

# Generic Call for proposals 2024

## 2024 AAPG Guide

Version 1.0 of 31 august 2023

## Submission, evaluation, selection and funding procedures

Please carefully read the entire document, the [2024 AAPG](#) and the [regulation on the allocation of ANR funding](#), and contact the future managing authority before submitting a pre-proposal, registration or full proposal for a research project.

*In case of any difference of interpretation, the French version of the present document shall prevail.  
It is important to carefully read this document in full, as well as the 2024 AAPG call text (available on the ANR's website) and the regulations on the conditions of allocation of ANR funding, before submitting a (pre)-proposal for a research project. (<http://www.anr.fr/RF>) .*



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## A. Context of the 2024 Generic Call for proposals

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

The [2024 Generic Call for Proposals \(AAPG2024\)](#) represents the ANR's "Research and Innovation" component of the [2024 Work Programme](#).

It is open to all scientific communities and all public or private stakeholders involved in French research, including small and medium-sized companies (SMEs) and very small companies (VSEs). It is designed to give researchers in various scientific fields access to co-funding in a large number of research themes, targeted or not, in addition to their allocated recurrent funding. The AAPG applies to all types of research (fundamental and industrial research and experimental development).

The "Research and Innovation" component of the ANR's 2024 Work Programme, covered by the 2024 AAPG is structured into **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, Universe and Earth Sciences
- **19 research themes** corresponding to cross-cutting issues integrating the challenges of several scientific fields, divided into 7 cross-cutting fields:
  - Sustainability Science
  - One Health
  - Ecological and environmental transition
  - Energy transformation
  - Technological transitions
  - Digital transformation
  - Transformations of socio-technical systems

**Within the AAPG, each theme in the Work Programme has its own Scientific Evaluation Panel (CES) covering all the 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 scientific theme and, therefore, 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), and this selection may not be altered throughout the process. Please carefully read the themes fully described in § G of the [2024 AAPG](#) before making this final decision.*

Under 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 2024. 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 [2024 Work Programme](#) are: artificial intelligence; social sciences and humanities; quantum technologies; autism in neurodevelopmental disorders (with reservations); translational research on rare diseases; mathematics; scientific exploitation of data generated by International Scientific Organisations and Research Infrastructures (OSI and IR\*).

Please see [Appendix 3](#) of this document for the following specific schemes: “OSI and IR\*”, “Competitiveness clusters” and “French co-funding”.

## A.2. Funding instruments

The 2024 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 similar 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 this selection may not be altered throughout the process. Please read carefully the characteristics of each instrument before making this final decision.*

Regardless of the funding instrument selected, all types of proposals are possible: proposals with unprecedented objectives or concepts, breakthrough or exploratory proposals, proposals aiming to remove scientific obstacles that are well known to the community, proposals exploiting data generated by research infrastructures, or proposals resulting from previous proposals and intended to consider new objectives.

### A.2.1. International Collaborative Research Projects (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 through 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>,
- A work programme identifying balanced scientific contributions by partners from each country,

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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 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 2024 AAPG, the countries involved in these international bilateral agreements are:

- In Europe: Germany, Austria, Luxembourg and Switzerland.
- Internationally: Brazil, Canada, Canada – Quebec, United States, Hong Kong, Singapore 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 [2024 AAPG web page](#) and **must be consulted before registering or submitted a project 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.*

**Table 1: Confirmed list of bilateral collaborations and themes under the 2024 Generic Call for Proposals**

Countries (agencies)	Themes for collaboration	Lead Agency	Relevant scientific themes*
<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> <li>• Biology &amp; Health</li> </ul>	-	Themes A.1 to A.4; Themes B.1 to B.6; Themes C.6 to C.8; Themes D.1 to D.7; Themes E.1 to E.6; Theme F.1; Themes G.1 and G.2; Themes H.1 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> <li>• Biology &amp; Health</li> </ul>	ANR	Themes A.1 to A.4; Themes B.1 to B.6; Themes C.6 to C.8; Themes D.1 to D.7; Themes E.1 to E.6; Theme F.1; Themes G.1 and G.2; Themes H.1 to H.7; H.11 and H.12, H.14 to H.16 and Theme H.19
<b>Canada</b> (CRSNG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hardware and software for quantum computing</li> </ul>	CRSNG	Themes E.6 and B.1
<b>Canada – Quebec</b> (FRQSC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts, languages, literatures, philosophies</li> </ul>	ANR	Theme D.5

<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 in § B.5.3.

Countries (agencies)	Themes for collaboration	Lead Agency	Relevant scientific themes*
<b>United States (NSF)</b>	• Physics of living organisms	NSF	Themes C.2 to C.4; Theme B.1; Theme H.14
	• Quantum technologies	NSF	Theme B.1; Themes C.1 to C.3, C.7 and C.10; Themes E.1 to E.6; Theme F.1; Themes H.3, H.11 and H.13
	• Molecular chemistry (precious metal-free catalyst)	ANR	Theme B.5
	• Digital sciences, mathematics and their interactions • Mathematics and its interactions	ANR	Themes E.1 to E.6; Theme F.1; Themes H.12 and H.14
<b>Hong Kong (RGC)</b>	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and RGC	-	All themes except H.17
<b>Singapore (NRF)</b>	Circular economy	-	Theme A.4; Theme B.4; Themes D.1 to D.7; Themes H.1, H.6 and H.7, H.18 and H.19
<b>Taiwan (NSTC)</b>	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and NSTC	-	All themes except H.17
<b>Germany (DFG)</b>	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and DFG, except Social Sciences and Humanities**	DFG	All themes except D.1 to D.7 and H.4
<b>Austria (FWF)</b>	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and FWF	FWF	All scientific fields
<b>Luxembourg (FNR)</b>	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and FNR	ANR	All scientific fields
<b>Switzerland (FNS)</b>	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and FNS	FNS	All scientific fields

\*See § G “Scientific themes covered by the 2024 Generic Call for Proposals” in the [2024 AAPG](#). Each scientific theme has its own Scientific Evaluation Panel (CES).

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

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

As part of the 2024 edition, for PRCI projects in collaboration with **Brazil (FAPESP)**, **Canada – Quebec (FRQSC)**, the **United States (NSF)** for “Molecular chemistry” and “Digital Sciences, Mathematics and its Interactions”, and **Luxembourg (FNR)**, 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 identify 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 documents (i.e., copy of the project proposal). **Please consult the specific appendix to the relevant agreement** as soon as it is available on the [dedicated 2024 AAPG 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. Registering a PRCI project in stage 1 does not imply the submission of a scientific document, only filling out the online form and CVs.

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

For PRCI projects in collaboration with **Germany (DFG), Austria (FWF), Canada (CRSNG), the United-States (NSF)** for “Physics of living organisms” and “Quantum Technologies”, **Switzerland (FNS)**, the foreign agency acts as the *Lead Agency*. Therefore, these projects must be submitted to the foreign agency, according to its specific procedure. The proposal submitted by the foreign project coordinator must clearly identify 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 that is not submitted to the ANR's website will not be accepted for evaluation by the foreign agency.**

**Please consult the specific appendix to the relevant agreement** as soon as it is available on the [dedicated 2024 AAPG web page](#), and the foreign agency's website.

### Non-Lead Agency PRCI

For PRCI projects in collaboration with **Brazil (FACEPE), Hong Kong (RGC), Singapore (NRF)** and **Taiwan (NSTC)**, 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 applying 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 joint 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 2024 AAPG web page](#), and the foreign agency's website.

*Registering a PRCI project with the ANR in stage 1 does not imply the submission of a scientific document.*

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 dedicated 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 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 before the project begins. If a project including a company is selected for funding, a consortium agreement will be required within 6 months after the scientific start of the project<sup>7</sup>.

*The provision of research services is not considered as 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. If there is no “Enterprise” partner involved in the collaboration, but only a partner’s service provider, applicants are invited to choose another funding instrument.*

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

<sup>5</sup> Includes large, small and medium-sized companies and start-ups whose R&D project efforts will be conducted in France. Companies whose head office is “outside France” must therefore have an establishment or branch in France. Contact your local FSD if a company headquartered “outside France” is involved, with regard to the PPST (see §D.6 Protection of the nation's scientific and technical potential (PPST) in the AAPG 2024 call text).

<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 Enterprise, as defined in the [regulation on the allocation of ANR funding](#)

### 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**.

*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.*

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

*A project 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 intended 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**. A PRME project is coordinated by a team or laboratory manager with all the skills and know-how required to achieve these objectives. Various types of teams are accepted, provided that they are approved by the laboratory director and can prove their sustainability throughout of the project. To this end, upon submission of its pre-proposal, the coordinator must provide a certificate signed by the laboratory director (under the template to be posted on the [2024 AAPG web page](#)).

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

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

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

Throughout the duration of the PRME, participants in a PRME project cannot submit another PRME

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<sup>9</sup> “Foreign partners” refers to any partner who does not have an institution 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.

or take part in another PRME.

A change of coordinator will not be authorised during the implementation of a PRME project.

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

### 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).

ANR funding, which focuses on the individual, can solely cover the costs of the young researcher's team. **There can only be one partner receiving funding**, and it 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**<sup>12</sup>. 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 organisations, institutions or laboratories. Identifying collaborators using 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 2013).*<sup>13</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., before 01 January 2018).*<sup>14</sup>

<sup>12</sup> Insofar as they are currently under contract or will be with the managing authority. The contract may not have started when the project is being submitted, but the young researcher must be under contract at the scientific start of the project.

<sup>13</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>14</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

*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** (cf. § B.4.3 and § B.5.3, specific evaluation sub-criteria for the JCJC instrument).*

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.

Change of project coordinator is not authorised during the implementation of a JCJC project.

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responsibilities (i.e., PRAG). Possible probationary period or internship considered. The same exemptions described above are applicable for this eligibility criterion.

**Table 2: Table summarising all five funding instruments<sup>15</sup>**

	Consortium specificities	Instrument characteristics
International Collaborative Research Project (PRCI)	<p>Collaboration involving at least one 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>The involvement of companies is possible, according to the agreement with the foreign agency.<sup>16</sup></p> <p>The 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>
Collaborative Research Project involving Enterprises (PRCE)	<p>Collaboration involving 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.</p> <p>The involvement of foreign partners, with their own funds, is possible.</p> <p>Coordination by the "Laboratory" partner or the "Enterprise" 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>
Collaborative Research Project (PRC)	<p>Collaboration involving at least two partners, including at least one laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding.</p> <p>Possible collaboration within the same research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding, between several research teams or groups.</p> <p>The involvement of foreign partners, with their own funds, is possible.</p> <p>Collaboration with a "company" partner is not authorised.</p>	<p><b>Strong synergy</b> between several skills involved (jointly defined objectives, shared knowledge and tasks, shared risks and results)</p>

<sup>15</sup> Regardless of the funding instrument, the coordinator or scientific project manager of each partner applying for ANR funding must be "tenured", i.e., holding a current or future contract with their managing authority. The contract may not have started when the project is being submitted but it must have begun at the scientific start of the project. The salary of the coordinator and the scientific project manager of each partner are not eligible for ANR funding.

<sup>16</sup> Refer to the specific appendices dedicated to PRCIs in the [dedicated 2024 AAPG web page](#).



<p style="text-align: center;">Single-team Research Project (PRME)</p>	<p>Single-partner instrument: a team or laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding.</p> <p>Various types of teams are accepted, provided that they are approved by the laboratory director and can prove their sustainability throughout of the project.</p> <p>Significant involvement from the project coordinator, at least 40% FTREs. Team involvement: 1.5 FTREs.</p>	<p>Research aiming for <b>outstandingly ambitious and innovative</b> scientific objectives.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Young researchers (JCJC)</p>	<p>Single-partner instrument: 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 01/01/2013 (excluding exemptions) and being under contract for less than 5 years with one or more institution(s), i.e., after 01 January 2018 (excluding exemptions).</p> <p>Possible collaboration 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 obstacles.</p>

## B. The two-stage selection process for the 2024 AAPG

### B.1. General process

The selection process for projects submitted under the 2024 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, cf. § B.4.3). At the end of the first stage, around 3,000 project coordinators are invited to submit a full proposal in stage 2.

For PRCI projects, stage 1 involves a simple registration<sup>17</sup> of intent to submit a full PRCI proposal in stage 2 (see appendices regarding PRCIs soon available on the [dedicated 2024 AAPG web page](#)).

*If re-submitted in stage 1 of the 2024 AAPG, the projects ranked in the complementary list of the 2023 AAPG, but not selected for funding at the end of the process, are automatically invited to stage 2 of the 2024 AAPG without evaluation by Scientific Evaluation Panels, subject to eligibility. The projects concerned must have the same project coordinator, same funding instrument<sup>18</sup>, same title and similar consortium. A project on the complementary list of the 2023 AAPG, that is not submitted in stage 1 of the 2024 AAPG is not eligible for this automatic invitation to stage 2.*

**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, cf. §B.5.3 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 ANR project selection 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>19</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>20</sup> who has undergone ANR selection process and ethics training. He/she heads the Board of the Scientific Evaluation Panel, which generally consists of three vice-chairs (depending on the size of the panel) who

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<sup>17</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 2024 AAPG rules in terms of eligibility for “limited participation” (§ B.4.2 and § B.5.2).

<sup>18</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, cf. § A.2.5 - to benefit from this process.

<sup>19</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 website at the same time as all the final results of the AAPG.

<sup>20</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 website to renew the panel’s chair-representatives.



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 board of the Scientific Evaluation panel. They are in charge of evaluating and selecting the pre-proposals, exceptionally relying on external peer reviewers (in stage 1), and evaluating and ranking the full proposals by always relying on external peer reviewers, and the eventual response of the coordinator regarding these external peer reviews (in stage 2).
- 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 everyone involved in the project selection process.

### B.3. The 2024 AAPG's Scientific Evaluation Panels

Each theme in the 2024 AAPG is associated with a specific Scientific Evaluation Panel (CES) covering all the relevant themes. The scientific scope and keywords describing the 56 themes of the 2024 AAPG are outlined in the [2024 AAPG](#). The list of scientific evaluation panels corresponding to each research theme is available in [Appendix 2](#).

***The project coordinator, when submitting the pre-proposal to PRC, PRCE, PRME and JCJC instruments or registering for the PCRI instrument<sup>21</sup>, is responsible for selecting the theme and the affiliated panel in which the proposal will be evaluated in stage 1.***

***This initial decision is final and cannot be altered 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 a pre-proposal (PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC) and registration (PCRI)

The submission of a PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC pre-proposal includes:

- A form to be completed and validated on the [IRIS](#) website<sup>22</sup>,
- A project description document (4 pages maximum, including the bibliography) to be submitted online, in the required format, on [IRIS](#),
- The CV of the project coordinator and the CV of each possible partner's scientific manager, to be completed by everyone involved on [IRIS](#),
- For the PRME instrument, a certificate from the laboratory director.

<sup>21</sup> The provisional list of panels corresponding to each theme 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>22</sup> If the form is not correctly filled out, you cannot submit a proposal. The project coordinator is responsible for anticipating the submission and collecting the required information beforehand.

*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 could be considered by scientific evaluation panels to be too significant, making the full proposal inconsistent with the pre-proposal and therefore ineligible (cf. § B.5.2 “Compliance with the pre-proposal” criterion).*

The registration of a PRCI proposal 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](#).

### Online form

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[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 of the **project coordinator**<sup>23</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
- **Theme corresponding to the project**
- **Project identification:** acronym, title in French and English<sup>24</sup>, duration<sup>25</sup>, type of research
- **Memory effect:** online checkbox to indicate the “re-submission” of the project between the 2023 AAPG and 2024 AAPG<sup>26</sup>, online checkbox to indicate that the final reports and scientific documents submitted to the 2023 AAPG will be sent to the 2024 AAPG panel members, free field

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<sup>23</sup> French project coordinator as part of a PRCI project registration.

<sup>24</sup> If the project is selected for funding, its title will be published on the ANR website. Given their public nature, the applicant must check that no element introduced can hinder the possible subsequent patent submission. If there is any doubt on the matter, you can contact the institutions’ exploitation services.

<sup>25</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 2024 AAPG web page](#)).

<sup>26</sup> A “re-submitted” project is a project submitted but not selected for the 2023 AAPG and subsequently re-submitted to the 2024 AAPG with the same project coordinator and funding instrument. By checking this box, the pre-proposal (in stage 1) or full proposal (in stage 2) and the final report of the panel responsible for evaluating the project under the 2023 AAPG will then be sent to 2024 AAPG panel members during the plenary session to assess the evolution of the project between the two call editions. If the coordinator does not wish to benefit from the memory effect, he/she is not required to check the box, even if the project meets the definition of a “re-submission”. PRCI projects for which the foreign agency was the “lead agency” in the 2023 AAPG, are excluded from this process.

to be provided to 2024 AAPG panel members to explain any changes made to the project between the two editions of the call (3,000 characters, spaces included).<sup>27</sup>

- **Non-confidential scientific abstracts** in French and English (2,000 characters maximum), including spaces<sup>28</sup>
- **Keywords on the scientific panel selected, disciplinary keywords, free keywords and sustainable development goals (SDGs)**: must be at least one of the panel's keywords, one ERC code, one free keyword and one SDG
- **Partnership**: all partner institutions, partner's scientific managers and main people involved in the project, including their e-mail address, designation of hosting and managing authorities 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 aid amount** requested to the ANR, provision aid amount requested to the foreign agency for a PRCI project
- **Unwanted external peer reviewers for the evaluation** (not mandatory, but must be completed at this stage if necessary): 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>29</sup>.
- **Other information**: use of a very large research infrastructure – OSI or IR\*, application for a competitiveness cluster label<sup>30</sup>, interest in co-funding<sup>31</sup>
- **For JCJC projects**: year the doctoral thesis was defended (or degree or qualification corresponding to the international PhD standard), date of first employment within a research and knowledge dissemination institution or organisation<sup>32</sup>, supporting document(s) for an exemption, where relevant<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> As there could be non-French-speaking panel members, writing in English is highly recommended.

<sup>28</sup> These abstracts 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. If there is any doubt on the matter, you can contact the institutions' exploitation services.

<sup>29</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 "unwanted external peer" field cannot be changed in stage 2 of the 2024 AAPG.

<sup>30</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>31</sup> Provisional list of co-funding available in the full text of the [2024 Work Programme](#).

<sup>32</sup> Excluding post-doctoral contracts, engineers, teachers without research responsibilities (i.e., PRAG). Possible trial period or internship considered. The same exemptions described above are applicable for this eligibility criterion.

<sup>33</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.

- **For PRME projects:** certificate completed and signed by the laboratory director, under the template provided in the [dedicated 2024 AAPG web page](#)<sup>34</sup>.
- **For projects affiliated with scientific themes A.01, A.02, D.05, D.06, D.07, H.01, H.05, H.06, H.15, H.16 and H.18 :** box to be checked online to express an interest in taking part in TAP SD-WISHEES (cf. [2024 AAPG 2024](#), Appendix 4).

*The following information cannot be altered in stage 2: funding instrument, scientific theme - including the PRCI instrument -, PRCI bilateral collaboration, identity of the project coordinator<sup>35</sup>, project acronym, labelling application, interest for co-funding and use of an OSI or IR\*, peer reviewers requested to abstain from evaluation.*

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

### Curriculum vitae

The coordinator and scientific manager of each eventual partner<sup>36</sup>, including foreign partners in a PRCI project, must complete, using their personal account, a standard CV on the [IRIS](#) submission (PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC) and registration (PRCI) website, before the closing date and time of the call. The e-mail address used to log in [IRIS](#) must be the same used in the “partnership” section to identify the coordinator and scientific manager of each eventual partner.

As the CVs are one of the elements used for the project evaluation, cf. § [B.4.3 Evaluation of pre-proposals](#), they must be fully completed and preferably in English, as peer reviewers may not speak French.

### Commitment of the applicants

- 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 projects 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](#) (cf. the [2024 AAPG](#), § 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. The coordinator undertakes to provide fair exposure to the research work produced, whether they are coordinated by women or men (cf. [2024 AAPG](#), § D.2).

<sup>34</sup> As this element will be evaluated by non-French-speaking panel members, the certificate should preferably be written in English, without abbreviations.

<sup>35</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>36</sup> Under a PRME or JCJC project, single-partner project, only the CV of the coordinator will be sent to peer reviewers.

- 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 (cf. [2024 AAPG](#), § 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 (cf. [2024 AAPG](#), § 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** (cf. [2024 AAPG](#), § D.5).
- The project coordinator undertakes (by checking a box online), with all project participants – whether seeking funding or not – to **abide by the scheme to protect the nation’s scientific and technical potential** (PPST, cf. [2024 AAPG](#), § D.6).

*Applicants are invited to contact the departments in charge of applying the PPST within their institutions to check the project eligibility before submitting a proposal to the 2024 AAPG. The projects invited in stage 2 of the 2024 AAPG will be subject to an opinion from SHFDS/MESRI, in particular projects including a foreign partner outside the European Union and/or a “Company” partner. A negative opinion expressed by SHFDS/MESRI would imply the project withdrawal from the 2024 AAPG selection process, without justification by SHFDS/MESRI.*

## Project description

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

- Context, positioning and objective(s) of the pre-proposal  
(in line with the “*Quality and scientific aim*” 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 methods 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, challenge 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 “*Organisation and implementation of the project*” 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, his/her involvement in the project and rate of involvement. Introduce 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, his/her involvement in the project and rate of involvement. Introduce 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, his/her involvement in the project and rate of involvement. Indicate the date on which the doctorate (or equivalent) was defended and the date(s) on which he/she took up his/her position within the institution(s). Present the team built around the project that is the focus of the pre-proposal. 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 “Quality and scientific aim” 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 [2024 AAPG 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 font size 11 or equivalent, single spacing, 2 cm margin or more, page numbering; for tables and figures, Calibri front size 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>37</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 (PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC) and PRCI registration submission website at the closing date and time.

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<sup>37</sup> In addition, the CVs of the partners’ project coordinators and scientific managers, 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.

When assessing 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.

Table 3: Eligibility criteria according to the funding instrument selected

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

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.

*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: **19 October 2023 at 17:00 (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,
- For the JCJC instrument: supporting document(s) for an exemption, compiled in a PDF document.
- For the PRME instrument: a certificate from the laboratory director, under the template provided in the [2024 AAPG 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/PRME/JCJC project as coordinator<sup>38</sup> and cannot be involved, as a project coordinator and a partner's scientific manager, in

<sup>38</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.

more than three projects submitted to the ANR under the 2024 Generic Call for Proposals – including PRCI<sup>39</sup> - and under the Franco-German programme in Humanities and social sciences included in the 2024 Work Programme<sup>40</sup>.

A coordinator or participant in a PRME project currently funded may not be involved as coordinator or participant in another PRME or JCJC project over the duration of the PRME project already funded<sup>41</sup>.

**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 2023 Generic Call for Proposals cannot submit, as coordinator, a PRC, PRCE, PRCI, PRME or JCJC project under the 2024 Generic Call for Proposals. However, he/she may act as a partner's scientific manager or participant of a project registered for the 2024 edition.

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 2024 Generic Call for Proposals over the course of his/her JCJC project.<sup>42</sup> However, he/she may act as a partner's scientific manager or participant in a project submitted for the 2024 AAPG.

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 2024 AAPG. 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 ANR evaluation (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>43</sup>

**All similar proposals will be ineligible.**

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<sup>39</sup> Therefore, the limit to three participations as project coordinator and scientific manager also applies to stage 1 PRCI registrations, and PRCIs 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 2024 AAPG, whatever the result of these projects at the end of stage 1.

<sup>40</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 2024 AAPG, cannot be the coordinator of a project submitted under the 2024 Franco-German programme in Humanities and Social Sciences (AAP open between mid-December 2023 and mid-March 2024), whatever the result of these JCJC, PRC, PRCE, PRME or PRCI projects in stages 1 and 2 of the AAPG.

<sup>41</sup> The submission as a project coordinator is authorised in the last year of a PRME project, provided that the ongoing PRME project scientifically ends prior to 31/12/2024.

<sup>42</sup> The 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 31/12/2024.

<sup>43</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.



**Partner receiving funding:** The consortium must include at least one laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding.<sup>44</sup>

**All pre-proposals submitted that do not comply with this rule will be ineligible.**

**Themes supported by other funding agencies:** The project, submitted under PRC and PRME instruments, must correspond to one subject within the ANR's scope of intervention, which does not cover those of other funding agencies (including 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 2024 AAPG: (1) must have completed his/her doctoral thesis (or any other diploma or certification matching the international PhD standard) after 01 January 2013; (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 2018 (including any probationary period). Should an exemption be granted<sup>45</sup>, the supporting documents must be submitted online by the closing date and time of the call's 1st stage.

**All pre-proposals submitted without proof of an exemption, if the PhD was defended at a date prior to 01 January 2013 and/or if the coordinator has been working for more 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 instrument. In the event of a memory effect application: scientific document and final report of the 2023 AAPG panel, and free field for the "evolution of the project between two call editions" (cf. § [B.4.1](#)). **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.**

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>46</sup>

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<sup>44</sup> See the [ANR's regulation on the allocation of funding](#).

<sup>45</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 true 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>46</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.

## 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: Quality and scientific aim</b> <b>Decisive criterion: an A rating is required</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clarity of research objectives and hypotheses</li> <li>▪ Scientific ambition of the project and position with respect to the state-of-the-art</li> <li>▪ Adequacy and relevance of the methods implemented</li> <li>▪ Adequacy of the project with the scientific theme selected</li> </ul>			
<b>Criterion 2: Organisation and implementation of the project<sup>47</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>	

## Ranking and selection in stage 2

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

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 project coordinators, outlining the final decision reached by the Scientific Evaluation Panel, except if the evaluation could not be completed because they were deemed ineligible.

<sup>47</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.

## 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>48</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](#).
- For the PRME instrument, a certificate from the laboratory director, eventually amended between the two stages of this call.

#### 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 theme, funding instrument, bilateral PRCI collaboration, identity of the project coordinator, project acronym<sup>49</sup>, labelling application, interest for co-funding and use of an ISO or RI\*, and peer reviewers not requested for evaluation.

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

- **Project identification:** only the title in French and English<sup>50</sup>, duration<sup>51</sup>, type of research
- **Memory Effect**
- **Non-confidential scientific abstracts** in French and English (4,000 characters maximum, including spaces)<sup>52</sup>
- **Keywords related to the scientific theme selected, disciplinary keywords, free keywords and sustainable development goals (SDGs)**
- **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

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<sup>48</sup> If the form is not correctly filled out, you cannot submit a proposal. The project coordinator is responsible for anticipating the submission and collect the required information beforehand.

<sup>49</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>50</sup> If the project is selected for funding, its title will be published on the ANR website. Given their public nature, the applicant must check that no element introduced can hinder the possible subsequent patent submission. If there is any doubt on the matter, you can contact the institutions' exploitation services.

<sup>51</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 2024 AAPG web page](#)).

<sup>52</sup> These abstracts 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 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.

hosting managing authority for a research organisation or establishment laboratory; SIRET number (Business registration number) and, for a company, the workforce,

- Identification of the laboratory director, identity of the administrative officer of the institution managing the grant, identity of the person authorised to legally represent the institution
- **Identification of the scientific managers** (including the coordinator and foreign coordinator for a PRCI project), e-mail addresses (preferably institutional e-mail address), identification of the main people involved
- **Financial data** broken down per expense items and partner<sup>53</sup>
- *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.

### Curriculum vitae

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The coordinator and scientific manager of each eventual partner<sup>54</sup>, including foreign partners in a PRCI project, must complete, using their personal account, a standard CV on the [IRIS](#) submission (PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC) and registration (PRCI) website, before the closing date and time of the call. The e-mail address used to log in [IRIS](#) must be the same using in the “partnership” section to identify the coordinator and scientific manager of each eventual partner. The CVs completed before the closing date and time in stage 1 can be updated before the closing date and time of stage 2.

As the CVs are one of the elements used for the evaluation of the project, cf. § [B.5.3](#), they must be fully completed and preferably in English, as peer reviewers may not speak French.

### Commitment of the applicants

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Each scientific manager 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** (cf. [Table 6](#)). Therefore, the scientific document should conform to the following plan:

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<sup>53</sup> To complete the financial data, each partner’s scientific manager involved in a project applying for ANR funding must contact their managing 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 (cf. 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>54</sup> Under a PRME or JCJC project, single-partner project, only the CV of the coordinator will be forwarded to peer reviewers.

- Context, positioning and objective(s) of the proposal  
(in line with the “Quality and scientific aim” 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 methods considered and their relevance in terms of ethics, scientific integrity and social responsibility – and as such, considering 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 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 theme selected.

- Project organisation and implementation  
(in line with the “Organisation and implementation of the project” 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. 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 table summarising all the 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,** you must present 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.

- Impact and benefits of the project

*(in line with the “Impact and benefits of the project” 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 “Quality and scientific aim” 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 [2024 AAPG 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 font size 11 or equivalent, single spacing, 2 cm margin or more, page numbering; for tables and figures, Calibri font size 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>55</sup>

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

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<sup>55</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.



## B.5.2. Eligibility of full proposals

The ANR checks the eligibility (cf. [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 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**

	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 communicated in the invitation email for stage 2. 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.
- For the PRME instrument: a certificate from the laboratory director respecting the template provided in the [2024 AAPG web page](#), duly completed and signed by the relevant authority.

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

**Limited participation:** A researcher may only submit one PRC/PRCE/PRCI/PRME/JCJC project as coordinator<sup>56</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 2024 Generic Call for Proposals – including

<sup>56</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.

PRCI<sup>57</sup> - and under the Franco-German programme in Humanities and social sciences included in the 2024 Work Programme<sup>58</sup>.

A coordinator or participant in a PRME project currently funded may not coordinate or participate in another PRME or JCJC project over the duration of the PRME project already funded<sup>59</sup>.

**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>60</sup>

**All similar proposals will be ineligible.**

**Partner(s) receiving funding:** The consortium must include at least one laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding.<sup>61</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, scientific theme and project coordinator<sup>62</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 laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding<sup>63</sup> and at least one foreign partner concerned by the bilateral agreement. Two project

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<sup>57</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 2024 AAPG, whatever the result of these projects at the end of stage 1.

<sup>58</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 2024 AAPG, cannot be the coordinator of a project submitted under the 2024 Franco-German programme in Social Sciences and Humanities (AAP open between mid-December 2023 and mid-March 2024), whatever the result of these JCJC, PRC, PRCE, PRME or PRCI projects in stages 1 and 2 of the AAPG.

<sup>59</sup> The submission as a project coordinator is authorised in the last year of a PRME project, provided that the ongoing PRME project scientifically ends prior to 31/12/2024.

<sup>60</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>61</sup> Cf. [ANR's regulation on the allocation of funding](#).

<sup>62</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>63</sup> Cf. [the ANR's regulation on the allocation of funding](#).



coordinators are clearly identified: one for the French side and the other for the country concerned by the bilateral agreement.

**If there is no foreign partner concerned by the bilateral agreement selected, the proposal 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 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.**

Concerning exclusively bilateral ANR-NSF "*Physics of living organisms*" collaboration: a coordinator of an ANR-NSF "*Physics of living organisms*" PRCI project (French part) funded in a previous edition of the AAPG may not submit a new ANR-NSF "*Physics of living organisms*" PRCI project as coordinator (French part) for the entire scientific duration of his or her current ANR-NSF "*Physics of living organisms*" project. Any ANR-NSF "*Physics of living organisms*". **PRCI project submitted to the AAPG 2024 that does not comply with this rule will be declared 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 pre-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 and certificate from the laboratory director for the PRME instrument. In the event of a memory effect application: scientific document and final report of the 2023 AAPG panel, and free field for the "evolution of the project between two call editions" (cf. § [B.5.1 Submitting a full proposal](#)). **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.**

The evaluation of the second stage of the selection process involves experts and panel members, who may or may not have participated in the first selection stage. **An additional criterion is used in stage 2**, cf. [Table 6](#), **with different sub-criteria for each funding instrument** to evaluate the suitability of the full proposals with 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/her evaluation report.

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

PRCI	PRCE	PRC	PRME	JCJC
<b>Criterion 1: Quality and scientific aim</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clarity of research objectives and hypotheses</li> <li>▪ Scientific ambition of the project and position with respect 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 with the scientific theme selected</li> </ul>				
<b>Criterion 2: Organisation and implementation of the project<sup>64</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: Impact and benefits of the project</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

<sup>64</sup> This criterion considers 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.

members assigned to evaluate the proposal and contacted by the ANR after confirming there is no conflicts of interest.

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>65</sup> are systematically sent to the project coordinator of each proposal in May (forecast, the exact date will be specified on the ANR's [2024 AAPG 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**. Therefore, this right of reply refers to a right of "rectification" of a review: this "rectification" 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.). This rectification must only be factual and well-argued, based on the elements of the full proposal.

The project coordinator's response is only made available to scientific panel members. As non-French-speaking panel members may evaluate the project, this reply should be preferably written in English.

*Any responses to peer reviews must be finalised on [IRIS](#) by the closing date and time. No responses will be accepted or changed 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). If a "memory effect" is requested during the submission in step 2, the panel members rely on the scientific document and the final report of the panel from the 2023 edition of the call.

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<sup>65</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). If no expertise is received by the opening date and time of the right to reply to peer reviews, the ANR could launch a simultaneous evaluation for the projects concerned, identical to the evaluation procedure described in this document, but staggered in time to extend the stage where external peer reviewers are solicited.

## 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).

## 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.

The list of proposals selected for funding is published by the ANR on its [2024 AAPG web page](#), as plenary panel sessions are being held. These first publications will be completed in July with the publication of the projects selected for funding under the priorities and plans set out in the [2024 AAPG](#).

Once each PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC project has a “*selected for funding*”, “*placed on the complementary list*” or “*not selected*” status, the ANR notifies by e-mail all coordinators regarding this status, and forwards the final evaluation report explaining the decision of the evaluation panel.

The list of the scientific evaluation panel members is published at the same time on the [2024 AAPG web page](#).

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>66</sup>. Each agency ultimately funds the teams of its own country, according to its own funding and monitoring procedures<sup>67</sup>.

The results of the PRCI projects will be posted on the [2024 AAPG web page](#) from September, in accordance with the timetable for negotiations with foreign agencies. Once the results of a PRCI collaboration are published, the ANR notifies by e-mail all coordinators involved in this collaboration, and forwards the final evaluation report drafted by the evaluation panel, when an evaluation has been conducted by the ANR (“*Non-Lead*” and “*ANR Lead Agency*” terms).

## 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

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<sup>66</sup> When the ANR conducts an evaluation, the ranking provided by scientific evaluation panels serves as a basis for discussions.

<sup>67</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.

and analysis of additional information (particularly for companies: financial statements, certificate of registration - Kbis, information on capitalistic links). **Companies facing financial difficulties are not eligible for ANR funding**, cf. practical sheet [n°1 : “Modalité de participation des entreprises au projet”](#).

*If a company is involved as a partner applying for ANR funding, we invite applicants to check before submitting or registering a project that the company is not considered to be in difficulty under the applicable regulations, using [the simulation tool](#) available on the ANR website.*

Under the JCJC instrument, ANR funding may cover the costs of a partial release from teaching obligations<sup>68</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.*

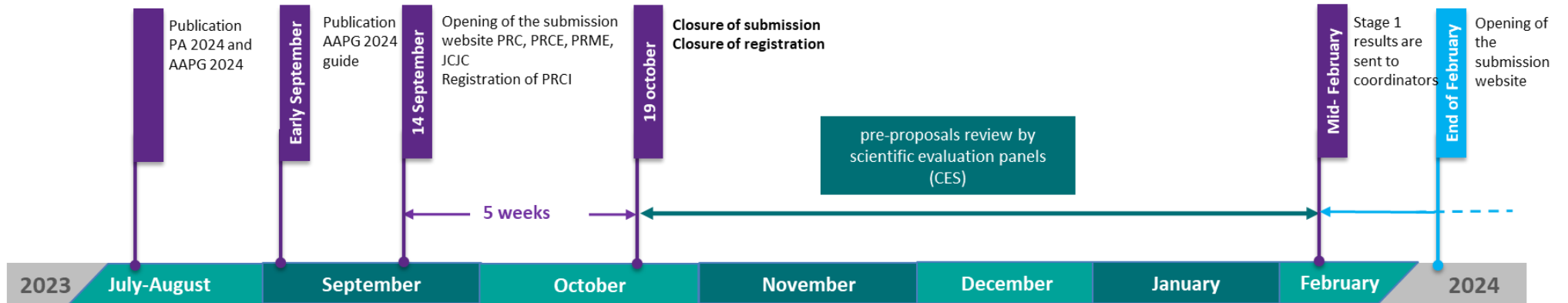
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<sup>68</sup> Cf. the ANR’s regulation on the allocation of funding (<https://anr.fr/en/funding-regulations>; § 3.1.4).

# Appendix 1: Provisional timetable of the 2024 AAPG\*

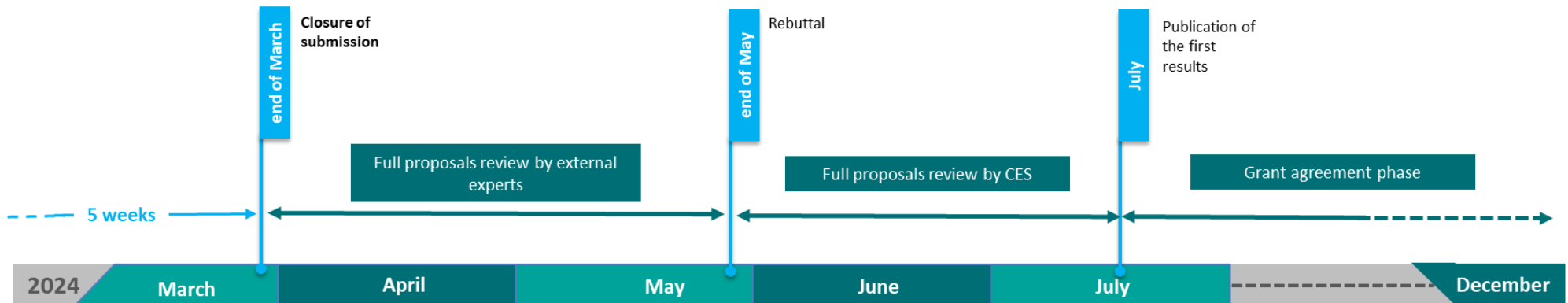
## STAGE 1

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 2024.

## Appendix 2: List of scientific evaluation panels, with respect to the scientific themes of the 2024 AAPG

Coordinators are invited to read carefully the themes fully described in §G of the [2024 AAPG](#) to select the scientific theme that is most suitable for their project. The scientific theme selected in stage 1, during submission (PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC) or registration (PRCI), cannot be changed during the selection process, including if there is an online error. If there is a discrepancy between the theme selected on the submission/registration website and the theme mentioned on the scientific document, the theme considered by the evaluation panel will be the one selected online.

Reference 2024AAPG, §G	Title of the theme	CES No.
Theme A.01	Solid earth and fluid envelopes	01
Theme A.02	Living earth	02
Theme A.03	Biology of animals, photosynthetic organisms and micro-organisms	20
Theme A.04	Food and food systems	21
Theme B.01	Physics of condensed matter and diluted matter	30
Theme B.02	Polymers, composites, chemical physics of soft matter	06
Theme B.03	Metallic and inorganic materials	08
Theme B.04	Engineering and Process Sciences	51
Theme B.05	Molecular chemistry	07
Theme B.06	Analytical chemistry, theoretical chemistry and modelling	29
Theme C.01	Biochemistry and chemistry of living organisms	44
Theme C.02	Characterisation of structures and structure-function relations of biological macromolecules	11
Theme C.03	Genetics, genomics and RNA	12
Theme C.04	Cellular biology, developmental biology and evolution	13
Theme C.05	Physiology and pathophysiology	14
Theme C.06	Immunology, infectiology and inflammation	15
Theme C.07	Molecular and cellular neuroscience – Developmental neurobiology	16
Theme C.08	Integrative and cognitive neuroscience	37
Theme C.09	Translational health research	17
Theme C.10	Biomedical innovation	18
Theme C.11	Regenerative medicine	52

<b>Reference 2024AAPG, §G</b>	<b>Title of the theme</b>	<b>CES No.</b>
Theme D.01	Individuals, companies, markets, finance, management	26
Theme D.02	Institutions and organisations, legal frameworks and standards, governance, international relations	53
Theme D.03	Contemporary societies: state of, dynamics and transformations	41
Theme D.04	Cognition, behaviour, language	28
Theme D.05	Arts, languages, literatures, philosophies	54
Theme D.06	Studies of the past, heritage, cultures	27
Theme D.07	Societies and territories in transition	55
Theme E.01	Foundations of digital sciences: computer science, automatic control, signal and image processing	48
Theme E.02	Artificial intelligence and data science	23
Theme E.03	Software sciences and engineering - Multi-purpose communication networks, digital infrastructures	25
Theme E.04	Interaction, robotics	33
Theme E.05	High-performance computing, digital models, simulations, applications	46
Theme E.06	Quantum technologies	47
Theme F.01	Mathematics	40
Theme G.01	Planetary science, structure and history of the Earth	49
Theme G.02	Sub-atomic physics and astrophysics	31
Theme H.01	The Science of sustainability	03
Theme H.02	Contaminants, ecosystems and health	34
Theme H.03	Infectious diseases and environment	35
Theme H.04	Public health, health and societies	36
Theme H.05	Methodologies, instrumentations, sensors and solutions for the ecological transition	04
Theme H.06	Dynamics of socio-ecosystems and of their components	32
Theme H.07	Bioeconomy, from biomass to uses: chemistry, materials, systematic approaches and processes	43
Theme H.08	Basic energy science	50
Theme H.09	Sustainable, clean, safe and efficient energy	05
Theme H.10	Nano-objects and functional nanomaterials, interfaces	09
Theme H.11	Sensors, imagers and instrumentation	42
Theme H.12	Micro- and nanotechnologies for information processing and communication	24



<b>Reference 2024AAPG, §G</b>	<b>Title of the theme</b>	<b>CES No.</b>
Theme H.13	Healthcare technologies	19
Theme H.14	Interfaces: mathematics, digital sciences – biology, health	45
Theme H.15	Interfaces: mathematics, digital sciences – humanities and social sciences	38
Theme H.16	Interfaces: mathematics, digital sciences – Earth system and environmental sciences	56
Theme H.17	Global security, resilience and crisis management, cybersecurity	39
Theme H.18	Cities, buildings and construction, transport and mobility: transition to sustainability	22
Theme H.19	Industry and factory of the future: People, organisations, technologies	10

## Appendix 3: Specific measures

### 1. Very large research infrastructures (OSIs or IRs\*)

Projects based on OSI and IR\* (formerly TGIR - très grandes infrastructures de recherche -) resources or data exploitation are invited to specify this as soon as the pre-proposal (PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC) or registration (PRCI) is submitted<sup>69</sup>. A procedure independent from the ANR project submission/registration 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.

Cf. [2024 AAPG](#) description of the “Scientific exploitation of data generated by OSIs and IRs\*” and the list of OSI and IR\*.

### 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>70</sup>. PRCI proposals are not eligible for labelling.

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

When applying for a label, the project coordinator must first have the approval of the other partners (including, if required, foreign partners) involved in the pre-proposal. 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-funding agencies is regularly updated on the 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-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 seeks 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.

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<sup>69</sup> The online declaration of OSI and IR\* use is made in stage 1, if applicable, and cannot be modified or completed in stage 2.

<sup>70</sup> Applying for labelling is not mandatory to submit a proposal to the 2024 Generic Call for Proposals, but must be declared in stage 1 if you seek to label the project.