

# 2023 Generic Call for Proposals

2023 AAPG Guide  
Version 2.0 as of 21 September 2022

Submission, evaluation, selection and funding  
procedures

In case of any difference of interpretation, the French version of the present document shall prevail.  
Please carefully read the entire document, the [2023 AAPG](#) and the [regulation on the allocation of ANR funding](#), and contact the future management supervisor before submitting a pre-proposal, registration or full proposal for a research project.



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## A. Context of the 2023 Generic Call for Proposals

### A.1. Objectives of the Generic Call for Proposals

The [2023 Generic Call for Proposals](#) (2023 AAPG) represents the ANR's "Research and Innovation" component of the [2023 Work Programme](#).

It is addressed to all scientific communities and public or private stakeholders involved in French research, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and very small enterprises (VSEs). It aims to help researchers from various scientific fields to access, in addition to recurrent funding granted, co-funding opportunities on a large number of research themes, whether targeted or not. The AAPG applies to all types of research (basic research, industrial research and experimental development).

The "Research and Innovation" of the ANR's 2023 Work Programme covered by the 2023 AAPG is structured in **56 research themes**:

- **37 research themes** are introduced within 7 scientific fields:
  - Environmental Sciences
  - Materials and Engineering Sciences
  - Life Sciences
  - Humanities and Social Sciences
  - Digital Sciences
  - Mathematics and its interactions
  - Subatomic Physics, Earth and Universe Sciences
- **19 research themes** corresponding to cross-cutting issues that include the concerns of several scientific fields, divided into cross-cutting fields:
  - Sustainability Science
  - Digital transformation
  - One Health
  - Ecological and environmental transition
  - Energy transformation
  - Technological transitions
  - Transformations of socio-technical systems

**Within the AAPG, each research theme of the Work Programme has its own Scientific Evaluation Panel (CES), covering all relevant themes.** Panels dealing with cross-cutting themes are therefore accordingly arranged to cover all the relevant disciplines.

*The project coordinator is responsible for selecting the panel in which the project will be evaluated in stage 1 (when submitting the pre-proposal for PRC, PRCE, PRME and JCJC instruments or when registering for the PRCI instrument). This panel cannot be changed during the process. It is required to carefully read the themes fully described in §G of the [2023AAPG](#) before making this final decision.*

With the Generic Call for Proposals, the "Research and Innovation" component also includes the implementation of governmental plans and strategic priorities that the French States intends to support in 2023. Each priority or implementation of a governmental plan is broken down in one or

more scientific themes under the Work Programme and its General Call for Proposals.<sup>1</sup> The priorities listed in the 2023 WP are: artificial intelligence; social sciences and humanities; quantum technologies; autism in neurodevelopmental disorders (with reservations); translational research on rare diseases.

For the special measures “Very large research infrastructures (TGIR)”, “Competitiveness clusters” and “French co-funding”, see [Appendix 3](#) to this document.

## A.2. Funding instruments

The 2023 AAPG uses a set of instruments to fund:

- individual research projects coordinated by young researchers (JCJC),
- single-team research projects (PRME),
- collaborative research projects between public or related entities nationally (PRC) or internationally (PRCI), and between public or related entities and companies (PRCE).

The expectations and characteristics of these various funding instruments determine key points in the submission and evaluation, and are summarised in [Table 2](#).

*The project coordinator is responsible for selecting the funding instrument in stage 1 (when submitting the pre-proposal for PRC, PRCE, PRME and JCJC instruments or when registering for the PRCI instrument) and cannot be changed during the process. It is required to carefully read the characteristics of each instrument before making this final decision.*

### A.2.1. International Collaborative Research Project (PRCI)

The “International Collaborative Research Project” (PRCI) funding instrument is devoted to bilateral collaborations established between **at least one laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible to ANR funding, and one foreign partner** (eligible for funding from a foreign funding agency having signed a bilateral agreement with the ANR).

For PRCI-type projects, a strong synergy is expected between partners from both countries and must be materialised by complementary scientific contributions from French and foreign partner(s):

- **Identification of two project coordinators, one French and one foreign**, with both being actively involved in the project coordination<sup>2</sup>,

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<sup>1</sup> Strategic priorities and the implementation of governmental plans will be subject to additional funding, as in previous AAPG editions.

<sup>2</sup> If the consortium includes several French partners, one of these partners must be declared as the coordinating partner. If the consortium includes several foreign partners, one of these partners must be declared as the foreign coordinating partner.

- A work programme identifying balanced scientific contributions by partners from each country,
- A description of the resources identifying further scientific contributions<sup>3</sup> by partners from each country,
- **An acronym, title and project duration that are identical** in both countries.

For the 2023 AAPG, the countries covered by these international bilateral agreements are:

- In Europe: Germany, Austria, Luxembourg and Switzerland.
- Internationally: Brazil, Canada – Quebec, United States, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

**Appendices dedicated to each bilateral collaboration** describe open themes<sup>4</sup> and any specific submission, eligibility and selection procedures. These appendices are available on the [2023AAPG web page](#) and **must be consulted before any projects are registered or submitted to the ANR** or a foreign partner.

*If there is no foreign partner seeking funding from an ANR partner agency, collaborations based on this type of partnership are invited to choose the PRC or PRCE funding instrument.*

For some international agreements, the “Lead agency” procedure is set up: only one agency – the *Lead agency* – is in charge of evaluating projects.

#### **PRCI for which the ANR is the Lead Agency**

Under the 2023 edition, for PRCI projects in collaboration with **Germany (DFG), Austria (FWF), Luxembourg (FNR) or Switzerland (FNS)**, the ANR acts as the *Lead Agency*. Therefore, these projects must be registered (stage 1) then submitted (stage 2) to the ANR by selecting the “PRCI” instrument, according to the conditions described below. The project, and subsequently the full proposal, submitted by the French project coordinator must clearly name who are the French and foreign partners as well as the French and foreign partner’s project coordinators.

*Foreign partners may be required to provide the foreign agency with some administrative information or a number of documents (i.e. copy of the project proposal). **It is required to consult the specific appendix to the relevant agreement** as soon as it is available on the [dedicated 2023AAPG web page](#), and the foreign agency’s website.*

*For ANR Lead agency collaborations, any PRCI project that is not registered with the ANR in stage 1 cannot be submitted in stage 2. The ANR will provide the list of registrations (PRCI) submitted on its website to partner agencies (in and outside Europe) for their respective projects.*

<sup>3</sup> The economic situation of the partners’ countries is considered.

<sup>4</sup> Projects submitted in the PRCI instruments must be in line with the research themes announced in the bilateral agreement between the two countries – identified in [specific appendices](#) – and with the scientific theme selected, see specific PRCI project evaluation sub-criteria [§B.5.3](#).

**Table 1: Confirmed list of bilateral collaborations and themes under the 2023 Generic Call for Proposals**

Countries (agencies)	Themes for collaboration	Lead Agency	Relevant scientific fields*
<b>Brazil</b> (FACEPE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mathematics and Digital Sciences</li> <li>• Social Sciences and Humanities</li> <li>• Materials</li> <li>• Engineering, chemistry, physics</li> <li>• Environment, ecosystems and biological resources</li> </ul>	-	Themes A.1 to A.4; Themes B.1 to B.6; Themes D.1 to D.7; Themes E.1 to E.6; Theme F.1; Themes G.1 and G.2; Themes H.1 and H.2; Themes H.4 to H.7; H.11 and H.12, H.14 to H.16 and Theme H.19
<b>Brazil</b> (FAPESP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mathematics and Digital Sciences</li> <li>• Social Sciences and Humanities</li> <li>• Materials</li> <li>• Engineering, chemistry, physics</li> <li>• Environment, ecosystems and biological resources</li> </ul>	ANR	Themes A.1 to A.4; Themes B.1 to B.6; Themes D.1 to D.7; Themes E.1 to E.6; Theme F.1; Themes G.1 and G.2; Themes H.1 and H.2; Themes H.4 to H.7; H.11 and H.12, H.14 to H.16 and Theme H.19
<b>Canada – Quebec</b> (FRQSC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Societies and territories in transition</li> </ul>	ANR	Theme D.7
<b>United States</b> (NSF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physics of living systems</li> <li>• Digital Sciences</li> <li>• Mathematics and its interactions</li> </ul>	ANR	Theme B.1; Themes C.2 to C.4; Theme H.14
		NSF	Themes E.1 to E.6; Theme F.1; Themes H.12 and H.14
<b>Hong Kong</b> (RGC)	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and RGC	-	All themes except H.17
<b>Taiwan</b> (NSTC, previously MOST)	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and NSTC	-	All themes except H.17
<b>Germany</b> (DFG)	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and DFG, except Social Sciences and Humanities**	ANR	All themes except D.1 to D.7 and H.4
<b>Austria</b> (FWF)	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and FWF	ANR	All scientific fields
<b>Luxembourg</b> (FNR)	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and FNR	ANR	All scientific fields
<b>Switzerland</b> (FNS)	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and FNS	ANR	All scientific fields

\*See §G “Scientific themes covered by the 2023 Generic Call for Proposals” in the 2023 AAPG. Each scientific theme matches a Scientific Evaluation Panel (CES).

\*\* Social Sciences and Humanities are subject to a specific ANR-DFG call, beyond the AAPG.



## PRCI for which a foreign agency is the *Lead Agency*

For PRCI projects in collaboration with the **United States (NSF)** in “Digital Sciences” and “Mathematics and its interactions”, the foreign agency acts as the *Lead Agency*. Therefore, these projects must be registered (stage 1) then submitted (stage 2) to the foreign agency, according to its specific procedure. The proposal submitted by the foreign project coordinator must clearly name who are the French partners as well as the French party’s project coordinator.

*For foreign Lead agency collaborations, registering an intention to submit a proposal with the ANR is not required in stage 1 of this call.*

*However, the French project coordinator and other partners must provide the ANR with administrative information and a copy of the project proposal submitted to the foreign agency, in accordance with a specific timetable different from the AAPG. Any copy of a project proposal for a PRCI project is not submitted to the ANR’s website will not be accepted for evaluation by the foreign agency.*

*It is required to consult the specific appendix to the relevant agreement as soon as it is available on the [dedicated 2023AAPG web page](#), and the foreign agency’s website.*

## Non-lead Lead Agency PRCI

For PRCI projects in collaboration with **Brazil (FACEPE), Hong Kong (RGC) or Taiwan (NSTC, previously MOST)**, projects must be submitted to both funding agencies involved, according to the timetable and submission procedures of both agencies. The ANR submission is a two-stage process, based on the timetable that applies to all the instruments of the call: project registration in stage 1 by selecting the PRCI instrument, and full proposal submission in stage 2, according to the conditions described below and in the specific appendix for international collaboration.

Both funding agencies evaluate simultaneously the proposals. Both proposals must:

- **Describe a common scientific project,**
- **Have the same acronym, title and duration in both countries,**
- **Clearly name the French and foreign partners and identify French and foreign project coordinators.**

*Projects must be submitted to the foreign agency in accordance with their own procedure. It is required to consult the specific appendix to the relevant agreement as soon as it is available on the [dedicated 2023AAPG web page](#), and the foreign agency’s website.*

The final PRCI project selection 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 ultimately funds the teams of its own country, according to its own funding and monitoring procedures.

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

The “Collaborative Research Project involving Enterprises” (PRCE) instrument is devoted to **effective collaborations** established between **at least one laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding** **and** **at least one**

**company conducting research and development in France**<sup>5</sup>. This collaboration aims to achieve mutually beneficial research results by helping public research organisations address new research issues, or address them differently, and enable companies conducting R&D to get a better access to high-level public research to improve their capacity for innovation over various periods.<sup>6</sup>

A project is considered as being conducted under an effective collaboration when at least two parties, independent of each other, aiming to share knowledge or technologies, or pursue a common goal based on division of efforts involving the parties jointly defining the scope of the collaborative project, contribute to its completion and share its financial, technological, scientific and other risks, as well as its results.

The terms and conditions for PRCE project implementation, including contributions to its costs, risk and result sharing, dissemination of results, rules on the allocation of intellectual property rights and access to them, must be concluded in a consortium agreement before the project beings<sup>7</sup>.

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

*Collaboration with companies not conducting research and development (i.e. SATTs, private higher education institution) or with partners whose category<sup>8</sup> cannot be determined without in-depth analysis of their economic activity (i.e. associations, foundations, technical centres, etc.) is possible but insufficient to register under the PRCE instrument without the presence of a company conducting R&D in France. Collaborations relying on this type of partnership are invited to choose another funding instrument.*

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

The “Collaborative Research Project” (PRC) instrument is the ANR’s main funding instrument. It includes all types of multi-partner research projects other than those covered by PRCI and PRCE instruments (see [Table 2](#)). Therefore, the collaboration involves **at least two partners, including at least one laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding**.

For the PRC instrument, projects targeting breakthrough objectives or concepts, disruptive projects, projects aiming to overcome well-identified scientific barriers in the community, projects with a long-term research perspective, projects following up on previous projects and allowing for new objectives to be considered (the scientific document must specify the new contribution provided by this “follow-up” project, based on results previously generated).

*The simple provision of technologies or services to conduct a project is not considered a form of collaboration. Such providers cannot be identified as PRC partners but can be identified as possible service providers of a partner.*

<sup>5</sup> Includes large, small and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups whose R&D project work will be conducted in France. Only companies with their real head office in a European Union country and with an establishment or branch in France may benefit from ANR funding.

<sup>6</sup> In compliance with the provisions applicable to States aid for Research, Development and Innovation (see the [Regulation on the allocation of ANR funding](#)).

<sup>7</sup> See data sheet on the [ANR’s website](#).

<sup>8</sup> Research organisation or company, as defined in the [regulation on the allocation of ANR funding](#).

*Collaboration with companies conducting research and development is not authorised, see PRCE funding instrument §A.2.2.*

*Collaborations involving two teams from the same laboratory must be considered as a Collaborative Research Project (PRC), each team then being considered a project partner.*

*Collaboration with any foreign partner<sup>9</sup> is possible when their own funds are used. The consortium must then include at least one laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation and institution eligible for ANR funding.*

#### **A.2.4. Single-team Research Project (PRME)**

The “Single-team research project” (PRME) funding instrument is devoted to fund a single team from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding. Only the project coordinator’s team is funded under the single-team research project.

A PRME project corresponds to research directed towards **outstandingly ambitious and innovative scientific objectives**. The PRME is coordinated by a team leader (when the laboratory is organised in teams) or a researcher leading a project team (if the laboratory is not organised in teams) with all the skills and know-how required to achieve these ambitious and innovative objectives. The team or project team must justify its sustainability over the duration of the project in its application (in the certificate provided by the laboratory director in stage 1 and the scientific document).

Under a PRME, a project coordinator is expected to be strongly involved (*at least 40% FTREs<sup>10</sup>*). The team will also have to provide evidence that all participants identified in a PRME project have at **least 1.5 FTREs<sup>11</sup>**.

In this context, funding under a PRME by the ANR is incompatible with:

- funding obtained from the ERC by the coordinator submitting the PRME,
- “single-team project” funding from another agency or funding agency, foundation or association (e.g. “FRM Team” funding from the French Foundation for Medical Research (FRM)).

Given these expectations and rules, as part of 2023 AAPG, a PRME project coordinator cannot:

- submit a JCJC, PRC, PRCE, PRME or PRCI project as a project coordinator,
- be involved as a partner’s scientific manager for PRC, PRCE or PRCI.

Moreover, throughout the duration of the PRME, participants in a PRME project cannot submit another PRME or take part in another PRME.

*A project submitted by several teams from the same laboratory must be considered as a Collaborative Research Project (PRC) and not a PRME project.*

<sup>9</sup> “Foreign partners” designates any partner who does not have an establishment or branch in France.

<sup>10</sup> FTRE: Full Time Research Employment.

<sup>11</sup> The 1.5 FTREs are for permanent staff: research professors (EC(PR/MCF) or researchers (DR or CR)), full-time research engineers, full-time project engineers. They include the project coordinator’s FTREs. Emeritus researchers, even if they can take part in the PRME project, are not counted. For ECs, the calculation is based on their full research time.

### A.2.5. Young Researchers Project (JCJC)

The JCJC funding instrument aims to prepare the new generation of talented young researchers destined to become the future leaders or directors of French scientific research by encouraging them to tackle scientific or technological obstacles using original approaches.

Therefore, the instrument aims to help young researchers acquire **scientific autonomy, develop their own research theme, set up or strengthen their own team around this theme**, within and beyond their laboratory, **acquire project-based culture** and quickly demonstrate their capacity for innovation. It is also a springboard for young researchers who, thanks to initial support from the ANR, will be more willing to consider submitting a proposal in response to the calls launched by the European Research Council (ERC).

Focusing on the individual, ANR funding can solely cover the costs of the young researcher's team. **There can only be one partner receiving funding**, and must be a **laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisations and institutions eligible for ANR funding**.

The instrument is open to **young researchers with a permanent or fixed-term contract** with the same research organisation or institution **throughout the project**. ANR funding does not cover the coordinator's salary.

For the JCJC instrument, the notion of team allows for collaboration within the same research organisation, institution or laboratory as the project coordinator, and does not exclude collaborations with scientists from other research organisation, institutions or laboratories. Identifying collaborators that use their own funds in the project shall be justified by their contribution in terms of skills required to achieve the proposed scientific objectives of the project and the objectives of the JCJC instrument.

*To be classified as "Young researcher", applicants **must have defended their doctoral thesis** (or having obtained a degree or qualification equal to the international PhD standard) **less than 10 years ago** (i.e. after 01 January 2012).<sup>12</sup>*

*In addition, researchers are eligible to the "young researchers" instrument **only for 5 years after taking up a position** in a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution (i.e. after 01 January 2017).<sup>13</sup>*

*A young researcher eligible for JCJC funding (respecting the deadline for the doctoral thesis defence and the date of first employment) **is however not required to submit their proposals under this instrument** and may submit a proposal as project coordinator under the PRC, PRCE, PRME or PRCI instrument if the composition and size of the project justify this. They must check that **the structure of the project meets the objectives and expectations of the JCJC instrument** (see §B.4.3 and §B.5.3, specific evaluation sub-criteria for the JCJC instrument).*

<sup>12</sup> Exemptions may be granted. The following events may be taken into account: maternity/paternity leave, parental leave, leave for parental presence, long-term sick leave (more than 90 days), national service, integrated dual degrees. The limit is extended by a period equal to the duration of the event, by 4 years for the integrated dual degree. In addition, for women, the limit is extended by one year per dependent child. Where relevant, supporting documents must be provided when submitting the pre-proposal in stage 1.

<sup>13</sup> The notion of first employment refers to taking a post as a research professor or full-time researcher within a research and knowledge dissemination structure. Excluding post-doctoral contracts, engineers, teachers without research responsibilities (i.e. PRAG). Possible probationary period or internship considered. The same exemptions described above are applicable for this eligibility criterion.

As from the 2022 edition of the call, funding under the "Young researcher (JCJC)" instrument **can only be allocated one throughout a career**.

It is not possible to combine JCJC funding with a similar type of funding: Inserm ATIP-Avenir, CNRS Momentum, Emergence from the City of Paris, funding from the European Research Council (ERC), the ANR's Tremplin ERC call, a call with objectives comparable to those of the JCJC instrument funded by regional authorities.

**Table 2: Table summarising all five funding instruments**

	<b>Consortium specificities</b>	<b>Instrument characteristics</b>
<b>International Collaborative Research Projects (PRCI)</b>	<p>Collaboration between at least one public stakeholder from French research (a laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding), seeking funding from the ANR, and at least one foreign partner simultaneously seeking funding from a foreign funding agency under an ANR-foreign agency bilateral agreement.</p> <p>Involvement of companies possible, according to the agreement with the foreign agency.<sup>14</sup></p> <p>Involvement of foreign partners, with their own funds, is possible.</p>	<p><b>Balanced scientific contributions</b> (jointly defined objectives, shared knowledge and tasks, shared risks, results and intellectual property) and complementarity of respective financial contributions from each country's partners, <b>added value of the collaboration</b> and contribution to the French scientific community.</p>
<b>Collaborative Research Projects involving Enterprises (PRCE)</b>	<p>Collaboration between at least one public stakeholder from French research (a laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding) and at least one company conducting research and development in France.</p> <p>Involvement of foreign partners, with their own funds, is possible</p> <p>Coordination by the public partner or the Company partner.</p>	<p><b>Effective collaboration</b> between two categories of partners (jointly defined objectives, shared knowledge and tasks, shared risks, results and intellectual property under a consortium agreement)</p>
<b>Collaborative Research Project (PRC)</b>	<p>Collaboration between at least two partners, including at least one public stakeholders in French research (laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding).</p> <p>Collaboration possible within the same research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding, between several research teams or groups.</p> <p>Involvement of foreign partners, with their own funds, is possible.</p>	<p><b>Strong synergy</b> between several skills involved (jointly defined objectives, shared knowledge and tasks, shared risks and results)</p>
<b>Single-team Research Project (PRME)</b>	<p>Single-partner instrument: a public stakeholder in French research (a team from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding).</p> <p>Project coordinator being either the leader of the already-established team, sustainable throughout the project, or the laboratory director (if the laboratory is not organised in teams).</p> <p>Significant involvement from the project coordinator, at least 40% FTREs. Team involved in 1.5 FTREs.</p>	<p>Research aiming for scientific objectives <b>that are outstandingly ambitious and innovative.</b></p>

<sup>14</sup> Refer to the specific appendices dedicated to PRCI in the [dedicated 2023 AAPG web page](#).

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Young researchers (JCJC)</b></p>	<p>Single-partner instrument: a public stakeholder in French research (a laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding).</p> <p>Project coordinator who defended his/her doctoral thesis (or equivalent) less than 10 years ago, i.e. after 01/01/2012 (excluding exemptions) and being under contract for less than 5 years with one or more institution(s), i.e. after 01 January 2017 (excluding exemptions)</p> <p>Collaboration possible with foreign and national researchers using their own funds.</p>	<p><b>Acquire scientific autonomy</b>, by creating or consolidating a team dedicated to a theme, encouraging them to adopt innovative approaches to tackle scientific or technological barriers.</p>
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## B. The two-stage selection process for the 2023 AAPG

### B.1. General process

The selection process for projects submitted under the 2023 AAPG is a two-stage process.

**Stage 1** involves identifying PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC pre-proposals for which it is justified to draft a full proposal, particularly with regard to the scientific excellence and ambition of the project (pre-proposal evaluation criteria, see §B.4.3). Following the end of the first stage, around 3,000 project coordinators are invited to submit a full proposal in stage 2.

For PRCI projects, the first stage involves a simple registration<sup>15</sup> of intent to submit a full PRCI proposal in stage 2 (see appendices regarding the PRCI soon available on the [dedicated 2023 AAPG web page](#)).

*If re-submitted in stage 1 of the 2023 AAPG, the projects ranked in the complementary list of the 2022 AAPG but not selected for funding at the end of the process are automatically invited to stage 2 of the 2023 AAPG without evaluation by Scientific Evaluation Panels, subject to eligibility. The projects concerned must have the same project coordinator, funding instrument<sup>16</sup>, title and similar consortium.*

**Stage 2** aims to select the best proposals by evaluating, in accordance with international competitive project selection principles, the scientific excellence and ambition of the proposal, how it is organised and how it will be implemented, and what impacts and consequences the project described in the full proposal may have (detailed 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

The project selection at the ANR is based on the principle of peer review. It includes the organisation of Scientific Evaluation Panels and mobilises external peer reviewers appointed by panel members themselves, for their scientific expertise in line with the projects to be evaluated:

- Scientific Evaluation Panels (CES) consist of French or foreign highly qualified individuals from the research communities covered by the panel<sup>17</sup>.
  - The composition of the panel covers all the disciplinary fields or themes in line with the projects submitted to the panel.
  - Each evaluation panel is chaired by a chair-representative<sup>18</sup> who has undergone ANR selection process and ethics training. He/she heads the board of the Scientific Evaluation

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<sup>15</sup> With the exception of PRCIs, for which the foreign agency is the Lead agency. For these projects, the ANR requires administrative information and a copy of the project proposal, in accordance with the procedures described in the [appendix specific to the agreement in question](#). However, these PRCIs are subject to 2023 AAPG rules in terms of eligibility for “limited participation” (§B.4.2 and §B.5.2).

<sup>16</sup> Under the JCJC funding instrument, the project coordinator must always be eligible for JCJC funding – date of doctoral thesis defence and date of first employment, see §A.2.5 - to benefit from this process.

<sup>17</sup> The composition of scientific evaluation panels is confidential for the duration of the AAPG selection process. The list of panel members is published on the ANR’s website at the same time as all the finals results of the AAPG.

<sup>18</sup> The chair-representative is appointed for a 1-year term, renewable no more than twice. A call for proposals is published each year on the ANR’s website to renew the panel’s chair-representatives.



Panel, which generally consists of three vice-chairs (depending on the size of the panel) who help the chair prepare for and conduct the panel's work.

- Panel members are appointed for their scientific expertise by the ANR upon a proposal by the Scientific Evaluation panel.
- The external peer reviewers involved in stage 1 and stage 2, upon a proposal by the evaluation panel, provide independent written evaluations from one or more pre-proposals or full proposals, without being involved in panel meetings.

The provisions of the [ANR's Ethics and Scientific Integrity Charter](#) apply to all persons involved in the project selection process.

### B.3. The AAPG 2023's Scientific Evaluation Panels

Within the AAPG, each theme in the Work Programme corresponds to a Scientific Evaluation Panel (CES) devoted to all the relevant themes. The scientific scope and key works describing the 56 evaluation panels for the 2023 AAPG are outlined in the text for the [2023 AAPG](#). The list of scientific evaluation panels for the research themes is available in [Appendix 2](#).

***The project coordinator, when submitting the pre-proposal to the PRC, PRCE, PRME and JCJC instrument or registering for the PCRI instrument<sup>19</sup>, is responsible for selecting the panel by which the proposal will be evaluated in stage 1.***

***This initial decision is final and cannot be modified either during the selection process or during the implementation of the project if funding is allocated.***

### B.4. Stage 1: submission and evaluation procedure for pre-proposals, registration procedure

#### B.4.1. Submission of pre-proposal (PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC) and registration (PCRI)

The pre-proposal includes:

- A form to be completed and validated on the [IRIS](#) website<sup>20</sup>,
- A project description document (4 pages maximum, including the bibliography) to be submitted, in the required format, online on [IRIS](#),
- The CV of the project coordinator, the CV of each possible partner's scientific leader, to be completed by everyone involved on [IRIS](#)<sup>21</sup>,
- For the PRME instrument, a certificate from the laboratory director.

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<sup>19</sup> The provisional list of panels may be revised at the end of the submission and registration phase in stage 1, according to the number and type of projects. If the CES list and/or scope is changed, the project coordinators impacted will be consulted by the ANR for a possible change of posting.

<sup>20</sup> If the form is not correctly filled out, you can't submit a proposal. The project coordinator is responsible for anticipating the submission and collect the required information beforehand.

<sup>21</sup> From the personal account of each person concerned on IRIS, by using the same e-mail address as the one used to notify the person involved in the project.

*The full proposal must describe the same project as the one described in the pre-proposal selected at the end of stage 1. Some of the information that may seem easy to provide in stage 1 should nevertheless be properly investigated at this stage, in line with the relevant administrative and financial departments of the various partners.*

*Their modification in stage 2 may be considered by scientific evaluation panels to be too significant, making the full proposal inconsistent with the pre-proposal and therefore ineligible (see §B.5.2 “Compliance with the pre-proposal” criterion).*

Registration includes:

- A form to be completed and validated on the [IRIS](#) website<sup>20</sup>,
- The CV of the French project coordinator, the CV of the foreign partner’s project coordinator and the CV of any French and foreign partner’s scientific manager, to be completed by everyone involved on [IRIS](#).<sup>21</sup>

### Online form

[IRIS](#) is the submission and registration website. The account used to log in the submission and registration website must be set up using the information on the **project coordinator**<sup>22</sup> (last name, first name, e-mail address (preferably the institutional address)), even if a third party is responsible for entering the information online.

The following elements must be entered online:

- **Funding instrument**
- **Relevant bilateral agreement**, for PRCI registration
- **Scientific Evaluation Panel** selected for the evaluation
- **Project identification**: acronym, title in French and English, duration<sup>23</sup>, type of research, box to check to indicate the project re-submission between the 2022 and 2023 AAPG<sup>24</sup>
- **Non-confidential scientific summaries** of the project (2,000 characters maximum), spaces included<sup>25</sup>
- **Keywords on the scientific panel selected, disciplinary keywords, public keywords and sustainable development goals (SDGs)**: must be at least one of the panel’s keywords, one ERC code, one public keyword and an SDG

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<sup>22</sup> French project coordinator as part of a PRCI project registration.

<sup>23</sup> The durations possible are 24, 30, 36, 42, 48, 54 and 60 months. 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 relevant thesis, 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 appendix for each collaboration on the [dedicated 2023 AAPG web page](#)).

<sup>24</sup> A “re-submitted” project is a project submitted but not selected for the 2022AAPG and subsequently re-submitted to the 2023AAPG with the same project coordinator and funding instrument. By checking this box, the final report of the panel responsible for evaluating the project under the 2022AAPG will then be sent to panel members of the 2023AAPG during the plenary session to assess evolution of the project between the two call editions.

<sup>25</sup> These CVs are intended to be sent to contact peer reviewers, as part of the selection process. Given their public nature, the applicant must check that no element introduced can hinder the possible subsequent patent submission. The exploitation departments of the institutions may be contacted should there be doubts on the matter.

- **Partnership:** all partner institutions, partner’s scientific leaders and main people involved in the project, including their e-mail address, designation of hosting and managing authority for each partner seeking ANR funding
- **RNSR ID** mandatory ([National directory of research structures](#)) for research and knowledge dissemination organisations and institutions, and **SIRET number** (company registration number) for companies. For associations, foundations and other partner structures, administration information should be provided in a free field.
- **First name, last name and e-mail address of the laboratory director**
- **Provisional grant amount** to seek from the ANR, provision grant amount to seek from the foreign agency for a PRCI project
- **External peer reviewers requested to abstain from evaluation** (not mandatory, but must be completed at this stage if appropriate): project coordinators can indicate external peer reviewers (individuals) for whom there could be conflicts of interest and confidentiality issues if they were involved in evaluating the project<sup>26</sup>.
- **Other information:** use of a very large research infrastructure – TGIR, application for a competitiveness cluster label<sup>27</sup>, interest in co-funding<sup>28</sup>
- *For JCJC:* year the doctoral thesis was defended (or degree or qualification corresponding to the international PhD standard), supporting document(s) for an exemption, where relevant<sup>29</sup>; date of first employment within a research and knowledge dissemination institution or organisation<sup>30</sup>
- *For PRME:* certificate completed and signed by the laboratory director, under the model provided in the [dedicated 2023 AAPG web page](#).

*The following information cannot be modified in stage 2: funding instrument, scientific evaluation panel – including the PRCI instrument -, identity of the project coordinator<sup>31</sup>, and project acronym.*

*The project coordinator is responsible for checking that the information provided on [IRIS](#) at the closing date and time is accurate.*

<sup>26</sup> 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. The “external peer reviewers requested to abstain from evaluation” field cannot be modified in stage 2 of the 2023AAPG.

<sup>27</sup> 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.

<sup>28</sup> Provisional list of co-funding arrangements available in the full text of the [2023 Work Programme](#).

<sup>29</sup> Exemptions may be granted. The following events may be taken into account: maternity/paternity leave, parental leave, leave for parental presence, long-term sick leave (more than 90 days), national service, integrated dual degrees. The limit is extended by a period equal to the duration of the event, by 4 years for the integrated dual degree. In addition, for women, the limit is extended by one year per dependent child.

<sup>30</sup> Excluding post-doctoral contracts, engineers, teachers without research responsibilities (i.e. PRAG). Possible probationary period or internship considered. The same exemptions described above are applicable for this eligibility criterion.

<sup>31</sup> Except in the event of “force majeure”, i.e. due to an unpredictable and unavoidable event. A specific authorisation request must be sent to the ANR and explain the “force majeure” requiring a change of project coordinator.

## Commitment of the applicants

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- The project coordinator formally declares (by checking a box online) that all project participants – whether seeking funding or not – **have sought and obtained their superior’s permission to take part in this project**. The ANR may send the list of pre-proposals (PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC) and registrations (PRCI) submitted on its website to laboratory directors or the supervising authority and administrative officers of managing institutions for project that concern them.
- The project coordinator undertakes (by checking a box online) to ensure that all project participants – whether seeking funding or not – comply with the [French National Charter for Research Integrity](#) and the [ANR’s Ethics and Scientific Integrity Charter](#) (see the [2023AAPG](#) text, §D.1).
- The project coordinator undertakes (by checking a box online) to **consider the sex and/or gender aspect in his/her research**, regardless of the field, to avoid gender bias in the production of knowledge and to foresee the possible impacts of their application. This commitment is part of the ANR’s policy aiming to contribute to gender equality and reduce gender bias in the knowledge generation process (see the [2023AAPG](#) text, §D.2).
- The project coordinator undertakes (by checking a box online), in the event of funding (1) to **ensure immediate free access to scientific publications evaluated by peer reviewers and (2) to facilitate research data sharing and re-use** – particularly publication data– by adopting a FAIR approach “*Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable*”) in line with the “*as open as possible and as closed as necessary*” principle (see the [2023AAPG](#) text, §D.3).
- The project coordinator undertakes (by checking a box online) with all project participants, to **actively promote scientific, technical and industrial culture** through activities to transfer knowledge towards citizens and decision-makers (see the [2023AAPG](#) text, §D.4).
- If the proposed project uses genetic resources, the project coordinator undertakes (by checking a box online) to ensure that all project participants – whether seeking funding or not – **abide by the obligations arising from the Nagoya protocol** (see the [2023AAPG](#) text, §D.5).
- The project coordinator undertakes (by checking a box online) with all project participants – whether seeking funding or not – to **abide by scheme to protect the nation’s scientific and technical potential** (PPST, see the [2023AAPG](#) text, §D.6).

*Applicants are invited to contact the departments in charge applying the PPST within their institutions to check the project eligibility before submitting a proposal to the AAPG2023. Projects invited in stage 2 of the AAPG2023 will be submitted to SHFDS/MESRI for an opinion. A negative opinion expressed by SHFDS/MESRI would imply the project withdrawal from the AAPG2023 selection process, without justification by SHFDS/MESRI.*

## Project description

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**The pre-proposal must outline the project and provide the elements required for its evaluation, in accordance with the two predefined criteria** (see [Table 4](#)). Therefore, it should conform to the following plan:

- Context, positioning and objective(s) of the pre-proposal  
(in line with the “*Scientific excellence and ambition*” evaluation criterion)

Describe the research objectives and hypotheses, and the position of the project with regard to the state-of-the-art. Present the methodology used to achieve these objectives (the project must outline with precision the method(s) considered, including the disciplinary coverage (mono- trans- and inter-disciplinarity)), the added value of the project in terms of scientific contribution (whether in terms of scope, problem and methodological approach) and knowledge production, and the position of the project with regard to the research issues of the scientific theme selected.

- Partnership

*(in line with the “Project organisation and implementation” evaluation criterion)*

*For a collaborative project (PRC or PRCE):* introduce the project coordinator, his/her experience in the disciplinary field covered by the pre-proposal and his/her involvement in the project. Present the consortium, the involvement of each partner in achieving the objectives, their expertise and how they complement one another to achieve the objectives.

*For a PRME project:* introduce the project coordinator, his/her experience in the disciplinary field covered by the pre-proposal, and his/her involvement in the project. Present the team and its expertise to achieve the objectives. Demonstrate the team’s sustainability throughout the project.

*For a JCJC project:* introduce the project coordinator, his/her position within his/her hosting organisation or laboratory throughout the project, his/her experience in the disciplinary field covered by the pre-proposal. Indicate the date on which the doctorate (or equivalent) was defended and the date(s) on which he/she took up his/her post within the institution(s). Demonstrate how this project is contributing to the empowerment of a young researcher and the team development around the theme.

- Bibliography

*(in line with the “Scientific excellence and ambition” evaluation criterion)*

List of bibliographic references used for the pre-proposal.

In keeping with the [San Francisco Declaration](#), signed by the ANR, Journal Impact Factors should not be mentioned. The bibliography may include preprints not yet published in peer-reviewed scientific publications, particularly to list preliminary data. The DOI may be mentioned to help peer reviewers access these bibliographic references.

*A template will soon be available on the [AAPG2023 web page](#).*

The project description must:

- **Consist of 4 pages maximum, including the bibliography,**
- **Use a page layout to ensure that the document is easy to read** (A4 page, Calibri 11 or equivalent, single spacing, 2 cm margin or more, page numbering: for tables and figures, Calibri 9 minimum or equivalent),
- **Be in PDF format** (generated using a word processing software, not scanned) without protection,
- Be written **preferably in English**. As non-French speaking scientists may evaluate the proposals, the ANR strongly advises coordinators to submit theirs in English or to provide, upon request,

an English translation of their original French document. If the coordinator is unable to provide an English translation, he/she can contact the ANR to find the best solution.<sup>32</sup>

*The submission website will not accept any document exceeding 4 pages or in a format other than PDF.*

#### B.4.2. Eligibility of pre-proposals and registrations

The ANR checks the eligibility based on the information and documents available on the pre-proposals and PRCI registration submission website at the closing date and time.

**When analysing the eligibility, the information submitted online shall take precedence over that provided in the project description** if both sources of information turned out to be inconsistent, including if they are incorrectly filled out or missing.

**No data may be edited or added after the call's closing date and time.** Project coordinators are directly responsible for entering the data, and will have taken the time to foresee their submission.

**Table 3: Eligibility criteria according to the funding instrument selected**

	PRCI	PRCE	PRC	PRME	JCJC
<b>Completeness of the pre-proposal</b>		X	X	X	X
<b>Limited participation</b>	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Limited coordination</b>	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Uniqueness of the proposal</b>	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Partner receiving funding</b>		X	X	X	X
<b>Themes supported by other funding agencies</b>			X	X	
<b>Young researcher status</b>					X

*Pre-proposals deemed ineligible will not be evaluated and cannot be subject to full proposals. Registrations deemed ineligible cannot be subject to full proposals.*

*A pre-proposal or registration may be declared ineligible at any stage of the process.*

**Completeness of the pre-proposal:** the pre-proposal must be finalised on the [IRIS](#) website by the closing date and time of submission: **07 November 2022, 05:00 pm (Paris time)**. No document will be accepted after this date and time. No data may be edited after this date and time. A complete pre-proposal must include:

- The online form fully completed, including the commitments of the project coordinators,
- The project description document (PDF), submitted on the dedicated website and not exceeding 4 pages,

<sup>32</sup> In addition, the CVs of the project coordinators and scientific managers of the partners, which were completed on IRIS, should preferably be written in English and without abbreviations. As these elements are required to evaluate the project, they must be accessible to non-French speaking peer reviewers.

- For the PRME instrument: a certificate from the laboratory director respecting the template provided in the [AAPG2023 web page](#), duly completed and signed by the relevant authority.

**All pre-proposals submitted that do not meet these requirements are ineligible.**

**Limited participation:** A researcher may only submit one PRC/PRCE/PRCI/JCJC project as coordinator<sup>33</sup> and cannot be involved, as a project coordinator and a partner's scientific leader, in more than three projects submitted to the ANR under the Generic Call for Proposals – including PRCI<sup>34</sup> - or under the Franco-German programme in Social Sciences and Humanities included in the 2023 Work Programme<sup>35</sup>.

A researcher submitting a PRME project as a coordinator cannot submit another project as a coordinator under the AAPG 2023 or the Franco-German programme in Humanities and Social Sciences included in the 2023 Work Programme. He/she cannot be involved as a partner's scientific leader in a PRC/PRCE/PRCI project submitted under the AAPG 2023 or the Franco-German programme in Social Sciences and Humanities included in the 2023 Work Programme. Participants in a PRME project selected for funding under the AAPG 2022 cannot be involved in another PRME project over the duration of the PRME project already selected for funding under the AAPG 2022.

**All pre-proposals and registrations involving people who do not comply with these limitations will be ineligible.** The project coordinator is therefore responsible for checking that he/she complies with these rules for participation and that partners' scientific leaders involved in the project also comply with these rules for participation ([IRIS](#) cannot replace the vigilance of the project coordinator when it comes to comply with this eligibility criteria).

**Limited coordination:** A coordinator of a PRC, PRCE, PRCI, PRME or JCJC project funded under the 2022 Generic Call for Proposals cannot submit, as coordinator, a PRC, PRCE, PRCI, PRME or JCJC project under the 2023 Generic Call for Proposals. However, he/she may act as a partner's scientific leader or be involved in a project submitted or registered for the 2023 edition (except PRME, see "limited participation" above).

A coordinator of a JCJC project currently being funded cannot act as such for a JCJC, PRC, PRCE, PRME or PRCI project submitted under the 2023 Generic Call for Proposals over the course of his/her JCJC project.<sup>36</sup> However, he/she may act as a partner's scientific leader or be involved in a project submitted or registered for the AAPG 2023.

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<sup>33</sup> The project coordinator is the natural person responsible for the scientific implementation of the project on behalf of the coordinating partner, as defined in the [ANR's regulation on the allocation of funding](#). Under a PRCI project, a French project coordinator is systematically designated, including when the foreign agency is the *Lead agency*. A partner's scientific manager is the natural person responsible for the scientific implementation of the project on behalf of the partner and is designated as such in the Agreement.

<sup>34</sup> Therefore, the limit to three participations as project coordinator and scientific manager also applies to stage 1 PRCI registrations and PRCI for which the foreign agency is the *Lead agency*. Consequently, a project coordinator involved in a PRCI project registered in stage 1 or submitted to a foreign *Lead agency* cannot act as a coordinator for another PRC, PRCE, PRME or JCJC project submitted under the AAPG2023, whatever the result of these projects at the end of stage 1.

<sup>35</sup> The coordinator of a JCJC, PRC, PRCE, PRME or PRCI project (including PRCI projects for which the foreign agency is the *Lead agency*) submitted under the AAPG2023, cannot be the coordinator of a project submitted under the Franco-German programme in Social Sciences and Humanities included in the 2023 Work Programme (AAP open between mid-December 2022 and mid-March 2023), whatever the result of these projects in stages 1 and 2 of the AAPG.

<sup>36</sup> Submission as a project coordinator (PRC, PRCE, PRME or PRCI) is authorised in the last year of a JCJC project, provided that the ongoing JCJC project scientifically ends prior to 31/12/2023.

A coordinator of a JCJC project selected for funding during a previous edition and now closed cannot act as such for a new JCJC project submitted under the AAPG 2023. Coordination of a JCJC project is now limited to once throughout a career.

**All pre-proposals and registrations involving people who do not comply with these limitations will be ineligible.**

**Uniqueness of the proposal:** A proposal cannot be entirely or partially similar to another proposal submitted to a call under evaluation by the ANR (all calls for proposals, all evaluation stages combined) or which has been funded by the ANR, another funding body or agency.

Similarity between two proposals is established when both proposals (as a whole or in part) describe the exact main objectives or are merely adapted.<sup>37</sup>

**All similar proposals will be ineligible.**

**Partner receiving funding:** The consortium must include at least one public stakeholder involved in French research (laboratory of a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding).<sup>38</sup>

**All pre-proposals submitted that do not comply with these rules will be ineligible.**

**Themes supported by other funding agencies:** The project, submitted under PRC and PRME instruments, must correspond to one topic within the ANR's scope of intervention, which does not cover those of other funding agencies (namely INCa, ANRS-MIE). The ANR and INCa or ANRS-MIE jointly review the eligibility of projects on themes supported by these agencies (particularly cancer, AIDS and viral hepatitis).

**All pre-proposals submitted that do not comply with these rules will be ineligible.**

**"Young researcher" status:** A young researcher submitting a JCJC project, as coordinator, for the AAPG 2023: (1) must have completed his/her doctoral thesis (or any other diploma or certification matching the international PhD standard) after 01 January 2012; (2) must have been working for less than 5 years in one or more research and knowledge dissemination organisations or institutions, i.e. having been "appointed" after 1 January 2017 (including any probationary period). Should an exemption be granted<sup>39</sup>, the supporting documents must be submitted online by the closing date and time of the call's 1<sup>st</sup> stage.

**All pre-proposals submitted without proof of an exemption, if the PhD was defended at a date prior to 01 January 2012 and/or if the coordinator has been working for less than 5 years in one of the institution(s), will be ineligible.**

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

**Each pre-proposal is evaluated based on the information completed and submitted online, through [IRIS](#), before the closing date of stage 1:** scientific document, CV of the project coordinator or scientific manager of each partner and certificate from the laboratory director for the PRME

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<sup>37</sup> Article 7.1 of the Funding Regulations may be applied accordingly if one or more intellectual property rights are breached, or if an ANR ethical or integrity rule is broken.

<sup>38</sup> See the [ANR's regulation on the allocation of funding](#).

<sup>39</sup> Exemptions may be granted. The following events may be taken into account: maternity/paternity leave, parental leave, leave for parental presence, long-term sick leave (more than 90 days), national service, integrated dual degrees. The limit is extended by a period equal to the duration of the event, by 4 years for the integrated dual degree. In addition, for women, the limit is extended by one year per dependent child.



instrument. **No further information will be sought or requested to the applicants if it is missing at the closing date and time of the call to evaluate the project on all the criteria and sub-criteria applying to said project.**

Each pre-proposal is evaluated individually by two members of the Scientific Evaluation Panel (CES). These two members are appointed by the panel after the ANR has confirmed there is no conflicts of interest with the assigned pre-proposals.

For projects of a significant trans- or inter-disciplinary nature, a third panel member may be called upon, from within the Scientific Evaluation Panel itself or another evaluation panel, if panel members assigned to the evaluation of said project so exceptionally request.<sup>40</sup>

### Pre-proposals evaluation criteria

Pre-proposals are evaluated according to **two criteria, with different sub-criteria for each funding instrument**, see [Table 4](#).

The sub-criteria for the two major criteria serve as a guide to help, on the one hand, the project coordinator prepare his/her application and draft his/her scientific document and, on the other hand, the peer reviewer to write his evaluation report.

**During the evaluation, the “Scientific excellence and ambition” criteria is decisive:** the Evaluation Panel must award an **A rating** on this criterion to be invited to stage 2.

**Table 4: Pre-proposals evaluation criteria**

PRCE	PRC	PRME	JCJC
<b>Criterion 1: Scientific excellence and ambition</b>			
<b>Decisive criterion: an A rating is required</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarity of the research objectives and hypotheses</li> <li>• Scientific ambition of the project and position with regard to the state-of-the-art</li> <li>• Adequacy and relevance of the methods implemented</li> <li>• Adequacy of the project to the scientific theme selected</li> </ul>			
<b>Criterion 2: Project organisation and implementation<sup>41</sup></b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skills, expertise and involvement of the project coordinator</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of the consortium and complementarity between the contributions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality and expertise of the team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project contribution to the coordinator’s empowerment and team development</li> </ul>	

<sup>40</sup> In the exceptional situation that panel members assigned to evaluate a significantly trans- or inter-disciplinary project require the opinion of a third member, but that no member in any panel – excluding conflicts of interest – would have the expected expertise, then an external peer reviewer may be called upon to evaluate said project.

<sup>41</sup> This criterion takes into account all research results: scientific publications, data sets, software, etc. In addition, the use of bibliometric indicators such as the impact factor and h-index is banned in favour of qualitative indicators on the impact of research, such as its effect on policies and practices.

## Ranking and selection in stage 2

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The Scientific Evaluation Panel shall meet once individual evaluations have been conducted. The proposal-by-proposal panel discussion, by funding instrument, leads to pre-proposals being ranked in two categories: A: “Project invited to submit a full proposal in stage 2” and B: “Project not selected. Project is satisfactory but has weaknesses preventing its selection in stage 2”.

## Results

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The ANR provides the results of this first stage to all project coordinators of the pre-proposals by e-mail. A panel evaluation report is systematically sent to the project coordinator, outlining the final decision reached by the Scientific Evaluation Panel, except if the evaluation could not be completed because they were deemed ineligible.

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

### B.5.1. Submitting a full proposal

The full proposal includes:

- A form to be completed and validated on the [IRIS](#) website<sup>42</sup>,
- A project description document (20 pages maximum, including the bibliography) to be submitted, in the required format, online on [IRIS](#),
- The CV of the project coordinator, the CV of the foreign project coordinator for PRCI projects, and the CV of any partner’s scientific manager, to be completed by everyone involved on [IRIS](#).

### Online form

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A number of fields are pre-filled with the information provided when the pre-proposal (PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC) was submitted or upon registration (PRCI) and cannot be changed: Scientific Evaluation Panel, funding instrument, identity of the project coordinator<sup>43</sup>, project acronym.

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

- **Identification of each partner:** including RNSR user ID, full name, abbreviated title, partner category and method to calculate the grant allocated; unit type and number, managing and hosting supervising authority for a research organisation or establishment laboratory; SIRET number (Business registration number) and, for an enterprise, the workforce,
- Identification of the laboratory director, identity of the administrative officer of institution managing the grant<sup>44</sup>,

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<sup>42</sup> If the form is not correctly filled out, you can’t submit a proposal. The project coordinator is responsible for anticipating the submission and collect the required information beforehand.

<sup>43</sup> Except in the event of force majeure, i.e. due to an unpredictable and unavoidable event. A specific authorisation request must be sent to the ANR and explain the force majeure requiring a change of project coordinator.

<sup>44</sup> This is the administrative officer of the institution managing the grant, and not the person in charge of the administrative monitoring within the laboratory involved. The partners’ scientific managers are called upon to contact the departments in charge of ANR projects within their managing institutions to get the contact name to fill out.

- **Identification of the scientific leaders** (including the foreign coordinator for a PRCI project) and e-mail addresses (preferably institutional e-mail address),
- **Financial data** broken down per expense items and partner<sup>45</sup>
- **Scientific summaries** of the project (4000 characters maximum), non-confidential<sup>46</sup>, in French and English,
- *Specific to PRCI projects*, identification of the foreign partner(s) involved in the bilateral agreement and the scientific manager, locations where research will be conducted, and amount requested from the foreign agency (in euros and local currency)

The only information to be entered online regarding foreign partners or partners using their own funds is the identification of the scientific manager and the institution to which he/she belongs.

### Commitment of the applicants

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Each scientific leader of each French partner seeking funding (does not apply to foreign partners) formally declares (by checking a box in the online form) that his/her **superior**, namely the laboratory manager, the relevant administrative and financial departments and the persons authorised to legally represent the institution managing the grant, or its representative, **has agreed to the ongoing submission procedure and that the information regarding the proposal has been communicated to them.**

### Project description

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**The scientific document of the full proposal must provide the elements required for its evaluation, in accordance with the three predetermined criteria** (see [Table 6](#)). Therefore, the scientific document should conform to the following plan:

- Context, positioning and objective(s) of the proposal  
(*in line with the “Scientific excellence and ambition” evaluation criterion*)

Describe the research objectives and hypotheses, and the position of the project with regard to the state-of-the-art. Present the methodology used and its relevance to achieve these objectives (the project must describe with precision the method(s) considered and their relevance in terms of ethics, scientific integrity and social responsibility – and as such, taking into account the sex and/or gender aspect -, including the disciplinary coverage (mono- trans- and inter-disciplinarity) and scientific risk management). The methodology also includes Open Science practices, namely: data management, reuse of existing data sets, development or contribution to open source software, standards, and adopting permanent identifiers for all research products. Describe the added value of the project in terms of scientific contribution (whether in terms of scope, problem and

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<sup>45</sup> To complete the financial data, each partner’s scientific manager involved in a project applying for ANR funding must contact their managing supervising authority. The financial data must match the data declared in stage 1. Any variation of more than 7% must be duly justified in the introduction to the scientific document, otherwise the project will be deemed ineligible (see eligibility criteria § B.5.2). The financial completed online must match the financial data justified in the scientific document. If there is a discrepancy between the two sources of information, the grant requested on the submission website takes precedence over the grant justified in the scientific document.

<sup>46</sup> These summaries are intended (1) to be sent when contacting peer reviewers as part of the selection process, and therefore it is recommended to pay particular attention to their drafting so as to encourage peer reviewers to approve their content and allow a proper proposal evaluation; (2) to be published on the ANR’s website, without modification, if the proposal is selected for funding. Therefore, do not include any information that could hinder a future patent application. If there is any doubt on the matter, you can contact the institutions’ exploitation services.

methodological approach) and specific knowledge production. Provide a comprehensive presentation of the research programme and the task breakdown between the various partners with a Gantt chart.

*For a PRCI project:* specify the position of the project with regard to the research issues of the scientific field selected.

- Project organisation and implementation

*(in line with the “Project organisation and implementation” evaluation criterion)*

*For a collaborative project (PRC, PRCE or PRCI):* introduce the project coordinator, his/her experience in the disciplinary field covered by the proposal. Present the consortium, the involvement of each partner, their expertise and how they complement one another to achieve the objectives. Make a list of all ongoing projects in which the project coordinator and the scientific manager of each partner are involved, indicating their level of involvement.

*For a PRME project:* introduce the project coordinator, his/her experience in the disciplinary field covered by the proposal, and his/her involvement in the project. Present the team and its expertise to achieve the objectives. Demonstrate the team’s sustainability throughout the project. Make a list of all ongoing projects in which the project coordinator is involved, indicating his/her level of involvement. Include the team members’ level of involvement in the project.

*For a JCJC project:* introduce the project coordinator, his/her position in the hosting organisation or laboratory throughout the project, his/her experience in the disciplinary field covered by the proposal. Make a list of all ongoing projects in which the project coordinator is involved, indicating his/her level of involvement. Introduce the team build around the project covered by the proposal. Demonstrate the project contribution to the young researcher’s empowerment and team development.

*For all instruments:* Outline the resources deployed and requested to achieve the objectives. This must include: a summary table of all resources requested per expense item and per partner, the scientific justification for these resources per expense item and per partner in line with the objectives, the project’s background in terms of human and financial resources, particularly with regard to other ongoing projects.

**For a PRCI project,** the presentation of the foreign project coordinator, the scientific contribution of foreign teams and detailed financial data regarding foreign partners must be provided, just as it is required for French partners.

- Project impact and consequences

*(in line with the “Project impact and consequences” evaluation criterion)*

Describe in what scientific and, potentially, economic, social or cultural fields the results of the project may have an impact, in the medium-to-long term.

*For a PRC, PRME or JCJC project:* describe the strategy planned for the dissemination and exploitation of the results, including possible actions to promote scientific, technical and industrial culture.

*For a PRCE project:* describe the actions planned to transfer technology and information to the socio-economic world, including possible actions to promote scientific, technical and industrial culture.

*For a PRCI project:* describe the strategy planned for the dissemination and exploitation of the results, including possible actions to promote scientific, technical and industrial culture; highlight the added

value of a European or international cooperation and what this collaboration brings to the French scientific community.

- **Bibliography**

*(in line with the “Scientific excellence and ambition” evaluation criterion)*

List of bibliographic references used for the proposal.

In keeping with the [San Francisco Declaration](#), signed by the ANR, Journal Impact Factors should not be mentioned. The bibliography may include preprints not yet published in peer-reviewed scientific publications, particularly to list preliminary data. The DOI may be mentioned to help peer reviewers access these bibliographic references.

*A template will be available, at the beginning of stage 2, on the [AAPG2023 web page](#).*

The scientific document must:

- **Consist of 20 pages maximum**, including the bibliography, Gantt chart, budget summary table and its scientific justification,
- **Use a page layout to ensure that the document is easy to read** (A4 page, Calibri 11 or equivalent, single spacing, 2 cm margin or more, page numbering; for tables and figures, Calibri 9 minimum or equivalent),
- **Be in PDF format** (generated using a word processing software, not scanned) without protection,
- **Be written preferably in English**. As non-French speaking scientists may evaluate the proposals, the ANR strongly advises coordinators to submit theirs in English or to provide, upon request, an English translation of their original French document. If the coordinator is unable to provide an English translation, he/she can contact the ANR to find the best solution.<sup>47</sup>

*The submission website will not accept any document exceeding 20 pages or in a format other than PDF.*

### **B.5.2. Eligibility of full proposals**

The ANR checks the eligibility (see [Table 5](#)) based on the information and documents available on the full proposal submission website at the closing date and time.

When analysing the eligibility, **the information submitted online shall take precedence over that provided in the project description** if both sources of information turned out to be inconsistent, including if they are incorrectly filled out or missing.

**No data may be edited or added after the call’s closing date and time.** Project coordinators are directly responsible for entering the data, and will have taken the time to foresee their submission.

**Table 5: Full proposal eligibility criteria according to the funding instrument selected**

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<sup>47</sup> In addition, the CVs of the project coordinators and scientific managers of the partners, which were completed on IRIS, should preferably be written in English and without abbreviations. As these elements are required to evaluate the project, they must be accessible to non-French speaking peer reviewers.

	PRCI	PRCE	PRC	PRME	JCJC
Completeness of the proposal	X	X	X	X	X
Limited participation	X	X	X	X	X
Uniqueness of the proposal	X	X	X	X	X
Partner receiving funding	X	X	X	X	X
Compliance with the pre-proposal		X	X	X	X
Foreign partner concerned by a bilateral agreement	X				
Specific PRCI criteria	X				

*Full proposals deemed ineligible will not be evaluated and cannot be subject to funding.*

*A full proposal may be declared ineligible at any stage of the process.*

**Completeness of the proposal:** The proposal must be finalised on the [IRIS](#) website by the specified closing date and time. No document will be accepted after this date and time. No data may be edited after this date and time. To be deemed complete, full proposals must include:

- The online form fully completed, including the commitments of the partners' project coordinators and scientific managers,
- The scientific document submitted on the dedicated website and not exceeding 20 pages.

**All proposals submitted that do not meet these requirements are ineligible.**

**Limited participation:** A researcher may only submit one PRC/PRCE/PRCI/JCJC project as coordinator<sup>48</sup> and cannot be involved, as a project coordinator and partner's scientific leader, in more than three projects submitted to the ANR under the Generic Call for Proposals, including PRCI<sup>49</sup>, and under the Franco-German programme in Social Sciences and Humanities included in the 2023 Work Programme<sup>50</sup>.

A researcher submitting a PRME project as coordinator cannot submit another project as a coordinator under the 2023 APPG or the Franco-German programme in Humanities and Social Sciences included in the 2023 Work Programme. He/she cannot be involved as a partner's scientific leader in a PRC/PRCE/PRCI project submitted under the AAPG 2023 or the Franco-German

<sup>48</sup> The project coordinator is the natural person responsible for the scientific implementation of the project on behalf of the coordinating partner, as defined in the [ANR's regulation on the allocation of funding](#). Under a PRCI project, a French project coordinator is systematically designated, including when the foreign agency is the *Lead agency*. A partner's scientific manager is the natural person responsible for the scientific implementation of the project on behalf of the partner and is designated as such in the Agreement.

<sup>49</sup> Therefore, the limit to three participations as project coordinator and scientific manager also applies to stage 1 PRCI registrations and PRCI for which the foreign agency is the *Lead agency*. Consequently, a project coordinator involved in a PRCI project registered in stage 1 or submitted to a foreign *Lead agency* cannot act as coordinator of another PRC, PRCE, PRME or JCJC project submitted under the AAPG2023, whatever the result of these projects at the end of stage 1.

<sup>50</sup> The coordinator of a JCJC, PRC, PRCE, PRME or PRCI project (including PRCI projects for which the foreign agency is the *Lead agency*) submitted under the AAPG2023, cannot be the coordinator of a project submitted under the Franco-German programme in Social Sciences and Humanities included in the 2023 Work Programme (AAP open between mid-December 2022 and mid-March 2023), whatever the result of these projects in stages 1 and 2 of the AAPG.

programme in Humanities and Social Sciences included in the 2023 Work Programme<sup>51</sup>. Participants in a PRME project selected for funding under the AAPG 2022 cannot take part in another PRME project over the duration of the PRME project already selected for funding under the AAPG 2022.

**All proposals involving people who do not comply with these limitations will be ineligible.** The project coordinator is therefore responsible for checking that he/she complies with these rules for participation and that partners' scientific leaders involved in the project also comply with these rules for participation ([IRIS](#) cannot replace the vigilance of the project coordinator when it comes to comply with this eligibility criteria).

**Uniqueness of the proposal:** a proposal cannot entirely or partially be similar to another proposal submitted to a call under evaluation by the ANR (all calls for proposals, all evaluation stages combined) or which has been funded by the ANR, another funding body or agency.

Similarity between two proposals is established when both proposals (as a whole or in part) describe the exact main objectives or are merely adapted.<sup>52</sup>

**All similar proposals will be ineligible.**

**Partner receiving funding:** the consortium must include at least one public stakeholder involved in French research (laboratory of a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding).<sup>53</sup>

**All proposals submitted that do not comply with these rules will be ineligible.**

**Compliance with the pre-proposal:** The full proposal must describe the same project as the one introduced in the pre-proposal. The funding instrument, evaluation panel and project coordinator<sup>54</sup> must be the same as in the pre-proposal. Any deviation from the pre-proposal or budgetary change of more than 7% between the two stages of the call must be justified in the introduction to the scientific document. Panel members evaluate the relevance of these discrepancies, based on the explanation given by project coordinators in the introduction to the scientific document.

**If the deviation is deemed significant, the proposal will be declared ineligible.**

**Foreign partner concerned by a bilateral agreement:** The consortium must include at least one public stakeholder involved in French research (laboratory of a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding)<sup>55</sup> and at least one foreign partner concerned by the bilateral agreement. Two project coordinators are clearly identified: one who is French and the other from the country concerned by the bilateral agreement.

**If there is no foreign partner concerned by the bilateral agreement selected, the proposition will be ineligible.**

**Specific PRCI criteria:** as part of a PRCI project for which the foreign agency is the *lead agency*, a copy of the project must be submitted to the ANR, according to a specific timetable and under specific conditions determined in the appendix dedicated to the collaboration targeted. If this copy

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<sup>51</sup> Moreover, participants in a PRME project cannot, over the duration of their own PRME project, submit or be involved in another PRME project, see §A.2.4. This criterion will be checked in subsequent AAPG editions.

<sup>52</sup> Article 7.1 of the Funding Regulations may be applied accordingly if one or more intellectual property rights are breached, or if an ANR ethical or integrity rule is broken.

<sup>53</sup> See the [ANR's regulation on the allocation of funding](#).

<sup>54</sup> Except in the event of force majeure, i.e. due to an unpredictable and unavoidable event. A specific authorisation request must be sent to the ANR and explain the force majeure requiring a change of coordinator.

<sup>55</sup> See the [ANR's regulation on the allocation of funding](#).

is not submitted to the ANR, the project will be ineligible. As part of a PRCI project for which the ANR is the *lead agency*, a copy of the project must be submitted to the foreign agency, according to a specific timetable and under specific conditions determined by said foreign agency (see the website of the agency in question). If this copy is not submitted, if required by the foreign agency, the project will be ineligible.

The foreign agency's own eligibility criteria may supplement those mentioned above. Applicants must read the text of the call as soon as it is published by the foreign agency, to check for any additional specific criteria.

**A PRCI project declared ineligible by one of the two funding agencies involved will be automatically deemed ineligible by the other funding agency.**

### **B.5.3. Evaluation of full proposals**

**Each proposal is evaluated based on the information completed and submitted online, through [IRIS](#), before the closing date of stage 2: scientific document, CV of the project coordinator or scientific manager of each partner. No further information will be sought or requested to the applicants, to evaluate the project on all the criteria and sub-criteria applying to said project, if it is missing at the closing date and time of the call.**

Panel members and peer reviewers are involved in the evaluation of the second stage of the selection process, regardless of their involvement in the first selection stage.

**An additional criterion is used in stage 2, see [Table 6](#), with different sub-criteria for each funding instrument** to evaluate the adequacy of the full proposals to the characteristics of the funding instrument selected.

This evaluation grid is used both by external peer reviewers and panel members. The sub-criteria serve as a guide to help, on the one hand, the project coordinator prepare his/her application and draft his/her scientific document and, on the other hand, the peer reviewer (a member or external peer reviewer) to write his evaluation report.



**Table 6: Full proposal evaluation criteria for each funding instrument**

PRCI	PRCE	PRC	PRME	JCJC
<b>Criterion 1: Scientific excellence and ambition</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarity of the research objectives and hypotheses</li> <li>• Scientific ambition of the project and position in relation to the state-of-the-art</li> <li>• Adequacy and relevance of the methods implemented</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequacy of the project to the scientific theme selected</li> </ul>				
<b>Criterion 2: Project organisation and implementation<sup>56</sup></b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skills, expertise and involvement of the scientific coordinator</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of the consortium and complementarity between the scientific contributions of each country</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of the consortium and complementarity between the contributions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality and expertise of the team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project contribution to the coordinator's empowerment and team development</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequacy of the resources implemented and requested with the objectives of the project</li> </ul>				
<b>Criterion 3: Project impact and consequences</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific impact and possible impact in economic, social and cultural fields</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategy for the dissemination and exploitation of the results; promotion of scientific, technical and industrial culture; added value of a European or international cooperation, contribution to the French scientific community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action to transfer technology and innovation to the socio-economic world; promotion of scientific, technical and industrial culture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategy for the dissemination and exploitation of the results; promotion of scientific, technical and industrial culture</li> </ul>		

### Evaluation by peer reviewers

The objective is to make sure that each full proposal is evaluated by at least two peer reviewers (individuals that are not involved in scientific evaluation panel meetings), proposed by panel members assigned to evaluate the proposal and contacted by the ANR after confirming there is no conflicts of interest.

<sup>56</sup> This criterion takes into account all research results: scientific publications, data sets, software, etc. In addition, the use of bibliometric indicators such as the impact factor and h-index is banned in favour of qualitative indicators on the impact of research, such as its effect on policies and practices.

Peer reviewers operate individually and confidentially, without any discussion with third parties. They are provided only with the elements constituting the full proposal as completed and submitted online by the project coordinator by the closing date and time of the second stage.

Peer reviewers complete an individual assessment report, in which each they comment each evaluation criterion.

### Right to reply to peer reviews

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Report(s) by external peer reviewer(s)<sup>57</sup> are systematically sent to the project coordinator of each proposal in May (forecast, the exact date will be specified on the ANR's [AAPG2023 web page](#) at a later date). The project coordinator then has 7 days to respond, if necessary, to the report(s) using [IRIS](#).

The purpose of this right to reply is **solely to notify the scientific evaluation panel of any inaccuracies in an external peer-review**. The response eventually provided must not change the project as deposited since the full proposal submission (project scope, consortium, budget, etc.) or add new information (data obtained, article published, etc.).

The project coordinator's response is only made available to scientific panel members.

*Any responses to peer reviews must be finalised on [IRIS](#) by the closing date and time. No responses will be accepted or modified after the closing date and time.*

*The panel will not take into consideration any response to peer review report(s) that are not intended to notify the Scientific Evaluation Panel of an inaccuracy.*

### Evaluation by Scientific Evaluation Panel members

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Two members of the Scientific Evaluation Panel (CES) are in charge of reviewing full proposals. Panel members individually evaluate the proposals, based on the elements completed and submitted online by project coordinators by the closing date and time of the call. In addition, they take into consideration peer reviews and any response made by project coordinators to these reviews. Reviews can then be put into perspective using these responses, along with an overview on all the proposals evaluated by panel members within their panel (a view which peer reviewers do not have).

### Ranking

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The Scientific Evaluation Panel shall meet in full session once individual evaluations have been conducted. The proposal-by-proposal panel discussion leads to proposals being ranked against each other, by funding instrument.

One of the two panel members assigned to evaluate the proposal – the rapporteur – draws up a final evaluation report based on the evaluation carried out by external peer reviewers and any response to these reviews by the project coordinator, along with discussions held during the panel meeting, thus **outlining the final decision reached by the Scientific Evaluation Panel** (except if the evaluation could not be completed because the proposal was deemed ineligible).

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<sup>57</sup> It may happen that the objective of an evaluation by "at least two external peer reviewers" cannot be achieved at the date of the opening of the right of reply to the peer reviewers (e.g. when some projects cover specific themes).

## Results

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For JCJC, PRC, PRCE and PRME projects, the ANR is responsible for deciding if a proposal is selected or not, based on the ranking established by the Scientific Evaluation Panel and the budget allocated to the Generic Call for Proposals.

For a PRCI project, the final selection is jointly conducted by the ANR and the relevant foreign agency, based on evaluation elements gathered by the Lead funding agency under the “Lead agency” procedure, or by two funding agencies under the “Non-lead agency” procedure<sup>58</sup>. Each agency eventually funds the teams of its own country under its own funding and monitoring teams and conditions<sup>59</sup>.

The list of proposals selected for funding is published by the ANR on its [AAPG2023 web page](#).

The ANR notifies all project coordinators of their decision to select or not their proposals, and sends the final evaluation report explaining the evaluation panel’s decision.

## Funding of selected proposals

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The proposals selected are funded by the ANR, following administrative and financial controls on the compatibility/consistency of the grants with the European regulation, depending on the nature of the consortium: either after a unilateral funding decision or after notification, provided that each partner receiving funding signs a funding agreement. This may sometimes require the provision and analysis of additional information (particularly for companies: financial statements, certificate of registration, information on capitalistic links).

Under the JCJC instrument, ANR funding may cover the costs of a partial release from teaching obligations<sup>60</sup>, in accordance with rules on the allocation of release voted by the Governing Board of the institution managing the funding. **Only the project coordinator is entitled to this release from teaching obligations.**

*The terms and conditions for ANR funding are specified in the [ANR’s regulation on the allocation of funding](#). **Partners are invited to carefully read this document upon publication** to set up their project, particularly in terms of budget, pursuant to the provisions described therein.*

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<sup>58</sup> When the ANR conducts an evaluation, the ranking provided by scientific evaluation panels serves as a basis for discussions.

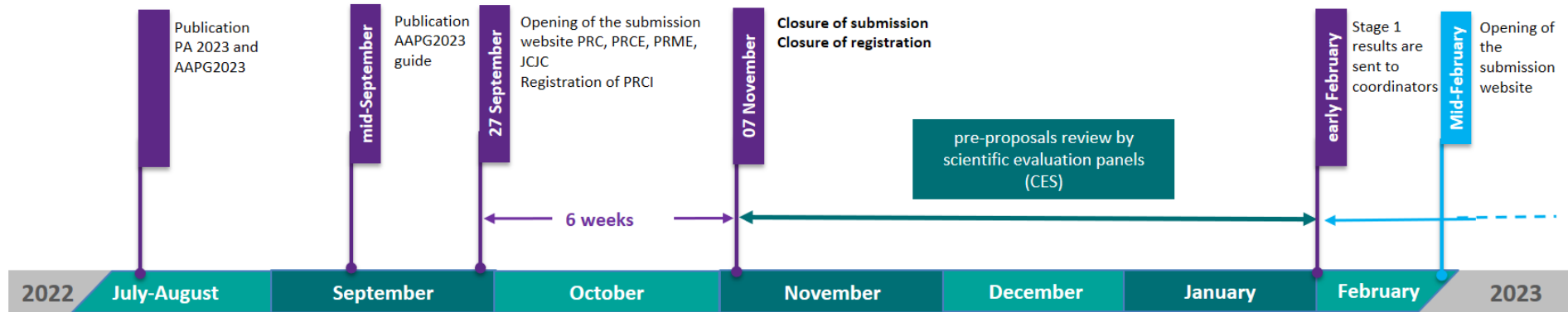
<sup>59</sup> A PRCI project may only be selected for funding if both funding agencies – the ANR and a foreign partner agency – reach an agreement regarding its selection.

<sup>60</sup> See the ANR’s regulation on the allocation of funding (<https://anr.fr/en/funding-regulations/>; § 3.1.4).

# Appendix 1: Provisional timetable of the AAPG 2023\*

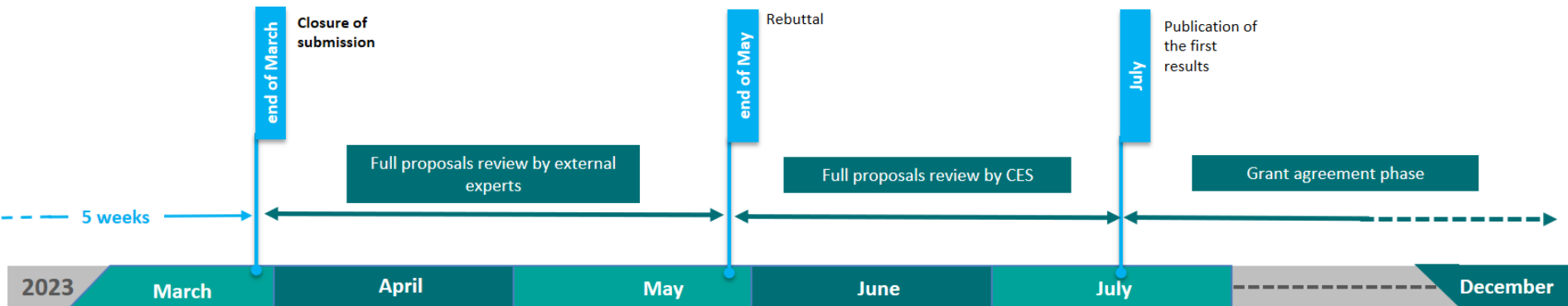
## Stage 1

The applicants submit a pre-proposal (PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC) or register their intent to submit a proposal at stage 2 (PRCI)



## Stage 2

Coordinators selected at the end of stage 1 and coordinators of a registered PRCI are invited to submit a full proposal at stage 2



\* The PRCI results will be published as negotiations with the various foreign agencies proceed, between September and November 2023.

## Appendix 2: List of scientific evaluation committees, in relation to the scientific axes of the AAPG 2023

Some axes have been created, others have been reorganised in relation to the 2022 edition of the call. Applicants are invited to read carefully the axes described in detail in §G of the [AAPG2023 text](#).

Reference AAPG2023, §G	Name of the Scientific Evaluation Committee (CES)	N° CES
Axis A.1	Solid earth and fluid envelopes	01
Axis A.2	Living earth	02
Axis A.3	Biology of animals, photosynthetic organisms and micro-organisms	20
Axis A.4	Food and food systems	21
Axis B.1	Physics of condensed matter and diluted matter	30
Axis B.2	Polymers, composites, chemical physics of soft matter	06
Axis B.3	Metallic and inorganic materials	08
Axis B.4	Engineering and process sciences	51
Axis B.5	Molecular chemistry	07
Axis B.6	Analytical chemistry, theoretical chemistry and modelling	29
Axis C.1	Biochemistry and chemistry of living organisms	44
Axis C.2	Characterisation of structures and structure-function relations of biological macromolecules	11
Axis C.3	Genetics, genomics and RNA	12
Axis C.4	Cellular biology, developmental biology and evolution	13
Axis C.5	Physiology and physiopathology	14
Axis C.6	Immunology, infectiology and inflammation	15
Axis C.7	Molecular and cellular neuroscience – Developmental neurobiology	16
Axis C.8	Integrative and cognitive neuroscience	37
Axis C.9	Translational health research	17
Axis C.10	Biomedical innovation	18
Axis C.11	Regenerative medicine	52
Axis D.1	Individuals, companies, markets, finance, management	26
Axis D.2	Institutions and organisations, legal frameworks and standards, governance, international relations	53

<b>Reference AAPG2023, §G</b>	<b>Name of the Scientific Evaluation Committee (CES)</b>	<b>N° CES</b>
Axis D.3	Contemporary societies: state of, dynamics and transformations	41
Axis D.4	Cognition, behaviour, language	28
Axis D.5	Arts, languages, literatures, philosophies	54
Axis D.6	Studies of the past, heritage, cultures	27
Axis D.7	Societies and territories in transition	55
Axis E.1	Foundations of digital technology: information technology, automation, signal processing	48
Axis E.2	Artificial intelligence and data science	23
Axis E.3	Software sciences and engineering - Multi-purpose communication networks, high-performance infrastructures	25
Axis E.4	Interaction, robotics	33
Axis E.5	Digital models, simulations, applications	46
Axis E.6	Quantum technologies	47
Axis F.1	Mathematics	40
Axis G.1	Planetary science, structure and history of the Earth	49
Axis G.2	Sub-atomic physics and astrophysics	31
Axis H.1	The Science of sustainability	03
Axis H.2	Contaminants, ecosystems and health	34
Axis H.3	Infectious diseases and environment	35
Axis H.4	Public health, health and societies	36
Axis H.5	Methodologies, instrumentations, sensors and solutions for the ecological transition	04
Axis H.6	Dynamics of socio-ecosystems and of their components	32
Axis H.7	Bio-economy, from biomass to uses: chemistry, materials, systematic approaches and processes	43
Axis H.8	Basic energy science	50
Axis H.9	Sustainable, clean, safe and efficient energy	05
Axis H.10	Nano-objects and functional nanomaterials, interfaces	09
Axis H.11	Sensors, imagers and instrumentation	42
Axis H.12	Micro- and nanotechnologies for information and communication technology	24
Axis H.13	Healthcare technologies	19
Axis H.14	Interfaces: mathematics, digital sciences – biology, health	45
Axis H.15	Interfaces: digital sciences – Humanities and social sciences	38

<b>Reference AAPG2023, §G</b>	<b>Name of the Scientific Evaluation Committee (CES)</b>	<b>N° CES</b>
Axis H.16	Interfaces: mathematics, digital sciences – Earth system and environmental sciences	56
Axis H.17	Global security, resilience and crisis management, cybersecurity	39
Axis H.18	Transport and mobility, constructions in urban and peri-urban areas	22
Axis H.19	Industry and factory of the future: People, organisations, technologies	10

## Appendix 3: Specific measures

### 1. Very large research infrastructures (TGIR)

Projects relying on resources from very large research infrastructures (TGIR) are invited to clarify this information when they submit their pre-proposal. A procedure independent from the project submission to the ANR must be carried out to ensure that such resources are available if they are key to the success of the project. This can be justified as part of the submission of a full proposal.

For instance, requests for resources can be made to GENCI (*Big National Equipment for Intensive Computing*) to access computing and storage resources for digital simulation, massive data processing or artificial intelligence.

GENCI provides free computing and storage resources for digital simulation (HPC), within three French national centres (CINES, IDRIS, TGCC), for academic and industrial researchers contributing to open research. You can apply to two calls for proposals (in January and July) to receive resources allocated over a year. Applications are then reviewed by Thematic Committees according to their scientific and technical excellence. For more information on national computing centres, procedures, you can download the information booklet for users at <http://www.edari.fr> and <http://www.genci.fr>

### 2. Competitiveness clusters

Projects wishing to be awarded a label by one or more competitiveness cluster(s) must **mention it during the first stage of the selection process**<sup>61</sup>. PRCI projects are ineligible for labelling.

**No labelling application will be accepted in stage 2.**

When applying for a label, the project coordinator must first have his/her pre-proposal approved by the other partners (including, if required, foreign partners). All project partners are invited to contact, **as soon as possible**, the relevant competitiveness clusters and find out about their commitments, should they support these clusters (including any cluster membership, transmission of intermediate and final project reports). If a proposal labelled by a competitiveness cluster is successful, the information on the monitoring of the project will be provided to the competitiveness cluster.

### 3. French co-funding

The ANR establishes partnerships with other funding agencies. The Generic call for proposal's list of co-funders is regularly updated on the ANR's Generic Call for Proposals web page. Generally, this does not constitute additional funding but a contribution to the funding requested from the ANR for the project, except when a specific request can be made to the co-

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<sup>61</sup> Applying for labelling is not mandatory to submit a proposal to the 2023 Generic Call for Proposals, but must be declared in stage 1 if you wish to label the project.



funding partner. Co-funding means that the grant allocated to the project includes a financial contribution from the ANR and a co-funding partner with an interest in the research he wishes to support. **Project wishing to benefit from co-funding are invited to express their interest when they submit their pre-proposal.** A project coordinator selected may decline the co-funding of his project.