

Annex for the Franco-Swiss projects

Lead Agency (ANR) procedure

Generic call for proposals 2019

IMPORTANT

The evaluation of the Franco-Swiss projects will be carried out by the ANR only, in accordance with the procedures detailed in the Generic Call for Proposals 2019 **available at this address:** <http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/AAPG2019>, to which are added the provisions of this document.

It is essential to read carefully the work programme 2019, the generic call for proposals 2019, the AAPG2019 guide, the rules relating to ANR funding allocation procedures (<http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/financer-votre-projet/reglement-financier/>) and all of this document before submitting research project proposals.

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

ANR contacts:

aapg.adfi@anr.fr: questions about the administrative and financial arrangements

aapg.science@anr.fr: questions about the scientific aspects of the project proposal

aapg.si@anr.fr: difficulties encountered when entering data or during document submission on the website

SNSF contacts:

Social Sciences and Humanities: **Paul Pignat** paul.pignat@snf.ch

Mathematics and Engineering Sciences: **Jana Segmehl**

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1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF COLLABORATION WITH SWITZERLAND

By establishing bilateral agreements with foreign funding agencies, the French National Research Agency (ANR) allows French researchers to initiate or extend their collaborative work with researchers from other countries. In this way it hopes to encourage the emergence of European and International teams of excellence.

The aim is to fund innovative bi-national projects that clearly stand out from on-going national projects, demonstrating great synergy between each country's teams and real integration of joint research.

To simplify and streamline the terms of collaboration and to set up borderless research funding areas, thus contributing to the development of the European Research Area (ERA), ANR and SNSF (*Schweizerischer Nationalfonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung, Swiss National Science Foundation*) have decided to enter into a Lead Agency type of agreement. Within this framework, the teams from the two countries prepare a joint project and one single agency (the Lead Agency) takes charge of the whole evaluation process (peer review and scientific panel evaluation) of the projects. Transnational projects compete with the national projects of the agency carrying out the evaluation. The partner agency can access all information on the projects. Each agency provides funding for its national teams¹ according to its own terms.

The two agencies alternate years handling projects submission, evaluation and selection in accordance with their individual procedures to facilitate the setting up and implementation of high-quality scientific projects proposed jointly by French and Swiss research teams.

In 2019, **the submission and evaluation of project proposals will be handled by the ANR.** However, the Swiss scientific coordinator and the other Swiss partners must provide SNSF with certain administrative details in accordance with this agency's specific terms.

The purpose of the partnership between ANR and SNSF is to support projects in which there is genuine collaboration between Franco-Swiss partners. Partners will ensure that each country provides equitable contributions and scientific inputs. The same applies to agencies' grant applications. Insofar as possible, the French and foreign partners' projects must start and finish on the same dates.

2. RESEARCH PRIORITIES

The bi-lateral agreement with Switzerland covers all the disciplinary fields funded by ANR and SNSF.

3. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

French and Swiss partners must prepare a joint scientific project. Teams from each country must each appoint a **national scientific coordinator**.

ANR is in charge of submission and evaluation for both countries.

French partners:

Projects must be submitted within the framework of the "International Collaborative Research Project" process (PRCI) in ANR's 2019 Generic call for proposals.

¹ A French team is a partner with an institution or branch in France

Foreign partners:

It is essential to provide SNSF with a copy of the project proposal or any additional documents in accordance with this agency's specific terms:

<http://www.snf.ch/en/funding/projects/lead-agency/france/Pages/default.aspx>

3.1. EARLY REGISTRATION OF PROPOSALS WITH ANR

The French Scientific Coordinator must **pre-register his/her intention to submit a "PRCI" project** on ANR's submission website before 1pm (Paris time) on **25 October 2018**. **This registering with ANR is mandatory** (cf. §B.4. In the AAPG2019 Guide) to be entitled to take part in the selection process. No pre-proposal is required at this stage.

To pre-register an intention to submit a Franco-Swiss PRCI project, the applicant must complete the online form, the content of which is detailed in the AAPG2019 Guide (cf. §B.4.1. Submitting pre-proposals (PRC/PRCE/JCJC instruments) and registering (PRCI instrument)). **Foreign partners** must be clearly identified in the online form.

In the online form, **a distinction must be made** between the provisional amount of grant requested by **French partners** and the provisional amount of grant requested by **foreign partners** from their respective national agency.

***Note:** if one or more foreign partners decide to withdraw from the project proposal between the registration of an "International Collaborative Research Project" (PRCI) and the submission of a full proposal, it will not be possible to change the funding instrument given that other funding instrument (PRC, PRCE, JCJC) are subject to a two-stage selection procedure).*

The acronym and project title provided to each agency **must be the same**.

The acronym chosen and the name of the French coordinator are definitive and cannot be modified when the full proposal is submitted. This also applies to the choice of the scientific evaluation panel (cf. AAPG2019 Guide, §B.4).

3.2. SUBMISSION OF FULL PROPOSALS TO ANR

French PRCI project applicants registered before the 25 October 2018 at 1 pm (Paris time) deadline will be invited - subject to certain eligibility conditions - to submit a full proposal to ANR together with applicants to the PRC, PRCE and JCJC funding instruments selected at the first stage's outcome.

Applicants are **strongly advised to write their proposals in English** as the evaluation is carried out in bi-lateral collaboration with the foreign agency. If the scientific document is written in French, a **translation** may be requested.

On the ANR submission website, the French coordinator must be listed as **the scientific coordinator** and the foreign coordinator must be listed as the **country's referent**. The French coordinator is subject to the rules (including eligibility) that apply to all national scientific coordinators under the Generic call for proposals (see AAPG2019 Guide §B.5.2, Eligibility of full proposals).

The full PRCI proposals must comply with the rules regarding format and content set out in the *AAPG2019 Guide* (cf. §B.5. Stage 2: full proposal submission and evaluation procedures). Financial and administrative information on the foreign partners must be clearly indicated when the proposal is submitted on the website.

The following information concerning foreign partners must be provided: the name of the institution², its category (private/public) and information concerning the foreign coordinator (the country's referent) must be indicated on the online form. The amount of funding requested by foreign partners from their respective national agency must also be indicated on the online form.

Moreover, it is essential that applicants indicate the following information in the scientific document:

- **the foreign teams' scientific contribution;**
- **foreign partners' financial data broken down into items of expenditure**, in the same way as that of French partners.

Finally, applicants are requested to provide a summary table for each French or foreign partner, with amounts indicated in Euro:

- the total amount of expenditures;
- the amount of funding requested from each funding agency (ANR, SNSF).

The following table must be included in the full proposal scientific document's as a summary of the persons involved:

Country	University or Institution	Last Name	First Name	Current position	Role in the project	Involvement (person.months)*
				Professor?	Coordinator? Task number?	
				Technician?	Task number?	
				PostDoc to be hired in the frame of the project?	Task number?	

(* to be indicated with respect to the total project duration)

4. ELIGIBILITY OF FULL PROPOSALS

Each agency decides on the eligibility of a project in accordance with its own rules. As foreign agencies have their own eligibility criteria, it is strongly recommended to review these criteria. The rules of the SNSF are available at this address:

<http://www.snf.ch/en/funding/projects/lead-agency/france/Pages/default.aspx>

² Partner as a legal person

ANR verifies the eligibility of the full proposal taking into account the criteria detailed in the AAPG2019 Guide (cf. §B.5.2 *Eligibility of full proposals*) and detailed below:

- 1) The provisional project proposal duration must be the same for the two country partners.

In addition to these eligibility criteria are the criteria of the foreign agency (**to be checked with the foreign agency**).

5. EVALUATION

Projects proposals are evaluated by ANR only. They are evaluated according to the same main criteria as for the projects proposals submitted within the framework of another funding instrument of the Generic call for proposals 2019, one of the sub-criteria is specific to the PRCI projects (cf. *AAPG2019 Guide, §B.5.3. Evaluation of full proposals*).

The foreign agency can suggest external reviewers that ANR may call upon for project evaluation. The foreign agency has also access to all information relating to the projects and their evaluation.

ANR will subsequently provide its foreign counterpart with a list of projects to fund from those which passed the selection process. The two agencies then jointly validate the list of projects to be funded.

6. FUNDING PROVISIONS

Each agency will cover expenditures for their respective country's teams **according to its own rules**. ANR's funding regulations are available at: <http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/financer-votre-projet/reglement-financier/>

7. SCHEDULE

- Closure of project proposals registration on the ANR website: 25 October 2018 at 1 pm (Paris time)
- Closure of full proposals submission on the ANR site: end of March 2019
- SNSF schedule: no registration; it is essential to consult the website of the Swiss agency regarding the full proposal submission procedures
- Joint decision and publication of the results: October 2019 (**indicative** date)
- Possible project start date: final quarter 2019 / to be adapted according to the foreign partner constraints.