeness of pre-proposal: Pre-proposals should be finalised on the submission site on the specified date and time of closure: **25 October 2018 at 1 pm (Paris time)**. No document will be accepted after this date and time. Complete pre-proposals must include:

• The fully completed online form, including applicants’ commitments;
• The project description document, not exceeding 4 pages, uploaded to the submission site.

Limit to participation: An applicant may only submit one project as coordinator and cannot be involved (as coordinator or scientific leader for a project partner) in more than three proposals submitted to the ANR under the Generic Call for Proposals, including PRCI, Ineligible pre-proposals are rejected without any evaluation of their merit by scientific evaluation panel members.

Under a PRCI proposal, the French partner’s scientific leader is automatically considered to be the coordinator. The limit to participation in no more than three projects as coordinator or scientific leader applies equally to stage 1 PRCI.
and under the specific bilateral calls for proposals outlined in Work Programme 2019. For 2019, this exclusion rule does not apply to international multilateral calls (ERA-NET, JPI, Article 185, etc.), or to the MRSEI, Astrid and Astrid Maturation, LabCom and LabCom Consolidation, Challenge, Chair and Flash calls.

**Limit to coordination:** A coordinator of a PRC, PRCE, PRCI or JCJC proposal selected for funding under the Generic Call for Proposals 2018 cannot submit a PRC, PRCE, PRCI or JCJC proposal as coordinator for the Generic Call for Proposals 2019. However, the researcher may act as a partner’s scientific leader or be otherwise involved in a proposal submitted for the 2019 edition.

A JCJC project coordinator cannot act as the coordinator for another JCJC, PRC, PRCE or PRCI project for the Generic Call for Proposals while funding for the initial JCJC project is ongoing. However, the researcher may act as a partner’s scientific leader or be otherwise involved in a proposal submitted for the 2019 edition.

**Uniqueness of the proposal:** A proposal cannot be similar in whole or in part to another proposal submitted to a call under evaluation by the ANR (all calls for proposals, all evaluation stages taken together) or that resulted in funding from the ANR. All similar proposals are ineligible.

Similarity is established if the proposals in question (in their entirety or partially) describe the same main objectives, or are simple adaptations, and share one or more team members with a major role in implementation of the project.

**Partners receiving funding:** The consortium must include at least one partner that is a French "public or assimilated research body".

**Themes funded by other funding bodies:** Themes must correspond to those within the ANR’s scope of action which do not overlap those of other funding agencies (particularly INCa, ANRS). Eligibility of projects on themes funded by these bodies (in particular cancer, AIDS and viral hepatitis) is jointly determined by ANR and said bodies.

**All pre-proposals and registrations that fail to comply with these rules are ineligible.**

### B.4.3. Evaluation of pre-proposals

Each pre-proposal is evaluated individually by two members of the scientific evaluation panel, appointed by the panel bureau (following conflict-of-interest checks by the ANR).

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30 For a proposal submitted under a specific bilateral call (i.e. France-Germany, France-Japan or France-Quebec for 2019), the French partner’s scientific leader is automatically considered to be the coordinator. The limit to participation in no more than three projects as coordinator or partner’s scientific leader applies equally to specific bilateral calls. The coordinator of a proposal submitted under a specific bilateral call cannot be the coordinator of a separate PRC, PRCE, PRCI or JCJC proposal under the Generic Call for Proposals 2019, regardless of the outcome of the stage 1 and 2 evaluations for that PRC, PRCE, PRCI or JCJC proposal.

31 An applicant can submit a proposal for the Generic Call for Proposals 2019 or a specific bilateral call 2019, and a separate proposal for a MRSEI, Astrid or Astrid Maturation, etc. call for proposals. However, the scientific objectives of the separate proposals must be materially different (see the “uniqueness” rule for proposals in this guide).

32 See the [Regulations concerning the conditions of allocation of ANR funding](#)
For projects of a highly cross-disciplinary or interdisciplinary nature, a third panel member may be called upon (from within the scientific evaluation panel itself or from another panel), where the panel members appointed to evaluate the project make an exceptional request to this end.33

Pre-proposal evaluation criteria

Pre-proposals are evaluated against **two criteria, with different sub-criteria for each funding instrument** (see Table 5 below).

During the evaluation, the “Quality and scientific aims” criterion is determining: the evaluation panel must award an “A” rating on this criterion for the proposal to proceed to stage 2.

The sub-criteria of the two main criteria serve as a guide for applicants compiling their files and drafting their scientific document, and for assessors producing their evaluation report.

**Table 5: Pre-proposal evaluation criteria**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PRCE</th>
<th>PRC</th>
<th>JCJC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criterion 1: Quality and scientific aims</strong>&lt;br&gt;(determining criterion: an “A” rating is required)</td>
<td>• Clarity of research objectives and hypotheses&lt;br&gt;• Novelty, originality, position in relation to the state of the art&lt;br&gt;• Appropriateness of the methodology&lt;br&gt;• Ability of the project to address the research issues covered by the chosen research theme</td>
<td>• Competences, expertise and involvement of the scientific coordinator and the partners&lt;br&gt;• Quality and complementarity of the consortium, quality of the collaboration</td>
<td>• Contribution to the coordinator’s level of responsibility and team development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ranking**

Scientific evaluation panels meet up following the drafting of individual evaluations. A proposal-by-proposal collegial discussion shall determine the ranking of pre-proposals, broken down into three categories: A (Project selected for stage 2) / B (Satisfactory project but with weaknesses which don’t allow its selection in step 2) / C (Project not selected).

**Results**

At the outcome of this first stage, the scientific coordinators of 2,500 to 3,000 pre-proposals are invited to submit full proposals in stage 2.

The ANR sends e-mails to all scientific coordinators of pre-proposals informing them of the results of this first stage. A panel evaluation report is always given, outlining the evaluation

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33 In exceptional cases where the panel members appointed to evaluate a highly cross-disciplinary or interdisciplinary project request the input of a third member, but where no member of any panel without conflicts of interest has the requisite expertise, an external peer reviewer may be called upon to evaluate the project.
panel’s final decision on the proposal, unless the evaluation could not be completed because the pre-proposal was deemed ineligible.

B.5. Stage 2: full proposal submission and evaluation procedures

B.5.1. Submitting full proposals

Full proposals include:

- A form to be filled in and submitted online
- A scientific document (20 pages maximum including the bibliography) to be uploaded to the submission site
- CVs of the coordinator and any partners’ scientific and technical leaders.

Online form

Some fields are pre-filled with the information provided at the pre-proposal stage (PRC/PRCE/JCJC) or upon registration (PRCI) and cannot be changed (scientific evaluation panel, funding instrument, scientific coordinator’s first name, last name and e-mail address, project acronym and title).

The following information must be checked and corrected/completed if necessary:

- **Each partner’s identification** (including RNSR ID, full name, abbreviated title, category of partner and system for calculating grant amounts; type and unit number, managing and hosting authorities for a research body’s laboratory; SIRET number and workforce numbers for companies).
- **Identification of partner’s scientific leaders** (including the coordinator) and e-mail addresses
- **Financial data** (broken down by expenditure heading and partner)\(^{34}\)
- **Scientific abstracts** (non-confidential\(^{35}\), between 1,000 and 4,000 characters, in French and English
- **Specific to PRCI projects**: identification of foreign partner concerned by bilateral agreement and its scientific leader, places where research is to be performed and amount requested from foreign agency
- **Specific to JCJC projects**: if appropriate, documents supporting requests for exemptions from “Young Researcher” status (see § B.5.2. Eligibility of full proposals).

The only information that has to be entered online concerning foreign partners participating with their own funds is the identity of the scientific leader and the place where the research is to be performed.

Applicants’ commitment

Each scientific leader of every French partner seeking funding (not including foreign partners) formally declares (by ticking a box in the online form) that their superiors, particularly the appropriate administrative and financial departments and the persons authorised to legally commit the institution managing funding, or their representatives, have consented to their

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\(^{34}\) In order to complete the financial data, each scientific and technical leader for each partner involved in a project applying for ANR funding must obtain the necessary information from its managing authority.

\(^{35}\) The abstracts will be published on the ANR website if the proposal is selected for funding. Do not include any information that could compromise a future patent application.
current submission procedure and all information relating to the proposal has been communicated to them.

Project description

The scientific document must provide the information needed for its evaluation based on the three pre-defined criteria (see Table 8). Therefore, the scientific document must follow the following plan:

- **Context, positioning and objectives of proposal:**
  *(refers to the evaluation criterion “Quality and scientific aims”)*

  Describe the objectives and research hypotheses, and the position of the project in relation to the state of the art. Present the methodology used to reach the objectives. Describe how scientific risks are managed. Demonstrate the novelty and originality of the project in terms of its objectives and methodology.

- **Organisation and implementation of the project**
  *(refers to the evaluation criterion “Organisation and implementation of the project”)*

  For a collaborative project: Describe the coordinator, and his/her experience of coordinating projects and in the disciplinary area covered by the proposal. Describe the consortium, each partner’s role in achieving the objectives, and how the partners complement one another to that end. List ongoing projects in which the coordinator and each partner’s scientific leader are involved.

  For a JCJC project: Describe the scientific coordinator, his/her position with the host organisation or laboratory, and his/her experience of coordinating projects and in the disciplinary area covered by the proposal. List ongoing projects in which the scientific coordinator is involved. Describe the team that will be involved in the project outlined in the proposal. Demonstrate how the project promote the coordinator’s level of responsibility or the development of his/her own team.

  For all projects: Give a detailed description of the research programme and the allocation of work tasks between the different partners, and illustrate with a Gantt chart. Describe the resources implemented and requested to achieve the objectives (including the following: a table summarising the resources requested per major item of expenditure and per partner; **scientific justifications for these resources** per item of expenditure and per partner and in relation to the objectives; the context in terms of human and financial resources for the project, comparing it to other ongoing projects).

  For a PRCI project, the description must include **details of the foreign scientific coordinator**, the **scientific contribution of the foreign teams** and **detailed financial data for the foreign partners** (the same information as required for the French partners).

- **Impact and benefits of the project**
  *(refers to the evaluation criterion “Impact and benefits of the project”)*

  Describe in what field(s) (scientific, economic, social or cultural) project results may have an impact, in the short, medium or long term.

  For a PRC or JCJC project: Describe how results will be disseminated and exploited, including potential initiatives to promote scientific culture.

  For a PRCE project: Describe actions to transfer technology and innovation to the social and economic world.
For a PRCI project: Demonstrate how the scientific contributions of partners from each country are balanced and complementary, and how cooperation between these French and foreign teams will add value or deliver benefits for France.

- Bibliography
  (refers to the evaluation criterion “Quality and scientific aims)

List the bibliographical references used for the proposal.[36]

Applicants will be provided with a template, which can be downloaded from the [Generic Call for Proposals 2019](#) web page on the ANR website.

The scientific document must:

- **Contain a maximum of 20 pages**, including the bibliography, Gantt chart, budget summary table, and scientific justification;

- **Be submitted in an unprotected PDF format** (generated using word-processing software, not scanned);

- **Be drafted preferably in English**. Applicants are strongly advised to draft the document in English as evaluations may be carried out by non-French-speaking scientists. If the project description is written in French, a translation may be requested. If applicants are unable to provide an English translation, they can contact the ANR to find an appropriate solution.

  *The submission site will not accept any documents exceeding 20 pages or submitted in a format other than PDF.*

### B.5.2. Eligibility of full proposals

ANR will only verify eligibility (see Table 6) on the basis of information and documents provided on the full proposal submission site by the closure date and time. **Proposals deemed ineligible will not be evaluated.**[37]

When analysing eligibility, **the information entered online shall take precedence over that indicated in the scientific document**, if these two sources of information conflict with each other, and if the information is incorrectly indicated or missing.

**Full proposals may be declared ineligible at any stage of the process.**

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[36] The bibliography may include preprints that are yet to be published in a peer-reviewed journal, especially those referencing preliminary data.

[37] Ineligible full proposals are rejected without any evaluation of their merit by panel members.
Table 6: Full proposal eligibility criteria according to funding instrument

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PRCI</th>
<th>PRCE</th>
<th>PRC</th>
<th>JCJC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completeness of proposal</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limit to participation</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniqueness of proposal</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner receiving funding</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compliance with pre-proposal</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Young Researcher” status</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign partner concerned by bilateral agreement</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criteria specific to PRCI</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Completeness of proposal:** Proposals should be finalised on the submission site on the specified date and time of closure. To be considered complete, a full proposal must include:

- The fully completed online form;
- A commitment from each scientific leader of every partner seeking funding from the ANR;
- The scientific document uploaded to the submission website not exceeding 20 pages.

**Limit to participation:** An applicant may only submit one project as coordinator and cannot be involved (as coordinator or partner’s scientific leader) in more than three proposals submitted to the ANR under the Generic Call for Proposals, including PRCI, and under the specific bilateral calls for proposals outlined in Work Programme 2019.38

**Uniqueness of the proposal:** A proposal cannot be similar in whole or in part to another proposal submitted to a call under evaluation by the ANR (all calls for proposals, all evaluation stages taken together) or that resulted in funding from the ANR. All similar proposals are ineligible.

Similarity is established if the proposals in question (in their entirety or partially) describe the same main objectives, or are simple adaptations, and share one or more team members with a major role in implementation of the project.

**Partners receiving funding:** The consortium must include at least one partner that is a French “public or assimilated research body”.39

**Compliance with pre-proposal:** The full proposal must describe the same project as that described in the pre-proposal. The funding instrument, the evaluation panel and the scientific coordinator must be the same as for the pre-proposal. The relevance of other discrepancies will be assessed by panel members based on the explanation given by the applicants when submitting the full proposal (including discrepancies with the amount of funding requested at stage 1). If there is a significant deviation, the proposal is declared ineligible and cannot receive ANR funding.

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38 These specific bilateral calls are as described in the full-text version of Work Programme 2019 and focus on the following disciplinary areas and themes: energy (Germany – BMBF); global security, civil security and cybersecurity (Germany – BMBF); social sciences and humanities (Germany – DFG); symbiotic interaction (Japan – JST); and marine environments (Quebec – FRQ).

39 See the Regulations concerning the conditions of allocation of ANR funding
“Young Researcher” status: The full proposal will be considered ineligible if scientific coordinators declare they have defended their doctoral thesis (or obtained any degree or qualification corresponding to the international standard of PhD) before 1 January 2008, without having provided supporting documents for exemption online at the time and date of closure for the submission of full proposals.

Foreign partner concerned by bilateral agreement: The consortium must include at least one French partner (categorised as a “research body”) and at least one foreign partner concerned by the bilateral agreement. Two scientific coordinators should be clearly indicated, one who is French and the other who is from the other country concerned by the bilateral agreement.

Criteria specific to PRCI projects: The foreign agency’s eligibility criteria may apply on top of those mentioned above (see Table 7 below). Applicants must therefore carefully read the call upon its publication by the foreign agency to check for possible additional criteria.

All full proposals that fail to comply with these rules are ineligible.

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40 Exceptions may be granted. The following events occurring after the PhD is awarded can be taken into account: maternity leave, parental leave, long-term sick leave (more than 90 days), national service. The limit is pushed back for a period equal to the duration of the event. Additionally, for women the limit is extended by one year per dependent child. Where appropriate, supporting documents will have to be provided when the full proposal is submitted.
Table 7: Eligibility criteria specific to bilateral agreements*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country (agency)</th>
<th>Submission to ANR</th>
<th>Submission to foreign agency</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Participation of company</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brazil (FAPESP)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Administrative registration</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada (NSERC)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Project duration 36 months (max.)</td>
<td>If a HK company is involved, a FR company must also be involved</td>
<td>Maximum of 5 projects per Hong Kong-based organisation (pre-selection performed by foreign applicant’s organisation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong (RGC)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Project duration 36 to 48 months</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia (RSF)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Project duration 36 to 48 months</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan (MOST)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Project duration of 42 months ineligible</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey (TUBITAK)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore (NRF)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany (DFG)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Administrative registration and copy of the proposal</td>
<td>Project duration 36 months (max.)</td>
<td>Ineligible</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria (FWF)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Administrative registration and copy of the proposal</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg (FNR)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Administrative registration and copy of the proposal</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ineligible</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland (FNS)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Administrative registration and copy of the proposal</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ineligible</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The list of PRCI collaborations and ANR – foreign agency collaboration procedures has yet to be confirmed at the time of publication of the AAPG 2019 and the AAPG 2019 Guide

B.5.3. Evaluation of full proposals

Evaluation in the second stage of the selection process may involve external peer reviewers and panel members who either took part or did not take part in the first stage of the selection process.

**One additional criterion is used in stage 2 (see Table 8), and the sub-criteria differ for each funding instrument** to ensure that the full proposals can be properly assessed against the requirements of the funding instrument in question.

The following evaluation chart is used by both external peer reviewers and panel members.

Once again, the sub-criteria are a guide for applicants compiling their files and drafting their scientific document, and for assessors producing their evaluation report.
Table 8: Full proposal evaluation criteria according to funding instrument

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRCI</th>
<th>PRCE</th>
<th>PRC</th>
<th>JCJC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criterion 1: Quality and scientific aims</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Clarity of research objectives and hypotheses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Novelty, originality, position in relation to the state of the art</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Appropriateness of the methodology, management of scientific risks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criterion 2: Organisation and implementation of the project</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Competences, expertise and involvement of the scientific coordinator and the partners</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Quality and complementarity of the consortium, quality of the collaboration</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Contribution to the coordinator’s level of responsibility and team development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Appropriateness of implemented and requested resources to the project’s objectives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criterion 3: Impact and benefits of the project</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Scientific impact and potential economic, social or cultural impact</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Balance and complementarity of the scientific contributions by respective partners in each country and added value/benefit for France from this European or international cooperation</td>
<td>• Action of technology and innovation transfer with regard to the social and economic world</td>
<td>• Research outcome, dissemination and application strategy, including promoting scientific culture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

External peer reviewers’ assessment

The aim is for each full proposal to be evaluated by at least two external peer reviewers (individuals not involved in scientific evaluation panel meetings) proposed by panel members appointed to evaluate the proposal (approached by the ANR following conflict-of-interest checks).

The external peer reviewers operate individually and in total confidentiality, without any exchanges with third parties. The only elements at their disposal are the materials in the full proposal as submitted online by the scientific coordinator by the closing time and date of the second submission stage.

The external peer reviewers complete an individual appraisal report in which a comment is given for each evaluation criteria.

Rebuttal stage

Report(s) by external peer reviewers\(^{41}\) will systematically be sent to the scientific coordinator of each proposal at the end of May (the exact date will be published later on the ANR website).

The scientific coordinator will then have 7 days to respond to these reports, if he/she wishes, via an online interface. The aim of the rebuttal stage is solely to report any inaccuracies in

\(^{41}\) It may be possible not to have all proposals evaluated by “at least two external peer reviewers” before the rebuttal stage begins (for instance, if the proposal relates to a highly specialised theme).
the external peer reviewer’s report to the scientific evaluation panel. The coordinator may not, in his/her response, modify the project as described in the submitted full proposal (scope, consortium, budget, etc.), or add new information (new data, published article, etc.). The coordinator's response is shared with members of the scientific panel, in full session.

The panel will disregard any responses to external peer reviewer report(s) that serve a purpose other than to report inaccuracies to the scientific evaluation panel.

Evaluation by the scientific evaluation panel members

Full proposals are also evaluated by two scientific evaluation panel members. Panel members evaluate proposals individually based on the elements submitted by the coordinator by the call closing time and date. They take account of external peer reviewers’ reports and any response made by the scientific coordinator to the external peer reviewers as well. External peer reviewers’ reports can thus be seen in conjunction with this response, together with the comprehensive view that panel members have over the proposals assessed within their panel (a view that external peer reviewers do not have).

Ranking

Scientific evaluation panels meet up following the drafting of individual evaluations, in full session. A proposal-by-proposal collegial discussion shall take place and proposals will be ranked per funding instrument.

One of the two panel members appointed to evaluate the proposal (the rapporteur) shall prepare a final evaluation report, taking into account his/her own opinion, the evaluation of the other appointed member, external peer reviewers’ reports, possible feedback to external peer reviewers submitted by the scientific coordinator, as well as discussions held in panel meetings reflecting the consensus reached in the scientific evaluation panel.

Results

The decision whether or not to select a project is made by the ANR based on rankings established by the scientific evaluation panel and budgetary capacity dedicated to the Generic Call for Proposals.

The ANR posts the list of projects awarded funding on the AAPG 2019 page of its website.

The ANR informs all scientific coordinators of their proposal’s selection or rejection by e-mail and transmits the final evaluation report justifying the evaluation panel’s decision.

Funding of selected proposals

Those selected proposals will be funded by the ANR, following administrative and financial checks (mainly to do with accounting/regularity of grants in accordance with European law), and on condition that a grant agreement is signed by each of the partners benefiting from a grant.

The procedures for the attribution of ANR grants are set out in the Regulations concerning the conditions of allocation of ANR funding. Partners are invited to read this document carefully in order to build their projects in compliance with the provisions therein in particular with respect to budget aspects.
B.6. Annex: Provisional schedule for AAPG 2019
Stage 1
The applicants submit a pre-proposal (PRC/PRCE/IJCIC) or register their intent to submit a proposal at stage 2 (PRC-I).

- Publication of the Work Programme 2019 and the AAPG 2019: Early September
- Publication of the AAPG 2019 Guide: Early September
- Opening of the submission website (PRC, PRCE and IJCIC): 29 September
- Registration of PRC-I: 30 September
- Registration of PRC-I: 3 October
- Closure of pre-proposal submission (PRC, PRCE and IJCIC) and registration (PRC-I): 23 October

2018
July-August
September
October
November
December

Stage 2
Coordinators selected at the end of stage 1 and coordinators of a registered PRC-I are invited to submit a full proposal at stage 2.

- ANR informs all the coordinators of the stage 1 results: 6th February
- Opening of the submission website (PRC, PRCE, IJCIC, and PRC-I): 4th March
- Full proposals are assessed by external peer-reviewers: End of March
- Full proposals are reviewed by CES: End of June
- Grant agreement phase: End of December

2019
January
February
March
April
May
June
July
December

AAPG2019 Guide_version 1.0_12/09/2018