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PEA Partenariats Académiques Afrique • France

Academia Partnerships Africa-France (PeA) call for proposals

2024 Edition

Publication date: 19 November 2024

Academia Partnerships Africa-France
(PeA) call for proposals
2024 Edition

In the event of divergence or misconstrual between the French and English versions of the present document, the French version shall take precedence.

Preamble

Call for proposals provisional schedule
- **Pre-selection**

Opening date: **19 November 2024**
Deadline for submitting proposal documents: **06 May 2025 at 12:00** Central European Time (CET). All documents (see §2.4 and §2.5) must be submitted via the French National Research Agency (ANR) platform before this date.
- **Selection**

Approximate date of formal interviews: Sept./Oct. 2025
Approximate date for publication of the results: November 2025

Contact
It is important to carefully read the present document before submitting a project proposal. For further questions, you can contact the ANR at the following email address: pea@agencerecherche.fr.

Information
ANR webpage for the call for proposals:
https://anr.fr/AcademiaPartnershipsAfricaFrance-PeA3
Webpage for the ANR project submission platform:
https://aap.agencerecherche.fr/_layouts/15/SIM/Pages/SIMNouveauProjet.aspx?idAAP=2211
Description of the PeA programme, and of on-going projects from the first two editions (PeA1 and PeA2): Academia Partnerships Africa - France Programme | AFD - Agence Française de Développement

CONTENTS

CONTENTS 3
Glossary 4
1. Programme context and goals 5
1.1. Context 5
1.2. Programme objectives 6
1.3. Definition of PeA3 objectives 7
1.4. The geographic scope of PeA3 8
2. Eligibility and characteristics of projects 9
2.1. Eligibility 9
2.2. Project and consortium characteristics 10
2.3. Amount of funding and project duration 11
2.4. Online form 11
2.5. Documents to be submitted 12
2.6. French General Data Protection Regulation and document communication 14
3. Programme steering and selection process 16
3.1. Programme steering 16
3.2. Project selection process and results 16
3.3. Evaluation criteria 18
4. Expenditure eligibility and budget creation 20
4.1. Eligible expenses and distribution between partners 20
4.1.1 Non-Permanent staff expenses 20
4.1.2 General costs 21
4.1.3 Provision of services 22
4.1.4 Equipment and rehabilitation 23
4.2. Operational budget plan (budget) 23
5. Contractual framework and grant agreement process 25
5.1. Contractual framework and grant management 25
5.2. Documents relating to the grant agreement process and the first disbursement 26
5.3. Consortium agreement 27
6. Methods for monitoring, evaluation, and reporting 27
6.1. Methods for monitoring and evaluation 27
6.2. Monitoring documents 28
6.3. Administrative, financial, and procurement audits 28
6.4. Applicable rules for procurement 29
6.5. Rules relating to communication/publication, data protection, and genetic resources 29
Appendix 1: Methodology for preparing the gender overview and action plan 31
Appendix 2: List of projects in countries eligible for PeA3 that received more than 500k€ in financing from AFD or as part of the ACE programme 32
Appendix 3: Template for the scientific document 34
Appendix 4: Template for letter from the supervisory ministry of the African institution 39
Appendix 5: List of documents to provide for due diligence 40
Appendix 6: Statement of integrity and corruption prevention 41
Appendix 7: Indicators 43

Glossary

AAP/CFP	Appel à projets/Call for proposals
AC/CA	Accord de consortium/Consortium agreement
ACE Impact	Africa Higher Education Centres of Excellence for Development Impact (Centres d'excellence africains)
ADESFA	Appui au développement de l'enseignement supérieur français en Afrique/Support for the Development of French Higher Education in Africa
AFD	Agence française de développement
ANO/NOC	Avis de non objection/No objection
ANR	Agence nationale de la recherche/French National Research Agency
AR	Acte de rétrocession/Act of reallocation
CAA/AAA	Convention attributive d'aide/Aid attribution agreement
CDEFI	Conférence des directeurs des écoles françaises d'ingénieurs/Conference of Deans of French Schools of Engineering
CF	Campus France
CGE	Conférence des grandes écoles/Conference of Grandes Écoles
CNIL	Commission nationale de l'informatique et des libertés/French National Commission for Information Technology and Civil Liberties
COPIL	Comité de pilotage/Steering Committee
CRI/IPR	Compte-rendu d'avancement intermédiaire/Interim progress report
EESPIG	Etablissement d'enseignement supérieur privé d'intérêt général/Private Higher Education Institutions with a Public Interest
EPA	Etablissement public administratif/Public administrative institution
EPIC	Etablissement public industriel et commercial/Public Industrial and Commercial Institution
EPSCP	Etablissement public à caractère scientifique, culturel et professionnel/ Public Institutions of a Scientific, Cultural, or Professional Nature
ETP/FTE	Equivalent temps plein/Full-time equivalent
FU	France Universités
HCERES	Haut Conseil de l'évaluation de la recherche et de l'enseignement supérieur/High Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education
LAB-FT/AML-CTF	Lutte contre le blanchiment des capitaux et le financement du terrorisme/Anti-money laundering and combatting the financing of terrorism
LMD/BMD	Licence Master Doctorat/Bachelor's, Master's, Doctorate
MASA	Ministère de l'agriculture et de la souveraineté alimentaire/French Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty
MEAE	Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Etrangères/French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
MESR	Ministère de l'enseignement supérieur et de la recherche/French Ministry of Higher Education and Research
MSP	Ministère de la santé et de la prevention/French Ministry of Health and Prevention
ODD/SDG	Objectifs de développement durable/Sustainable Development Goals
ORCID	Open Researcher and Contributor ID
PeA	Partenariats Académiques Afrique-France/Academia Partnerships Africa-France
PGD/DMP	Plan de gestion des données/Data management plan
PPAB	Plan prévisionnel d'activités budgétées/Operational budget plan
PPM/PP	Plan de passation des marchés/Procurement plan
RGPD	Règlement général sur la protection des données/French General Data Protection Regulation
RJD/SE	Relevé justificatif de dépense/Statement of expenditure
SIM	Système information métiers/ANR submission platform
UA/AU	Union Africaine/African Union
UNESCO	Organisation des Nations unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

1. Programme context and goals

1.1. Context

Africa has great potential for growth, however economic diversification and increased productivity and social prospects are constrained by a lack of skills adapted to needs. On a continent that is highly exposed to the numerous effects of climate change, there are also the more forward-looking challenges of sustainable growth models, economic resilience, and improved social welfare. Despite investment and the progress achieved by African countries in higher education, educational opportunities remain insufficient with regard to sustainable development issues.

The African Union's Agenda 2063[1] set the goal of fostering shared prosperity through Africa's social and economic transformation, developing human and social capital with a view to raising the continent's standard of living, and bringing about "*a skills revolution based on science, technology, and innovation.*"

Only 9% of young Africans gain access to higher education, as opposed to the international average of 40%. The issue is firstly quantitative, as 60% of the continent's population is under 24 years of age, and the rising schooling rate has heightened aspirations for access to higher education: the number of African students is experiencing robust growth, increasing from 9.1 million in 2020 to an estimated 22 million in 2027. The issue is also qualitative. In the face of this growing student demand, the difficulties experienced by African institutions risk becoming worse, and include underinvestment in infrastructure and equipment; falling rates and quality of management; lack of PhD programmes; challenges retaining the best students, professors, and researchers; underequipped libraries and laboratories; and limited grants and resources for research, among others.

Low rates of workforce integration for higher education graduates is further demonstration of the incompatibility between educational offerings and the skills needed for the sustainable development of countries. For example, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields are underrepresented in comparison to the humanities. In addition, sub-Saharan Africa has the world's lowest gender parity rate (0.70) in higher education.[2] Efforts are needed for women's access and retention in academic fields, especially in science and technology, where they are underrepresented.

It is with this in mind that the President of France emphasised, in his speech delivered in Ouagadougou in November 2017, the new relation between France and African countries, as well as the importance of helping develop local higher education systems. He proposed doing so by mobilising French institutions, setting out from the observation that "*boosting [African] academic institutions and programmes means expanding partnerships, exchanges, joint training programmes, and dual degrees, which meet the expectations [of young people in Africa] and allow us to better learn from one another.*" In his speech on 27 February 2023 at the Élysée Palace, he encouraged taking this partnership-based relation further through concrete projects "*where our partners await us (…) by establishing more offerings for skills training.*"

[1] Agenda 2063: Overview | African Union

[2] UNESCO, 2018, Global Education Monitoring Report Gender Review 2018: Meeting our commitments to gender equality in education.

This call to develop academic partnerships with Africa is in keeping with the broader dynamic of the internationalisation of higher education, which today is no longer limited to student mobility, but also involves the export of training and institutions, the evolution of content and educational tools, and the expansion of scientific collaboration. In this international academic landscape, marked by increasingly intense competition, French institutions also have an interest in distinguishing themselves, diversifying their student recruitment, and encouraging mobility in both directions, in addition to developing research partnerships, often in connection with enterprises. The prospects for the sustainable development of African economies and higher education systems make the continent a priority for France: while African students represent nearly half of all foreign students in France today, an increasing number prefer mobility within their region (17% in 2009 compared to 22% in 2016).

With this in mind, the Prime Minister of France presented the Welcome to France international attractiveness strategy in November 2018, one of whose components supports French-African academic partnerships through the present Academia Partnerships Africa-France programme (PeA, formerly called Partnerships with African Higher Education).

Two editions of the PeA programme have already been launched, in 2020 (PeA1) and 2022 (PeA2). Thirteen projects are currently active, five as part of PeA1 for implementation between September 2021 and August 2026, and eight as part of PeA2 for implementation between September 2023 and August 2027.
The current call for proposals represents the third edition of the Academia Partnerships Africa-France programme (PeA3).

1.2. Programme objectives

The Academia Partnerships Africa-France programme is in keeping with a two-pronged effort focusing on capacity building for African institutions and outreach for French institutions. It aims to:

- offer African students the ability to find, within their country or region and beginning at the Bachelor's level, quality training that meets social and economic needs;
- support French higher education and research actors in developing partnerships, especially in sectors that are essential for the economies of the countries concerned, in collaboration with French enterprises established locally, as the case may be[3];
- enable mobility for students and teachers between French and African higher education and research institutions, in both directions.

The Academia Partnerships Africa-France programme supports projects that:

- are led by French and African higher education and research institutions engaged in a strategic partnership to boost and implement sustainable higher education training programmes delivered in Africa;
- target a priority field for the socioeconomic development of the country or region, and where the training capacity is insufficient with respect to employment capacity;
- help build the African institution's capacities and skills in managing this training programme;

[3] Doing so in keeping with existing sectoral strategies, such as France's International Strategy for Food Security, Nutrition, and Sustainable Agriculture for 2019-2024.

- explicitly promote gender equality in terms of access and success[4];
- anticipate the priorities of the academic and financial sustainability of the training partnership.

Each partnership project focuses on one or two training fields that target a specific sector of activity,[5] with the goal of creating or boosting quality training on the Bachelor's (Bac+3), Master's or Engineering (Bac+5), and/or PhD level (Bac+8):
- job-oriented training, involving social and economic actors from the design phase;
- connected to effective measures for workforce integration;
- based on innovative and relevant educational approaches with respect to the target audience;
- designed to be part of the long-term training offerings of French and African partners, potentially including remote training, and aiming to grant dual or joint degrees;
- possessing strong attractiveness on the national or regional level.

The partnership project can include a continuous education component designed for social and economic actors, with a dual logic of strengthening ties between actors in academia and those in the social and economic world, as well as the project's financial sustainability. In addition to the support focusing on one or two fields, these partnerships should enhance the quality of governance, management, and quality assurance on the level of both the project and the African institution.

Finally, as part of a cross-cutting approach, the projects should:
- promote the access, participation, and retention of women in the selected fields;
- be in keeping with a logic of sustainable development and combatting climate disruption.

The PeA thus promotes networking African and French academic communities with economic and civil society actors in both France and Africa to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), more specifically the following:
- the co-construction of quality and job-oriented training on the African continent (SDG 4);
- access for young African women to higher education, and thereby to their economic empowerment (SDG 5);
- access for African youth to training that provides decent employment (SDG 8);
- partnerships that are effective, inclusive, built on principles and common values, which set people and the planet as their core concerns (SDG 17).

1.3. Definition of PeA3 objectives

The objectives of the preceding paragraph wholly apply to the PeA3 call for proposals. The projects should help develop a priority socioeconomic sector for the country that is lacking skilled personnel, and whose existing training capacity is insufficient with regard to job offerings. They endeavour to:
- support quality job-oriented training (including dual degrees, joint degrees, and engineering programmes) across all levels;

[4] In line with the commitments of the ANR, AFD, and France; a gender action plan will be established and implemented during the project (see appendix 1).
[5] Multiple disciplines can train human resources within a sector of activity; for example, in renewable energy, training needs can involve technical fields relating to the equipment, as well as IT management for the distribution of intermittent energy.

- Bachelor's level: create and strengthen co-constructed training with socioeconomic actors, based on innovative and relevant educational approaches with respect to the target audience;
- Master's level: offer attractive national and regional programmes in partnership with French institutions;
- PhD level: enhance the institution's scientific potential by increasing the number of PhD students completing a joint thesis with French laboratories, and more broadly strengthening scientific partnerships.

The projects can:
- either **include the three educational levels of Bachelor's (Bac+3), Master's or Engineering (Bac+5), and PhD (Bac+8),** and have a partnership-based doctoral school on the site of the African institution, including for teachers (or future teachers);
- or focus exclusively on **the two educational levels of Bachelor's (Bac+3) and Master's or Engineering (Bac+5),** and include support for PhD-level and pedagogical training for teachers (or future teachers).

1.4. The geographic scope of PeA3

The third edition of the PeA Programme is open to the following African countries:[6] **South Africa, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda, and Togo.**

[6] The list of eligible countries for PeA3 was issued by the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.

2. Eligibility and characteristics of projects

2.1. Eligibility

Eligibility verification is performed by the services of the ANR on the basis of the information and documents available on the submission website on the deadline for the PeA3 call for proposals; with the exception of additional documents or information that could be requested as part of due diligence for anti-money laundering and combatting the financing of terrorism (AML-CTF), in addition to analyses involving entity status, along with formal interviews.

The electronic version of documents present on the submission website at the call for proposals deadline will be the only one taken into consideration for evaluation. The information entered online will take precedence over the information provided within the project proposal in the event of discrepancies between the two sources.

Only complete submissions that are deemed eligible will be evaluated. A project proposal may be declared ineligible at any time during the evaluation process.

The project must be in compliance with the criteria described below (see §2.2 to §2.6) in their entirety. The eligibility conditions appearing below are cumulative.

AML-CTF

Since the PeA programme is funded by AFD (AFD funds entrusted to the ANR), the consortium's institutions must follow specific AFD rules for the financial management of the project. As a financial institution, AFD is equipped with an AML-CTF instrument, as well as one for combatting corruption, fraud, and anti-competitive practices.

Combatting the financing of terrorism legally prohibits financial institutions from "*making available, directly or indirectly, or using funds or economic resources in favour of persons whose funds and economic resources are subject to an asset freeze*," with the targeted persons being natural or legal persons listed for financial sanctions issued by France, the European Union, or the United Nations, in addition to the entities they possess or control, or that act on their behalf.

This prohibition translates, for Groupe AFD, into a requirement for beneficiaries of its financing to verify financial sanctions lists (France, European Union, United Nations). The scope of AFD measures to detect operations contrary to asset freezes is a resulting obligation (ACPR Sanctions Committee 27 November 2012). Failure to verify asset freeze lists is punishable by major penalties both financial (Council of State of 15 November 2019, La Banque Postale c/ ACPR) and penal (Article 459 of the French Customs Code for European Measures. Article L. 574-3 of the French Monetary and Financial Code for National Measures).

AML-CTF due diligence is performed by a firm appointed by the ANR. In this context, submissions that are incomplete or not in compliance (documents to be provided in appendix 5) can be declared ineligible, or where appropriate supplemental documents and information may be requested.

2.2. Project and consortium characteristics

Each project applying for a partnership for the PeA programme:
- is jointly coordinated by a higher education and research institution[7] from an African country eligible for PeA3 (see §1.4) and by a French higher education and research institution[8], potentially joined by other partnering higher education and research institutions from France (see the specific provisions of the grant agreement process §5.1); *the public and private institutions involved are non-profit and are not recognized as an enterprise in the sense of European regulations for state aid to research, development, and innovation. Public higher education institutions (universities, Public Scientific, Cultural, or Professional Institutions (EPSCP), etc.) are not considered enterprises under European regulation. Other entities are asked to complete an activity statement form (see §2.5);*
- targets a sector of activity[9] that is relevant for the sustainable development of the country and even the region;
- proposes a suitable and ambitious response to the objectives of the call for proposals (see §1.2 and §1.3).

Support and commitments The proposed project received approval beforehand from:
- the persons possessing contracting authority for the consortium's institutions, who are informed as early as possible by the applicants, and who co-sign the project proposal (appendix 3);
- the ministry with supervisory authority over the African institution that is the aid beneficiary, formalised by a letter included in the proposal submission (see letter template in appendix 4);
- the embassy of France and the local AFD office, formalised by a letter included in the submitted proposal.

The success of such a project depends on the **mutual commitment** of the institutions, as well as their ability to work together as part of an **enduring** partnership, with the support of their respective governmental authorities, in addition to social and economic actors in the countries involved. The proposed projects must therefore be seen as an additional lever enabling the targeted countries to improve the quality, relevance, and attractiveness of their training, in keeping with their own national strategies for development and higher education, as well as French strategies for international cooperation and support for the outreach of French higher education and research institutions. Special emphasis will be placed on measures promoting the inclusion and access of the most fragile public groups within targeted training programmes. Depending on the country and the field, this can involve youth from disadvantaged socioeconomic backgrounds, or that are far removed from urban centres.

[7] Institution authorised to grant higher education degrees in the African country.
[8] Institution authorised to grant higher education degrees in France.
[9] Institutions can notably use the country profile sheets prepared by embassies, which are available upon request from the respective cooperation and cultural action service.

Exclusions. The proposed project:
- should not involve training in extractive industries, petrochemistry, and nuclear energy, in keeping with AFD commitments to environmental protection and combatting climate change;
- should not include one or more consortium institutions presenting a heightened risk with respect to AML-CTF due diligence;
- should not relate to a field of training within an institution that has already benefited (see list in appendix 2), for an amount surpassing 500,000€[10], from a project financed by AFD (all programmes included: PeA, etc.), or by the World Bank as part of the African Centres of Excellence (ACE) programme. The other fields of training remain eligible. A field of training that receives aid twice (AFD and/or ACE) remains eligible, on the condition that neither of the two amounts exceeds 500,000€.

In addition, the applying project:
- is coordinated by a French coordinating institution that has not submitted more than two projects to PeA3, and by an African coordinating institution that has not submitted more than two projects to PeA3;
- can secure, from the higher education and research sector or from social and economic actors, support in the form of financial or in kind contributions. These third-party entities cannot benefit from the grant provided as part of the call for proposals.

2.3. Amount of funding and project duration

The initial goal is to finance 5-6 projects, although this may be adjusted depending on the number and relevance of the projects submitted for evaluation.

The maximum amount of the grant awarded to each selected project (all partnerships combined) as part of the PeA3 call for proposals is 3 million euros. The minimum amount is 1.5 million euros. The eligible expenses are presented in paragraph 4.1.

The selected projects will be supported for 54 months. The consortium's institutions must create, from the outset, conditions fostering the sustainability of the initiatives implemented, including financial, with no new grant contributions from AFD. The ability to create these conditions is one of the evaluation criteria.

2.4. Online form

The submission should include all of the items needed to evaluate the project, and is considered complete only if all items from this paragraph and from paragraph 2.5 are completed and available on the submission website at the deadline. The signed originals for documents should be submitted in electronic format by the French coordinating institution via the ANR platform after creating an account (username and password).

[10] In order to diversify financing beneficiaries, without excluding institutions that received financing to establish partnership-based training programmes.

The information to be included during the online submission process includes the non-exhaustive list below:

- identity of the project (acronym, title in French and English, duration, etc.);
- identity of project coordinators;
- non-confidential summaries of the project in French and English (maximum 4,000 characters per field) that, among others, present the project externally (public summary). It is recommended that they be drafted with special care.

The online submission process for the PeA programme differs from that of an ANR project (which would not be financed in connection with the present programme), especially with regard to the following points:

- information should be provided about institutions (coordinating and partner) rather than laboratories[11];
- the full budget should be entered under the "financial data" tab of the French coordinating institution and under ANR funds without a breakdown between partners[12], the budget is presented in detail in the operational budget plan (see §2.5);
- the address where the work will be completed should be that of the African coordinating institution;
- it is possible but not mandatory to indicate: their HR contribution (permanent and non-permanent not financed by PeA) under the "financial data" tab for each partner; and a Sustainable Development Goal (for example SDG 4 Quality Education) under "project characteristics".

The information can be modified until the call for proposals deadline. It is nevertheless recommended:

- to test logging on to the platform for the first time as soon as possible;
- to begin entering the administrative and financial data online at the latest one week before the call for proposals deadline;
- to save the information entered on the submission website before leaving each page;
- to not wait until the call for proposals deadline to complete the submission procedure.

A submission confirmation is emailed to the project coordinator after it is submitted. The submission confirmation does not denote eligibility, and does not signify that the submission is complete and in compliance.

2.5. Documents to be submitted

The submission should include the documents described below: a **project proposal** with a scientific document, and two appendices (budget and letters of support); in addition to the **documents relating to AML-CTF due diligence and analysis of entity status**. Templates are available in the appendices to this document and/or on the ANR call for proposals webpage.

[11] Type and unit number are not required, and will not prevent the proposal from being submitted.
[12] The other partners should be included under "own resources" on the SIM submission platform.

The **project proposal** consists of:

- a **scientific document,** including the commitment of the partners, based on the template provided in appendix 3 and on the ANR website. It should be submitted via the website in PDF format, with a maximum of 20 pages (created using word processing software and not scanned, except for the first page with signatures, if necessary), with no protection. The number of pages includes all items; the submission website will not allow it to be uploaded if the number of pages is above the limit. Easily readable page layout is recommended (A4 format, times 11 or equivalent, single spaced, 2 cm margins, numbered pages). The document should be written in French.[13] Before drafting, it is advised to carefully read the call, as well as the evaluation criteria (§3.3). The purpose of the scientific document is to serve as the reference for all stakeholders in completing the project, by establishing the project's relevance with regard to: the priorities for the socioeconomic development of the African country, and even the region; the capacity of social and economic actors to employ future graduates; the insufficient training offerings in the country and region; the capacity of project partners and their shared partnership experience; and the coherence and quality of the project. It establishes the objectives and methods for carrying out and monitoring the project's areas of responsibility, in the form of a detailed implementation plan. It provides, where required, the explanatory elements deemed necessary for the Evaluation Panel and Steering Committee.
- **Two appendices**[14]
  - an **operational budget plan appendix** (budget) created using the Excel template provided on the ANR website and the specifications in paragraph 4. The budget should be created carefully, and in collaboration with all partners. More than an appendix, it embodies the project proposal and the consortium's ability to work together on a project;
  - a **"letter of support" appendix**[15] consisting of a single PDF with:
    - **a letter of support from the embassy of France in the beneficiary country** that includes the analysis of the local AFD office regarding the possible synergies with the Agency's active portfolio in the respective country, and an analysis of how it matches the country's development priorities. It is up to the project coordinator to determine how to consult with the embassy and AFD;
    - a letter of support for the project from the **ministry with supervisory authority over the coordinating African institution** (template available in appendix 4), indicating its commitment to maintaining the resources attributed to the institution throughout the duration of the project.

Documents relating to AML-CTF due diligence and analysis of entity status complete the submission. It is preferrable that the documents be submitted by the French coordinating institution for all institutions in the project. A partner institution can nevertheless submit its own documents, on the condition that it is registered on the ANR platform. The submission can be made using the Additional Documents tab, where each partner is identified on a separate line, and various sections are defined based on the nature of the documents being submitted. Multiple documents can be submitted under the same section in a single PDF file.

[13] However it is possible to also write in English.
[14] No other document should be appended. All other documents will be withdrawn and not presented to the Evaluation Panel.
[15] Project coordinators can add letters of support from social and economic partners to this appendix. These letters are not mandatory.

- The **documents relating to AML-CTF due diligence** (listed according to entity type and the sections on the ANR platform in appendix 5, with the sample statement of integrity in appendix 6) for all institutions taking part in the PeA: African coordinator, French coordinator, and any other potential French partners. As potential aid beneficiaries, institutions (with legal personality) are the subject of due diligence.
- **Additional documents**[16] **relating to analysis of entity status** (only for private higher education institutions).

2.6. French General Data Protection Regulation and document communication

French General Data Protection Regulation (RGPD)

In carrying out its missions, the ANR uses computer processing[17] in connection with selection, project monitoring, and impact studies.[18] Personal data[19] is gathered and processed to this end, pursuant to article 6.1 (e) and (c) of the RGPD.[20] This data is subject to processing as required by the execution of a mission of public interest, and/or in compliance with a legal obligation. The ANR retains personal data relating to projects that were submitted but not selected, from the time required to evaluate projects up through the expiration of review procedures. With respect to data for projects that are selected and funded, the retention period extends through the duration required for project monitoring and controls by various authorised bodies.[21] The data recorded to this purpose can be communicated only to the ANR departments concerned, experts, Evaluation Panel members–for the projects that concern them–and if necessary to supervisory bodies, ANR subcontractors, partners, other funding agencies collaborating with the ANR,[22] competitiveness clusters, the government, and administrations. Some recipients are located outside the European Union. Personal data is transferred to these recipients during the completion of the above-mentioned missions, and is done so on the grounds of public interest. The contracts concluded between the ANR and its potential subcontractors contain a data protection clause in compliance with article 28 of the RGPD.

The persons concerned by the gathering and use of personal data have a right to access and rectify the information concerning them. To this end, they can access their user profile and rectify the information concerning them. They can also exercise their rights by contacting the ANR Data Protection Officer, Véronique PAULIAC, at the following address: dpd@agencerecherche.fr. To learn more, consult your rights on the National Commission for Information Technology and Civil Liberties (CNIL) website at the following address: CNIL. Details regarding ANR measures protecting the personal

[16] Declaration of the Economic Activities of an ANR Project Partner, completed and signed ANR-Form-DECLARATION of the Economic Activities of an ANR Project Partner.pdf, accompanied by an explanatory note regarding the *Categorisation of Beneficiaries* ANR-NOTICE-Formulaire 2020.pdf (under the following section on the ANR platform: DRA / déclaration_relative_activités); declaration with the official journal (DJO / déclaration_journal_officiel); Status Report from the Business Register Identification System (SIREN) of the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (SIR / avis_situation_SIREN); banking details (RIB / relevé_identité_bancaire); proof of qualification as a Private Higher Education Institution with a Public Interest (EESPIG) (JQE / justification_qualification_EESPIG); two most recent annual reports (2RA / deux_derniers_rapports_activité). The documents will be analysed by the ANR Legal Affairs Department. *NB: In the event of uncertainty or an inability to categorise an entity as a research organisation, it will be considered an enterprise.*

[17] The SIM submission platform, project submission and evaluation websites, computer processing linked to project monitoring, project portfolios, and analyses.

[18] As defined in the Research Code, art. R329-2.

[19] The last name and first name of researchers, date of birth, professional contact information, title(s), position (current and former), fields of activity, place of work, member organisation, address(es), curriculum vitae, ORCID number, project name and reference, pre-proposals, project proposals (scientific document, administrative and financial appendix).

[20] French General Data Protection Regulation (EU) no. 2016/679.

[21] Ten years from the granting of aid for European Commission controls.

[22] In the event of co-financing and collaboration with other French or foreign financers of research projects.

data it collects and processes are provided to the persons concerned when they enter this data within the respective computer processing tools.

Communication of documents

The ANR may transmit some data and documents to those administered, to other French or foreign funding agencies, other administrations (including those with supervisory authority over it), supervisory bodies, as part of collaborative agreements, the opening of public data, access to administrative documents, exchanges between administrations, and the reuse of public information.[23] This communication may notably involve data relating to the characterisation of projects, expertise, the Evaluation Panel's synthesis report, project proposals, contractual documents, the scientific document, and the administrative and financial appendix. The dissemination and communication of this data and these administrative documents is done in conformity with the applicable regulations, and on the condition that there is protection for personal data, intellectual property, and business confidentiality. Some of the documents or data collected must therefore not be communicated, or can be communicated only in restricted fashion. In the event of collaborations with other funding agencies, and co-funding agencies in particular, contracts govern the communication of documents and confidentiality. The communication of documents is limited to the collaboration between the ANR and its partner funding agency.

[23] Book III of the Code of Relations between the Public and the Administration.

3. Programme steering and selection process

3.1. Programme steering

Financed by the French government via the *Agence Française de Développement* (AFD) as part of programme 209 Solidarity towards Developing Countries implemented by the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE), with the support of the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research (MESR), this call for proposals is operated by the French National Research Agency (ANR), and led by a Steering Committee (COPIL).

PeA Steering Committee. The permanent members of the Steering Committee include: The Minister of the MEAE, or their representative; the Minister of MESR, or their representative; and a representative from the following institutions: Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty (MASA), Ministry of Health and Prevention (MSP), the ANR, AFD, Campus France (CF), France Universités (FU), Conference of Deans of French Schools of Engineering (CDEFI), Conference of Grandes Écoles (CGE). The MEAE and MESR serve as co-presidents of the Steering Committee.
The PeA COPIL defines the programme's strategic orientations. Its primary missions are: to validate objectives, evaluation criteria, and implementation methods; to decide on the selected projects and the amount of financing awarded; to analyse the interim progress reports proposed by the ANR; to propose monitoring and remediation actions if necessary; and to propose capitalisation and communication actions on a programme-wide scale.

Evaluation Panel. In order to guide the decisions of the Steering Committee during selection, an independent Evaluation Panel is empanelled by the ANR. Consisting of experts from academia and the social and economic world, this panel evaluates candidate projects and formulates recommendations on the content[24] and amount of financing requested by them.

AFD. The *Agence Française de Développement* finances the programme and intervenes primarily in the components relating to procurement and communication.

ANR. The primary contact for applicants and selected projects, the ANR is responsible for managing the PeA3 programme, with the budget delegated to it by AFD. It ensures the selection and monitoring of the projects financed. As such, an attributive aid agreement is signed between the ANR and each French coordinating institution, which then sign acts of reallocation with other partners (see §5).

Campus France. In close collaboration with AFD and the ANR, the Campus France agency contributes to the development and promotion of the PeA programme, notably via the organization of inter-PeA seminars.

3.2. Project selection process and results

The ANR organises the selection process. The persons involved in project selection commit to follow the provisions of the ANR Ethics and Scientific Integrity Charter,[25] notably those relating to confidentiality and conflict of interest.

[24] These recommendations cannot substantially modify the project.
[25] ANR Ethics and Scientific Integrity Charter.

The project selection process for the PeA3 call for proposals includes two phases: a pre-selection phase with the online submission of all documents, and a selection phase including a formal interview with applicant consortiums.

Pre-selection involves the following steps:

- Submission of project proposal (see §2.4 and §2.5) online before the call for proposals deadline.
- Initial review of application eligibility by the ANR (see §2.1).
- Evaluation and ranking of eligible proposals by Evaluation Panel, based on criteria detailed in §3.3. Evaluation Panel drafts a notice (favourable or unfavourable) addressed to project candidates.
- The project coordinators of the French coordinating institutions are notified of the pre-selection results (without official publication of the list), and forward it to their partner(s).
    - shortlisted projects receive a pre-selection notice and any potential recommendations or requests for further details (for the scientific document and/or the operational budget plan,[26] regarding the eligibility of expenditure and the coherence between the requested budget and the project) formulated by the Evaluation Panel in preparation for the formal interview during the selection phase; depending on the progress of AML-CTF due diligence and analysis of entity status, this notice may be sent with the mention "conditional on the results of AML-CTF due diligence and analysis of entity status";
    - projects that are not shortlisted receive a summary of the evaluation report from the Evaluation Panel.

Selection[27] then involves a number of steps:

- Formal interview with the shortlisted project consortiums with all or part of the Evaluation Panel. The purpose of this interview is to allow the Evaluation Panel to complete project evaluation after examination of the project proposal (scientific document and appendices). It offers a reminder of the key issues, via a proposal synthesis, supplemented with potential adjustments and answers to the recommendations issued during the pre-selection phase. A specific discussion is planned to explain the budget.
- Consideration of the results of AML-CTF due diligence conducted by an external firm, as well as those relating to entity status conducted by the ANR.
- Evaluation and ranking of eligible proposals by the Evaluation Panel, based on the criteria detailed in §3.3. The Evaluation Panel formulates a duly justified notice (favourable or unfavourable), as well as its recommendations to the PeA Steering Committee.
- Selection of projects by the PeA Steering Committee[28]. The PeA COPIL issues the list of selected projects and the amount of financing awarded, which can differ from that requested by coordinating institutions.

[26] A request can be made to clarify, detail, or prioritise some of the expenditure included in the budget, or to explain the methods proposed for each section to ensure the traceability and verification of expenditure. The ANR reserves the right, if necessary, to analyse budgets, to offer comments to the Evaluation Panel for forwarding to the projects, and to ask questions during the formal interview. A member of this committee can be assigned to the comparative analysis of budgets.

[27] At the beginning of the selection phase, details are sent via email to the shortlisted projects regarding the formal interview process.

[28] The Steering Committee relies on the evaluations provided by the Evaluation Panel, and pays special attention to the geographic and thematic distribution of the selected projects.

- Project coordinator of coordinating French institutions notified of their results and the summary of the evaluation report explaining the Steering Committee's decision, who then forward it to their partner(s). Publication of the list of projects selected for financing[29] and of the composition of the Evaluation Panel on the dedicated PeA3 webpage on the ANR website.

3.3. Evaluation criteria

In connection with this call, the Evaluation Panel (see §3.1) evaluates and ranks the projects. The criteria used for evaluation are the following:

1 Relevance: economic development of the African country, skills needs, and existing training offer

- importance of the targeted economic sector/occupations for the African country's development strategy;
- relevance and added-value of the proposed training field with regard to the African country's development challenges, as well as the existing national and regional training offerings in the field;
- qualitative and quantitative recruitment capacity (employment), realism of the qualitative and quantitative recruitment analysis (employment) for future graduates upon completion of the project, as well as the attractiveness and recruitment capacity of students in training programmes.

2 Quality, relevance, and realism of the academic project and activities in terms of objectives, content, and methods of implementation, for:

- training offerings, each level B, M, D, and the connections between them;
- pedagogical methods;
- workforce integration;
- the adequacy of the academic capacity building programme with respect to the identified weaknesses;
- the involvement of the social and economic sector in the academic project;
- the recruitment approach and its associated communication.

3 Quality, relevance, and realism of the project's support and environment actions in terms of:

- strengthening the African institution's non-academic capacities;
- strengthening the partnership with the social and economic sector;
- promoting the training programme with potential students;
- gender and social equality;
- environmental protection, biodiversity preservation, and combatting climate change;
- project governance or management (overall organisation, organisation of administrative and financial support, etc.).

[29] Financing decisions are conditional on the approval of project budgets and each partner's submission of the administrative and financial information required by the ANR grant agreement process.

4 Quality, relevance, and realism of the action plan and associated budget:
- of the action plan, programmed actions, objectives and indicators;
- the adequacy of the means identified for the project's implementation in relation to the actions to be pursued:
- the capacity to mobilise existing resources and to secure additional resources;
- the budgeting of activities and the associated request for financing (eligible expenses).

5 Solidity, ability to contend with contingencies and to ensure project sustainability beyond the PeA in terms of:
- the duration and depth of partnerships preparing/pre-existing the project;
- capacity of actors to conduct the project (French institution(s), African institution);
- capacity to mobilise actors, extent of the pre-existing partnership, and its impact on the completion of the project;
- quality and relevance of the training courses offered and the expected impact;
- sector-specific socioeconomic support, both academic and financial;
- economic model and revenue-generating capacity;
- commitment of key individuals in the project, experience in international cooperation, team spirit (notably during the formal interview);
- interest and institutional commitment of French and African partners with a view to sustainability.

The criteria are marked on a scale of 0 to 5:

Mark	Meaning
0	Criteria not addressed or impossible to appraise based on the information provided.
1	Criteria addressed superficially and in an unsatisfactory manner.
2	Criteria addressed in relatively satisfactory manner, although serious weaknesses remain.
3	Criteria addressed but improvements are needed.
4	Criteria addressed very well, a few improvements could be made.
5	Criteria perfectly addressed, the potential shortcomings are minor.

4. Expenditure eligibility and budget creation

4.1. Eligible expenses and distribution between partners

The selected French-African partnerships are designed to continue beyond PeA financing via financing from the institutions themselves. As a result, eligible expenses include:

- those arising from participation in required activities (seminars, etc.) in connection with the financing;
- those establishing and boosting partnership-based training programmes and their environment;
- excluded expenses are those arising from teaching and associated activities, which are designed to continue after PeA financing; and expenditure provided until now by other sources of financing.

The share of funds allocated to the African coordinating institution should be at least 50%.

As the PeA programme is financed by AFD funds, and managed by the ANR via a fund management delegation agreement, **ANR financial regulations and preciput do not apply to the PeA programme.**

For project evaluation and monitoring, expenditure is broken down into categories, which will be referred to using ANR designations. However, the eligible expenses associated with each category are those detailed in the present document and not that of ANR financial regulations, as the classification has no effect on the allocation of this expenditure in the accounting of aid beneficiaries.

To be eligible, expenses[30] must correspond to the list below, must be real, justified, and arising from the project, and limited in duration (54 months), beginning with the project start date T0 [31] (date from which expenditure commitments can begin) and continuing until the project end date (deadline for service rendered for the inclusion of expenditure: T0+54 months). In addition to the usual verifications, as part of the PeA all expenditure is audited by an external firm (see §6.3). The lists of ineligible expenses are not exhaustive, and are provided simply to provide clarification.

4.1.1 Non-Permanent staff expenses

The amounts corresponding to non-permanent staff should be entered in the ANR SIM submission platform under the section "non-permanent staff expenses."

[30] For partners not subject or partially subject to VAT, the share of irrecoverable VAT on this expenditure represents an eligible expense.

[31] As of the date of publication for this call for proposals, the provisional start date for PeA3 projects is planned for 01/03/2026, although it has not been definitively established.

Eligible expenses

- non-permanent staff, with a limit of 3 full-time equivalents (FTE) for the duration of the project, calculated on the basis of the actual time devoted to the project (expressed in person-months):
    - administrative and/or financial management staff of the PeA project for the French coordinating institution, with a limit of one FTE;
    - administrative and/or financial management staff of the PeA project for the African coordinating institution, with a limit of one FTE;
    - Staff performing strategic duties for the proper execution of the project, with a limit of 1 FTE. This person, who must perform at least half of their activities in the African coordinating institution, can be recruited and made available (or any other legal arrangement governing placement) by the French coordinating institution within the African coordinating institution.
- doctoral fellowships, potentially under joint supervisory authority.

With regard to compensation, the eligible expenditure for costs directly paid by the institution for the individual (in France, salaries with social charges and payroll taxes, various bonuses), with no office space costs. Except in the case of secondment, staff compensation and the allocation of doctoral fellowships shall proceed in compliance with local law. Their amount must conform to what is usually practiced in terms of local financing in similar situations. It is important that the PeA does not create a distortion in the usual compensation conditions, notably in the African country.

Ineligible expenses

Staff compensation other than that indicated under eligible expenses is not eligible, notably:

- compensation for permanent staff;
- teaching costs (adjunct fees, teaching load modification, overtime, etc.);
- except for non-permanent staff recruited using PeA funds, the compensation, payment, or fees to staff for their contribution to the PeA (developing teaching plans, supervising students and personnel in training, taking part in meetings, etc.);
- other positions/duties, including for roll-out, that are deemed necessary (documentalist, director of studies, etc.).

4.1.2 General costs

The amount corresponding to these costs should be entered on the ANR SIM submission platform under the section "*frais généraux non forfaitisés*" (general expenses).

Eligible expenses

- various (per diem) allowances for costs associated with study trips (Bachelor's, Master's, PhD, teachers) outside the country of residence;
- travel expenses for staff from the African institution within the French institution;
- travel expenses for staff from the French institution within the African institution;
- enrolment fees[32] for continuous education at French partner institutions to boost the skills of African staff, including details regarding the cost;

[32] Internally within the consortium: general costs will correspond to enrolment in existing continuous education, to the fees established by institutions, for amounts not requiring procurement.

- costs associated with training African staff, including training in the use of new equipment;
- costs associated with the creation of remote training (excluding teaching and maintenance costs);
- costs associated with organising conferences, symposia, and/or communication campaigns;
- expenses of doctoral students in connection with the PeA to participate in congresses and/or conferences, and to pursue research activities, on the condition that they involve consumable expenses and actual equipment purchased with receipts.

Travel expenses (visas, per diem, or housing/transportation, potential "flat fee," etc.) for students and teachers are allocated in adherence with local rules. Their amount must be in line with what is usually practiced (without surcharge) in terms of local financing under similar situations.
The usual rules (reference documents validated by supervisory bodies) practiced by the institution paying the per diem/travel expenses can be requested as supporting documents. Various allowances for costs associated with study stays are exclusive of any other allowances for the same stay. French institutions should ensure that their students who receive them for a stay in Africa do not receive other allowances.

Ineligible expenses
General costs other than those listed under eligible expenses are not eligible. The following are notably ineligible:
- ongoing expenses required for the normal operation of the French and African institutions;
- tuition fees for students;
- grants of all types, such as merit, social, gender-based, etc.;
- fixed management costs.

4.1.3 Provision of services
The amounts corresponding to the provision of services should be entered on the ANR SIM submission platform under the section "Provision of service and intellectual property rights."

Eligible expenses
This is an expense made in compliance with the procurement rules applying to the institution:
- provision of service for training of trainers as well as administrative and technical staff of the African institution (training outside the consortium)[33];
- studies and surveys (for example: market research, surveys of enterprises regarding relevant fields, analyses of workforce integration conditions) for the African institution;
- mobilisation of expertise to boost capacity essential to the project within the African coordinating institution (gender equality, revenue generation, sectoral partnership, etc.);
- services supporting the creation of remote training (excluding the cost of teaching and maintenance costs);

[33] External to the consortium: provision of service corresponding to situations in which a service provider is sought out, either due to a procurement obligation or for specific training that does not exist internally.

- services associated with organising conferences, symposia, and/or communication campaigns;
- costs required to carry out the project and relating to the purchase of licenses, assignments, patents, brands, software, databases, royalties, etc. during its duration.

Provision of services must not conflict with the other provisions governing expense eligibility.
The ANR makes no commitments with respect to the service providers of Beneficiaries that do not have grounds to solicit it. The services are provided for and under the control of the sole Beneficiary, which must pay for all of the services as they are performed, and without making this payment conditional on the disbursement of Aid.

Provisions of services not listed above are not eligible.

4.1.4 Equipment and rehabilitation

The amounts corresponding to equipment and rehabilitation should be entered in the SIM submission platform under the section "Instruments, equipment, and scientific consumables."

Eligible expenses

- Basic rehabilitation required to install equipment for the African coordinating institution;
- acquisition for the African coordinating institution of the educational and computer equipment needed to pursue the project's activities within the African coordinating institution;
  - including equipment for rooms reserved for practical work or student research;
  - including transportation, customs, and installation costs for this equipment.
- costs to repair or adapt existing equipment, which can be directly used in connection with the project.

Expenses for equipment and rehabilitation **are limited to 30% of** the overall grant awarded to the project. The provisional list of equipment and rehabilitation work to infrastructure should be included in the proposal's budget, with an evaluation of their costs.

Ineligible expenses

Expenses for equipment, hardware, and infrastructure other than those indicated in the eligible expenses section are not eligible. The following are notably ineligible:

- expenses for equipment for French institutions, other than an exceptional need for specific equipment to ensure remote training in the African country, for the staff hired using PeA funds, or for the long-term retention of project data;
- buildings, land, infrastructure construction.

It is the African institution's responsibility to provide the premises needed to carry out the project's activities.

4.2. Operational budget plan (budget)

The operational budget plan (PPAB, Excel template available on the ANR website) is an important evaluation document. It is recommended that candidate projects familiarise themselves with eligible expenses (see §4.1), and create this budget with all consortium partners, involving administrative and financial specialists. It is nevertheless

understood that adjustments are possible between the PPAB in the application and the one in the grant agreement (see §5.2), in response to recommendations from the Evaluation Panel and Steering Committee, comments from the ANR, and changes that are in the interest of the project. A synthesis of the budget is proposed in the scientific document (see appendix 3).

To facilitate analysis of the PPAB and subsequent monitoring of selected projects, it is requested that candidate projects attribute Work Package No. 1 to their potential Work Package for "Project steering and management," which includes financing: the personnel recruited using PeA funds (strategic position and administrative staff), general costs relating to project steering activities and activities imposed by the ANR.

Costs[34] to include in the budget for all projects (see §6.1):

- costs arising from the organisation and participation of consortium members attending: the kick-off meeting, a minimum of one yearly meeting (consortium's decision-making body, etc.), the mid-point evaluation, and the project closure meeting;
- participation in PeA inter-project seminars (estimated budget on the following basis: 2 seminars, with participation by 6 individuals over 3 days in an African country).

It should be noted that external co-financing should be mentioned in the sustainability plan, but should not be included in the budget.

Unit costs: to avoid creating a distortion in the usual compensation conditions, they should be provided in the PPAB, monthly costs for compensation or living expenses for long stays, accompanied by reference information in the comments:

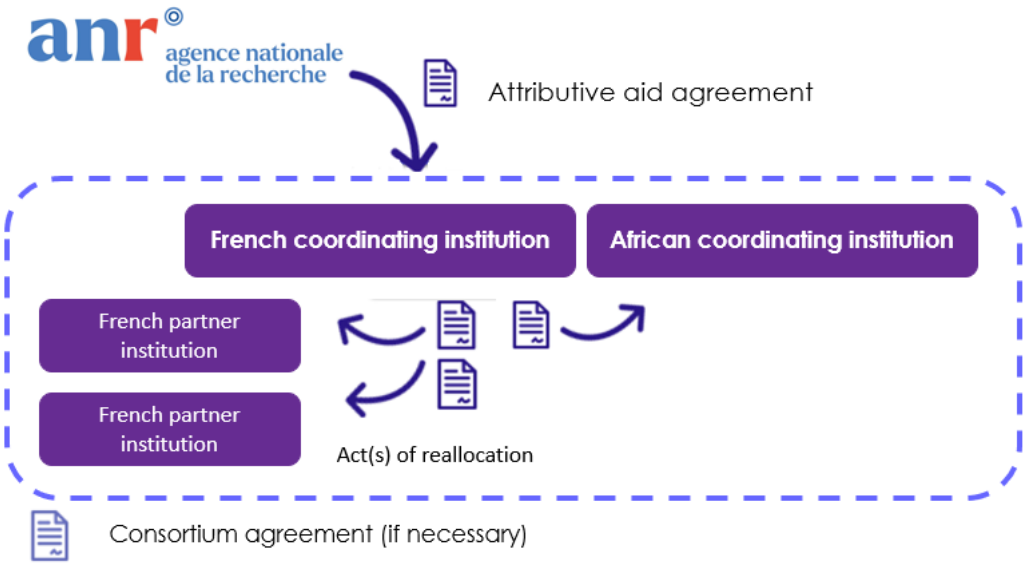
- for staff made available to the African institution or assigned to the administrative and financial management of the PeA, the administrative category for the considered staff;
- for recruited staff, the monthly salary of staff with an equivalent responsibility within the institution;
- for doctoral fellowships, the monthly amounts in effect in the institution or country. The distribution of financing for joint theses should be specified.

The selection of a project does not denote approval of the proposal budget. Further examination of the budget for each selected project, expense eligibility in particular, is carried out by the ANR as part of grant agreement process before its approval.

[34] More precisely, some costs are incurred by the PeA and should not be included in the budget: costs connected to audit firms; to project monitoring by financers, mid-point evaluators, etc.; to the organisation of PeA inter-project seminars (premises, speakers, etc.).

5. Contractual framework and grant agreement process

5.1. Contractual framework and grant management



Each selected project should form a consortium, coordinated by the French and African coordinating institutions.
The ANR signs an Aid Attribution Agreement (CAA) with the French coordinating institution (*Aid Beneficiary*), which is the only beneficiary to which ANR aid will be disbursed (*known as a block grant,* as it includes the grant share that will go to the Final Beneficiaries).
The French coordinating institution then signs an Act of Reallocation (AR) with each of the other institutions *(Final Beneficiaries)* in the consortium: the African coordinating institution and the other potential French institutions in the consortium. It is responsible toward the ANR for the project's smooth implementation, and incorporates the elements provided by the Final Beneficiaries within its own items.

The CAA serves as the document of reference between the ANR and the project's French coordinating institution. It establishes, among others, the project's start (T0) and end (Tf) dates, the amount and conditions of aid attribution, the conditions for reallocation of aid from the Aid Beneficiary to the Final Beneficiaries,[35] as well as the obligations and responsibilities of the latter with respect to the Aid Beneficiary.

It also indicates the disbursement calendar and associated deliverables (see §6.2 and §6.3). At this stage,[36] three disbursements are planned, along with a final balance.

- a first disbursement of 50% of the grant to cover expenses during the first two years, with the following disbursement being conditional on the results of the first audit (conducted between T0+18 and T0+24);
- a second disbursement of 35%;
- a third disbursement of 10%;
- a remaining balance of 5% is settled after the final audit (beginning at T0+54 months) and the financial closing process, and then disbursed to the project.

[35] The grant can under no circumstances be disbursed beyond the consortium established in the CAA. However, provision of services from third parties may be included in the budget.
[36] Adjustments may be made before the signing of the CAA in response to programme priorities.

Each AR states the methods appearing in the CAA, and indicates the conditions governing reallocation of the share (*known as the Grant Share*) of aid from the Aid Beneficiary to the Final Beneficiaries, as well as the obligations and responsibilities of the latter with respect to the Aid Beneficiary. They should be signed within 2 months of the signing of the CAA.

5.2. Documents relating to the grant agreement process and the first disbursement

During the grant agreement process, the ANR forwards templates of the documents to be used by the selected projects: CAA, AR, operational budget plan (in the event of adjustments), procurement plan, list of staff from the institutions with specific responsibilities within the PEA project, common indicators (see appendix 7), sworn statement; statement from beneficiaries certifying they possess the items needed to conduct audits.

The selected projects provide three documents as part of the grant agreement process, which was created on the basis of the application, are subject to ANR approval after exchanges with the consortium, and are appended to the CAA:

- document presenting the **responses to recommendations by the Evaluation Panel and Steering Committee, and requests for changes to the budget, along with the potential adjustments made to the project**; this document and the scientific document in the project proposal represent the implementation plan over 54 months, with its budget and indicators;
- adjusted **operational budget plan**[37] (for the duration of the project - distinguishing if the case may be, between potential own resources and the grant share). After the selection of the project, the partners adjust their project by taking into account the recommendations formulated by the Evaluation Panel and Steering Committee, as well as the amount of the Grant awarded. In this context, the selected projects base themselves on the proposal budget, which remains the reference, and indicate any changes made;
- **5 indicators specific to the project**, which complement the indicators shared by all projects (see appendix 7).

In addition, before the first disbursements, projects should provide to the ANR:

- **proof of opening a specific Bank Account**[38] reserved for managing the grant share, for the African Final Beneficiary;
- the **Procurement Plan** (PPM) for the duration of the project, presenting all planned procurement[39] as well as their processes, approved by the ANR and AFD;
- the **list**[40] **of staff from institutions with specific responsibilities within the project**.

[37] The CAA stipulates that during the project, changes can be made to the distribution between expense categories (see §4.1) presented in the operational budget plan. When the planned reallocation exceeds 10% of the initial amount, the Coordinating Institution should inform the ANR in advance for approval.

[38] This account should be opened with a bank meeting the criteria of international donors in terms of anti-money laundering and combatting the financing of terrorism.

[39] The PP should be completed for all procurement by the African coordinating institution and private French institutions. French public institutions can (not mandatory) include the procurement they plan to initiate.

[40] For French and African coordinating institutions: name and contact information for the project coordinator of the institution, their deputy in the event they are unavailable, the administrative and financial manager, the procurement manager (for the African institution), and the strategic role. For other partner institutions: the names and contact information of the project coordinator. For staff not yet recruited, which for instance may be the case for the administrative and financial managers of coordinating institutions, the name of the staff performing the duties in the interim should be provided. Updated names should be provided by the project after recruitment.

The grant agreement process and the first disbursement are conditional on ANR approval for these documents. In conjunction, the institutions should submit the job description for ANR approval before any recruitment using PeA funds.

5.3. Consortium agreement

The French coordinating institution and all other partners, including the African coordinating institution, can enter into a consortium agreement binding them together. When it is mandatory, the consortium agreement[41] should be submitted to the ANR within 18 months of the signing of the CAA. It is mandatory when at least one private higher education institution participates.

This agreement notably specifies: - the distribution of tasks, human and financial resources, and deliverables; - the dissemination of results and experimentation – governance; *and if applicable*: - the sharing of intellectual property rights from the results obtained in connection with the project; - the dissemination of the protocols and results from the experimentation; - the development of the resulting tools and/or educational products.

6. Methods for monitoring, evaluation, and reporting

The attributive aid agreement also specifies the methods for monitoring, evaluation, and reporting.

6.1. Methods for monitoring and evaluation

The primary objective of monitoring is to verify the completion of the assigned objectives and the expenditure relating to them. In addition to the submission of monitoring documents and exchanges over time (via email/telephone/video conference; depending on needs, the consortium can at any time request a meeting with the ANR), it is based on formal meetings[42]:

- a **project kick-off meeting,**[43] organised by project coordinators within 4 months of the start of the project, to present the project; the ANR gives a presentation clarifying expectations regarding monitoring;
- at least one annual project progress meeting;
- a **mid-point evaluation**, normally held between the 30th and 36th month following the effective start date. It includes a visit to the site of the African coordinating institution by the ANR and two external evaluators: partner formal interviews; visit of offices and presentation of equipment purchased with PeA funds. This evaluation culminates in a synthesis and recommendations to continue, amend, and even cease the project's funding (Go/No go), which are submitted to the Steering Committee for decision;
- **one or two seminars** (organised by Campus France, AFD, and the ANR), bringing together the representatives of all projects in one of the African countries.
- occasional **webinars** organised around specific subjects (gender, administration, communication, etc.);
- a **project closure meeting** four months before the project's end date.

[41] The consortium agreement complies with the provisions in the applicable regulations (Framework for state aid for research, development, and innovation (2022/C 41/01).
[42] The ANR participates, as often as possible, via video conference or in-person.
[43] Normally on the site of the African coordinating institution, but left to the choice of consortiums.

The participation of institutions (travel and lodging) for all of these activities should be included in the project budget (see §4.2).

6.2. Monitoring documents

At the same time, the ANR forwards templates of the monitoring documents to the selected projects: data management plan, status report, proof of expenditure statement, elements relating to audits (list of supporting documents to be retained, descriptions of the procurement procedures and internal control procedures within consortium institutions, and procurement monitoring).

Selected projects provide deliverables, detailed in the CAA[44]:

- a **data management plan** (DMP/ PGD) for research - Open Science (at 6 months and updated at 54 months);
- a **gender overview** of project partners, with analysis, actions, and a **gender action plan** (see appendix 1) indicating the actions to be carried out, based on precise indicators and an implementation calendar (at 18 months);
- the updated **operational budget plan** (PPAB), approved by the ANR (at 18, 30, and 42 months);
- the updated **procurement plan** (PPM), approved by the ANR [verification that the procurement is in line with project objectives] and by AFD [control of the proposed procurement's compliance with its directives, and transmittal of a no objection (ANO)] (at 18, 30, and 42 months);
- the **academic and financial sustainability plan** (at 42 months), the project's plan to endure beyond PeA financing on the academic level, and to generate financial resources;
- a **project interim report** (CRI) **for the project and monitoring indicators** (at 18, 30, and 42 months), and the **project closure report** detailing all of the actions conducted by all partners, in accordance with the elements described in the application based on which the project was selected for financing (at 54 months);
- an **interim proof of expenditure statement** (RJD) (at 18, 30, and 42 months) summarising expenditure made during each completed fiscal year, signed by the legal representative and certified by its accounting officer (made out in euros), **and a final statement** (at 54 months).

The deliverables are approved by the ANR, which notifies AFD (and if necessary COPIL) in the event of difficulties.

6.3. Administrative, financial, and procurement audits

The PeA programme is financed by AFD, which entails specific financial management. Each project is subject to two administrative, financial, and procurement audits (one at 18 months and a final one), conducted by an external firm recruited by the ANR. The audit results determine the next disbursement of the grant. These audits focus on:

1 For all Aid Beneficiaries and Final Beneficiaries: the compliance of expenditure with the stipulations in attributive aid agreements, as well as acts of reallocation and their appendices;

2. For Aid Beneficiaries and Final Beneficiaries not subject to French public procurement laws: in addition to 1., the compliance of contracts, purchase order letters, and procurement with AFD Procurement Directives.

In the event of unjustified expenses, the next tranche of aid could be reduced by the

[44] The dates presented below are on an indicative basis, and may be subject to minor changes.

unjustified amount. In the event of a proven instance of non-compliance and non-conclusive exchanges with the consortium, after informing the Steering Committee, a suspension of financing or a reimbursement of aid could be requested.
The partners commit, from the outset of the project, to retain and file all original supporting documents relating to the execution of the project and the use of funds, which they may be asked to produce for a control, audit, or any other verification measure, for a minimum of ten years after the end of the project. During audits, the French coordinating institution shall centralise the supporting documents and provide a certificate indicating that it possesses the following documents for all partners: contracts, purchase order letters or procurement documents, and, when applicable, plans and cost estimates, relating to the use of the Grant during the preceding period, in addition to the items constituting the audit trail and attesting that the relevant eligible expenses for the project were paid.

6.4. Applicable rules for procurement

All procurement must be in compliance with the national law applying to beneficiaries.

- French institutions subject to public accounting under French law are subject to the French Public Procurement Code.
- beneficiary institutions that are not subject to the French Public Procurement Code, and African coordinating institutions, should comply with the **Procurement Guidelines for AFD-financed contracts in foreign countries**[45] and the national regulations in effect in the country where the procurement will be executed. In this context, **AFD exercises ex-ante control over procurement efforts above 40,000€**: for each such effort, at every key step the documents listed in the guidelines are submitted, in collaboration with the ANR, to AFD for a no-objection (ANO). These provisions are detailed in attributive aid agreements and acts of reallocation.

6.5. Rules relating to communication/publication, data protection, and genetic resources

Communication / publication / data protection

In the event the project leads to publications, the Aid Beneficiary commits to making the articles arising from the project financed by the ANR available under a Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) license or equivalent.
If the planned publication will appear in a subscription journal with the implementation of a rights retention strategy, the author/Aid Beneficiary possessing the rights indicates to the publisher in the proposed academic article and/or in the cover letter: "*This research was financed, in whole or in part, by* l'Agence Française de Développement *(AFD)–via the French National Research Agency (ANR)–as part of the Academia Partnerships Africa-France (PeA) programme / project -nn-XXXX-nnnn. With a view to its publication in open access, the author/Aid Beneficiary possessing the rights applies an open Access CC-BY license to the entire article/manuscript accepted for publication (AAM) resulting from this submission.*"
Any publications or communication materials, whatever their nature, that were initiated by the coordinating institution and the Final Beneficiaries in connection with the project, should mention that the project is "*financed by the* Agence Française de Développement *(AFD) – via the French National Research Agency (ANR), in*

[45] Procurement guidelines for AFD-financed contracts in foreign countries | AFD - *Agence Française de Développement*
Sample documents: Calls for proposals and procurement | AFD - *Agence Française de Développement*

connection with the Academia Partnerships Africa-France (PeA) programme / project -nn-XXXX-nnnn."

In addition, the project coordinators agree to complete all of the required processes and declarations under the French law of 6 January 1978 on Data Processing, Data Files, and Individual Liberties as amended, and to comply with the French General Data Protection Regulation (EU Regulation 2016/679 of 27 April 2016), for those among them who are subject thereto.

Genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge
Each Beneficiary is under obligation to declare whether, for the completion of the project, there are plans to access genetic resources or traditional associated knowledge (ABS regulation), and to certify, at the latest upon the date of the final disbursement of aid, compliance with its obligations (submission to the ANR of proof of a due diligence statement).[46]

[46]To be made on the corresponding portal of the Ministry of Research (for additional information visit: http://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/pid37627/utilisation-ressources-genetiques-associees.html and https://anr.fr/fr/lanr-et-la-recherche/engagements-et-valeurs/le-protocole-de-nagoya/).

Appendix 1: Methodology for preparing the gender overview and action plan

Projects are expected to create and implement a Gender Action Plan focusing on the scope of activity[47], doing so throughout the duration of the project. This action plan should be supported by the institution's management.
As such, it should provide:

- in the technical proposal, an initial gender overview for the training within the scope of the project, and the initial avenues for action that are planned;
- 18 months after the beginning of the project: overview and analysis of the situation within the scope of the project and institutions contributing to the project, followed by a concrete Gender Action Plan detailing the actions to be conducted, and whose execution is based on precise indicators;
- as part of periodical technical reports, a Gender appendix taking stock of the results achieved, and proposals for corrective actions.

These actions involve, as much as possible, collaboration between the gender equality officers of the selected French and African institutions.
The selected projects will receive guidance during their first year in order to evaluate these avenues for action and their methods of implementation.

Presentation of the overview
The goal of the overview is to identify gender inequality among project participants, the obstacles and barriers limiting women's access and retention in the targeted sectors.
To guide this analysis, the project participants can base themselves on the following questions:

1 The project

- What trends are there in gender representation by field, teaching level (B-M-D), and partner?
- Is gender diversity ensured with respect to each field?
- What is the dropout rate? (broken down by gender)
- What is the graduation rate? (broken down by gender)
- What opportunities are there for international mobility and internships for women and men?
- Do women and men have access to grants and financial aid? (broken down by gender)
- Are there differences in the means of subsistence between female and male students in training?
- What factors explain the effective gender gap?
- What potential barriers are there to women's participation and success in the targeted fields?
- What is the gender distribution in the project's educational and administrative positions?

2 Institutional capacity

- Is a gender equality policy in effect in the institutions?
- What is the prevalence of harassment? What mechanisms are in place to prevent and respond to harassment?
- Do institutions have support structures for women? Dedicated human resources? Are psychosocial support services sensitive towards gender?

AFD and ANR gender tools and resources:

- https://www.afd.fr/fr/ressources/profil-genre-afrique
- https://www.afd.fr/fr/ressources/boite-outils-education-formation-professionnelle-et-emploi
- https://anr.fr/en/anrs-role-in-research/commitments/gender-aspects/

[47] The management team, teachers, and staff participating in the project, along with students in training.

Appendix 2: List of projects in countries eligible for PeA3 that received more than 500k€ in financing from AFD or as part of the ACE programme

COUNTRY	Projects that benefited from financing greater than 500k€ from AFD or as part of the ACE programme	African institution	Field	Financing
ETHIOPIA	Africa Centre of Excellence for Climate Smart Agriculture and Biodiversity Conservation (ACE Climate SABC)	Haramaya University	Agriculture, climate, biodiversity	ACE
	Africa Centre of Excellence for Water Management (ACEWM)	Addis Ababa University College of natural and computational sciences	Water management	ACE
	PeA2 ETHIOPIA 4.0: Training experts to democratise 4.0 industrial methods in Ethiopia	Addis Ababa University Addis Ababa Institute of Technology	Industry 4.0	AFD
KENYA	Engineering and Sciences Complex of the University of Nairobi	Faculty of Sciences and Engineering of the University of Nairobi	Sciences and engineering	AFD
GUINEA	CEA Prevention and control of communicable diseases	Gamal Abdel Nasser University Faculty of Health sciences and Technology	Health	ACE
	Mines and Societies Emerging Centre (CEMS)	Higher Institute of Mines and Geology of Boké	Mining	ACE
GHANA	West African Centre for Cell Biology of Infectious Pathogens (WACCBIP)	University of Ghana	Health	ACE
	West African Centre of Excellence for Crop Improvement (WACCI)	University of Ghana	Agriculture	ACE
	Regional Water and Environmental Sanitation Centre Kumasi (RWESCK)	Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)	Water management, environment	ACE
	Regional Centre for Energy and Environmental Sustainability (RCEES)	University of Energy and Natural Resources	Energy, environment	ACE
	West African Center for Water, Irrigation and Sustainable Agriculture (WACWISA)	University for Development Studies	Water management, agriculture	ACE
	ACE in Coastal Resilience (ACECoR)	University of Cape Coast	Natural sciences, biology	ACE
	Regional Transport Training and Research Centre (TRECK)	KNUST	Transportation	ACE
	West Africa Genetic Medicine Centre (WAGMC)	University of Ghana	Health	ACE
	College of Engineering, CoE KNUST (KEEP)	KNUST	Engineering	ACE
NIGERIA	ACE for Genomics of Infectious Diseases (ACEGID)	Redeemers University	Health	ACE
	ACE on Neglected Tropical Diseases and Forensic Biotechnology (ACENTDFB)	Ahmadu Bello University	Health	ACE
	Centre for Excellence in Reproductive Health and Innovation (CERHI)	University of Benin	Health	ACE
	ACE Centre for Oil Field Chemicals (CEFOR)	University of Port Harcourt	Oil, gaz, petrochemistry	ACE
	OAU Knowledge Park: A Model for National Science Technology and Knowledge Park Initiative (OAU-Oak Park)	Obafemi Awolowo University	Science, technology, and innovation	ACE
	ACE in Dryland Agriculture (CDA)	Bayero University	Agriculture	ACE
	Centre for Food Technology and Research (CEFTER)	Benue State University	Natural sciences, biology, agriculture	ACE
	ACE on New Pedagogy in Engineering Education (ACENPEE)	Ahmadu Bello University	Education	ACE
	ACE for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP)	Bayero University	Health	ACE
	ACE for Mycotoxin and Food Safety (ACEMFS)	Federal University of Technology Minna	Biology, agriculture	ACE
	ACE for Drug Research, Herbal Medicine Development and Regulatory Science (ACEDHARS)	University of Lagos	Health	ACE

	ACE for Innovation and Transformation in STEM Education (CITSE)	Lagos State University	Sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics	ACE
	ACE for Sustainable Power and Energy Development (ACE SPED)	University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Energy	ACE
	ACE in Future Energies and Electrochemical Systems (ACEFUELS)	Federal University of Technology Owerri	Energy	ACE
	ACE for Public Health and Toxicological Research (ACE-PUTOR)	University of Port Harcourt	Health	ACE
	ACE on Technology Enhanced Learning (ACETEL)	National Open University of Nigeria	Computer science and communication studies	ACE
	Covenant Applied Informatics and Communication (CApIC),	Covenant University	Computer science and communication studies	ACE
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO	PeA2 CIPASTI (CoopEration, Educational Innovation, and Academic Research in Engineering Sciences and Technologies in the Democratic Republic of the Congo)	Loyola University of Congo ULC-ICAM Engineering Faculty	Engineering science and technology	AFD
	Education Sector Support Project (ESSP)	As a call for proposals is currently open in connection with ESSP, the list of selected institutions is not yet available. The results of the call will be taken into consideration, and the institutions whose components are selected as part of ESSP cannot be selected for PeA for the same programme. The projects coordinated by one of the institutions selected as part of ESSP but involving a different programme/faculty remain eligible.	The following programmes may be excluded depending on the results of the ESSP call for proposals: -University of Kinshasa (Polytechnic Faculty): Electricity, electromechanics -University of Lubumbashi (Polytechnic Faculty): mining, chemistry, industrial metallurgy, industrial electricity -University of Kisangani (Faculty of Sciences and Technology): geology and Math/computer science -University of Kolwezi (Polytechnic Faculty): mining, chemistry, industrial metallurgy, industrial electricity -Official University of Bukavu (School of Mining): oil and gas -INBTP/Kinshasa: all specialisations in civil engineering and construction -ISTA Kinshasa: electricity, mechanics, industrial computer science, chemistry, and industrial metallurgy -ISTA Lubumbashi: electricity, mechanics, industrial computer science, chemistry, industrial metallurgy, geomining	AFD
TOGO	Regional Centre of Excellence in Avian Sciences (CERSA)	University of Lomé	Aviary science	ACE
	Regional Centre of Excellence for Electricity Management (CERME)	University of Lomé	Electrical engineering	ACE
	Regional Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Cities in Africa (CERVIDA -DOUNEDON)	University of Lomé	Sustainable transportation and mobility, Sustainable cities	ACE
	PeA1 IMPACT (Engineering in Applied Mathematics: Support and Cooperation Programme with Togo)	University of Lomé Ecole polytechnique de Lomé	Applied mathematics	AFD

Appendix 3: Template for the scientific document

The scientific document should be presented following the instructions described below (Word template available on the ANR website). It is evaluated according to the evaluation criteria (described in §3.3). The first page lists the project's partner institutions, as well as the names of the project coordinators, and includes signatures. The second provides a synthetic description. The remaining pages describe the project.

Presentation and signature of project partners (1 page):

Programme	Academia Partnerships Africa-France (3rd edition)
Project acronym	
Project title	
African partner country	

Institutional commitments

By appending their signature and the institution's seal, the person empowered to represent the respective institution signals that they are aware of the call for proposals document, including eligible and ineligible expenses, and that they commit to the content of the project, including the paragraph relating to its compliance with the institution's strategy for international partnerships, as well as its appended operational budget plan. They also commit to facilitating the completion of the project, and to officially designating a project team within the institution, which is responsible for its implementation in collaboration with the other partners.

In addition, the person authorised to represent the African coordinating institution commits to providing the premises needed for teaching, and to opening a specific bank account for the project's implementation, with payment mandate for expenses vested in the project coordinator, and dual signatures, including one within the project team, for the payment of expenses (the opening of an account is an essential prerequisite to the disbursement of aid).

African coordinating institution		
Complete name and acronym		
Person empowered to act on behalf of the institution	First name and last name:	Signature
Project coordinator	First name and last name:	Signature
French coordinating institution		
Complete name and acronym		
Person empowered to act on behalf of the institution	First name and last name:	Signature
Project coordinator	First name and last name:	Signature
French partner institution (if necessary an insert can be added below)		
Complete name and acronym		
Person empowered to act on behalf of the institution	First name and last name:	*Signature*
Project coordinator	First name and last name:	*Signature*

Synthetic presentation of the project (1 page):

Project title and acronym	
Amount of financing requested	
Public summary in 3 lines or less	
Targeted socioeconomic sector	

African partner country	**African coordinating institution** *(and institution's component of reference: faculty, institute, school, etc.)*	**French coordinating institution**	*Potential French partners institution(s)*

Capacity of the African institution exclusively for training in the fields				
Number of permanent teachers in the specialty		Number of permanent teachers not in the specialty		Number of adjuncts
Of which are PhD-holders		*Of which are PhD-holders*		
Long-term contribution from French institutions exclusively for training in the field/year				
Number of teachers in the specialty		Number of teachers not in the specialty		

Pre-existing partnerships <u>in the field</u> between the African institution and the French institutions *(if the Beneficiary of an ADESFA project, mention here)*			
- Start date and action completed - Start date and action completed			
Socioeconomic partners contributing to training in the sector			
Partner name	Nature of the commitment *(indicate I for internships, R for recruitment, P for professional teachers, F for financial)*	Commitment stage *(I for intention, S for signed partnership, A for active partnerships with ongoing activities)*	Employment potential Number of sector graduates likely to be recruited annually by the partner
- - -			

Identification of training in the project's target sector				
Level *(B: Bachelor's, M: Master's; D: PhD; CE: continuous education)*	Title of training	Status *(E existing; R Recast during the project; C creation during the project)*	Number of 1st year students	
			In 2026	In 2030

Major actions of the project (one line per action)
- - - - - - -

Project description (maximum 18 pages):

Project summary
The project summary entered on the submission website should be included in this section. This summary is public and could appear in informational and communication documents regarding the project.

1. Issues and assessment of training needs in the socioeconomic sector
Presentation of the issues that the project aims to address with respect to the African country's socioeconomic development. Presentation and quantification[48] of the existing annual recruitment capacity (employment) for project graduates in the country and region.

Employment capacity for graduates by socioeconomic sector			
Level	Type of jobs	Volume (estimated) of annual recruitment 2029-2033	
		Private sector	Public & NGO sector
B			
M			
D			

Presentation and analysis of the qualitative and quantitative training capacity of competing training programmes in the targeted sector in both the country and region, and relative positioning of the existing training. Expected positioning and added value of the project's training programmes.
Qualitative and quantitative analysis of student recruitment potential.

2. Project objective: presentation of the partnership and its functioning upon completion of the PeA.

2.1 Training offer

Synthetic description of the training offer available at the **end of the PeA**, of the student flows targeted by training, and the respective contribution of partners: Bachelor's training; Master's training; PhD training; continuous education (potentially).
Recap charts for training programmes in the field (1 per training programme)

Level and name of training programme				Student flows*	
	Hourly volume			Credits	French partner institutions**
	Courses	Discussion sessions	Practicum		
Specialisation					
Related disciplines					
General education					
Projects					
Internship(s)					

* Forecasts for the number of students enrolled annually from 2029-2030 onwards
** Contribution in percentage of French institutions from 2029-2030 onwards

2.2 Training support and environment activities

Synthetic description of the other activities conducted by the partners **upon completion of the PeA**, and of their respective contribution.

3. Overview of institutions in connection with the project to be completed
Presentation of existing training, skills and capacities (teachers, equipment, etc.), those of the African institution **used for the project**, and those of the French institutions **that will be made available to the project.**
Presentation of shared active partnership experiences (those that take concrete form via effective actions for teaching and research) between the African institution and the French partner institutions **in the project's field.**[49] Indicate the potential financial or other support that they have received, and specify the results obtained, as well as the measured effects (accreditation, professional placement, etc.).

[48] If accurate data for the sector in question is not available, the project should conduct a well-reasoned simulation.
[49] In the absence of shared active partnership experience between the French and African institutions in the project's field, present the active partnership experience involving the project teams that is the most similar to that proposed for the PEA.

Presentation of active partnerships (those taking concrete form via effective actions for teaching and research) **in the project's field**: the African institution with the socioeconomic sector; French partner institutions with the socioeconomic sector in the African country or the sub-region.
Presentation of the strategies of the French and African coordinating institutions with respect to international partnerships, their adaptation to French-African partnerships, and how the partnership project presented in connection with the PeA fits in and contributes during and beyond the four years of implementation.

3.2 Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Threats (SWOT) Analysis for existing training and capacities with regard to the project's objectives, and risk management plan.

4. Major actions planned as part of the project
Detailed description of the primary actions planned as part of the PeA, and its financing for achieving the established objective.

4.1 Detailed presentation of the target training offer and actions conducted to implement and improve the training offer (recasting or creation of training, implementation of remote training, pedagogical innovation, skills building for teachers, job placement support for graduates, awareness raising for entrepreneurship, etc.).
Key pedagogical content and elements, actions to pursue for Bachelor's training; Master's training; PhD training; potentially continuous education.

4.2 Training support and environment activities
Capacity building for the African institution, beyond those falling under the academic project, strengthening partnerships with the economic sector, promoting the training field, especially for projects with a regional scope, with respect to gender equality, social equality, etc.

4.3 Methods for ensuring the project's academic and financial sustainability
Presentation of the guiding principles on which the academic and financial sustainability plan will be developed during the course of the project.

5. Governance and project management
Present: the general organisation of the project's governance and management; the project organisation chart, identifying the positions and names of the primary coordinators (for institutions, and work packages), as well as positions financed by the PeA; organisation of administrative and financial support; methods for establishing the various documents requested (see §5 and §6 of the PeA3 call for proposals) from the French coordinating institution during the roll-out of the project.

6. Year 4 Action Plan, Tasks, provisional schedule
Present the action plan recapping the planned actions[50] in connection with the project; its provisional schedule in the form of a Gantt chart.

7. Explanation of the operational budget plan for the duration of the project
Extract from the appended operational budget plan the table recapping the provisional expenses for implementing the action plan by year and by work package. Provide a detailed synthesis presenting: the logic behind budget prioritisation; a summary of the jobs financed by the PeA (job title, attachment, etc.); identification of various equipment packages, with their purpose for the project. If necessary, paragraphs 6 and 7 can be combined.
Present the other sources of project financing separately.

Nature of expenses	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	Total
Work package 1 (WP1)					
Work package 2 (WP2)					
Work package 3 (WP3)					
Total					

8 Project monitoring evaluation
Presentation of a maximum of 5 strategic indicators capturing the project's major transformations, including one indicator pertaining to gender equality and social inclusion (remote training, workforce integration, entrepreneurship, etc.), that are complementary to and do not overlap with the common indicators (see appendix 7).

9 Specific notes

[50] To simplify analysis of the submission, actions should be presented in the following order: those relating to project governance, steering, and management, then those relating to training, and finally other activities.

Other points deemed important by participating institutions that do not appear in the preceding paragraphs.

10 Conclusion

Indicate the primary transformations (4 maximum) considered as being key by partners for the project's success.

Indicate the project's primary added value for: the African institution; the French partners; the development of the targeted economic sectors and related jobs; gender and social equality; sustainable development and the emergence of sectors contending with it; and for sustainable development, climate change and the emergence of sectors to address it.

Appendix 4: Template for letter from the supervisory ministry of the African institution

Official letter of support from the supervisory ministry of the African coordinating institution

NB: This letter should be drafted in compliance with the supervisory ministry's rules for official correspondence. As such, it should include the usual logos, letterhead, signature, and seal used in official correspondence.
Like the sample letter proposed below, it should be explicit regarding support for the proposal, for pursuing the project, for maintaining the institution's resources for the duration of the project, and finally for its sustainability.

As the supervisory ministry of… *[name of the African coordinating institution]*, the … *[name of the supervisory authority]* supports the proposal from the project … *[project acronym and name]*, jointly led by the … [*name of the African coordinating institution]*, the… *[name of the French coordinating institution]*, and the other French partners in response to the **PeA Academia Partnerships Africa-France (3rd edition) call for proposals**.

If the project is selected, the … *[name of the supervisory ministry]* commits to facilitate completion of the project throughout its duration, and its subsequent sustainability via partners, notably by:

- Facilitating the administrative efforts needed to carry out the project, including, among others, opening a dedicated bank account for the project, payment mandate for expenses vested in the project coordinator, dual signature, at least one of which is within the project team, for the payment of expenditure;
- Preservation, throughout the full duration of the project, of the resources currently available to the institution for its operation.

[Signature and seal of the supervisory ministry]

Appendix 5: List of documents to provide for due diligence

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2">CONTENT OF THE DUE DILIGENCE FILE
The documents will be retained by the ANR for 5 years following the end of the matter</td><td>French public institution (EPIC, EPA, etc.)</td><td>Foreign public institution or public company</td><td>Private company (not publicly traded)</td><td>Association/ foundation</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="6">Documents pertaining to the Legal Person</td><td>Statement of integrity and corruption prevention</td><td colspan="4">Applicable: the template in appendix 6 below. (template available on the ANR website) should be signed by each partner institution.
Submission via the ANR platform under the section IPC / déclaration_integrité_prévention_corruption</td></tr>
<tr><td>Data sheet: name and address of headquarters; purpose/activity; date of creation; legal form</td><td colspan="4">Applicable to all consortium institutions
Section FPM / fiche_personne_morale</td></tr>
<tr><td>Current legal documents (current articles of association and registration certificate or Kbis extract dating, to the extent possible, less than 3 months; for companies under Anglo-American law: certificate of incorporation + memorandum and articles of association or deed of trust or the equivalent for entities with special-purpose funds)</td><td colspan="4">Applicable: these documents should make it possible to ascertain the constitution of the company, and provide information regarding its name, legal form, headquarters address, the identity of the listed partners and directors and officers or their equivalent under foreign law, terms of office and powers / For public organisations, provide the textual references specific to the institution
Section LEG (documents_LEGaux_a_jour)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ownership structure chart, certified by the countersigner, identifying shareholders with decision-making or voting power over the countersigner greater than 25%</td><td>N/A</td><td>N/A</td><td>Applicable
Section SAE (Schema_Actionnarial_Exhaustif)</td><td>N/A</td></tr>
<tr><td>List of primary contributors or providers participating in more than 25% of the entity's contributions or budget</td><td>N/A</td><td>N/A</td><td>N/A</td><td>Applicable
Section LCA (Liste_Contributeurs_Apporteurs)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Most recent accounting documents audited and certified, which is to say those on which a statutory auditor or external auditor issued an opinion. In the absence of audited accounts, the entity must produce the most recent financial statements, as well as certification justifying the absence of audited accounts (administrative, fiscal, regulatory context, etc.)</td><td colspan="4">Applicable
Section CAC (documents_Comptables_Audités_Certifies)</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Documents pertaining to the Natural Persons connected to the legal person</td><td>List of directors and officers (Managing Director, Deputy Managing Director, or equivalent, Treasurer) and of the Chairman of the Board of Directors (or equivalent)
Last name, first name, nationality, position, place of residence, date and place of birth
Curriculum Vitae of the managing director or institution head</td><td colspan="4">Applicable
Section DIR (liste_DIRigeants_membresCA)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Copy of identification card/"identification document" of the natural person serving as director or officer</td><td>N/A</td><td colspan="3">Applicable
Section IDP (IDentification_Personne_physique)</td></tr>
</table>

Appendix 6: Statement of integrity and corruption prevention

Statement of integrity and corruption prevention signed by

_____

[Indicate here the name of your institution and the city where it is located, followed by the name of the project of which you are a part][51]

To the French National Research Agency ("**ANR**")

1) We recognise and accept that no legal relationship exists between the *Agence Française de Développement* ("**AFD**") and the Member(s) of the Project. The **ANR** represents the funding management entity that allocates grants to the Project's Member institutions. These grants were initially entrusted to it by AFD to complete a development-related mission.

2) We the Members of the Project, confirm that we do not, and that none of the members in our group, neither suppliers, nor business owners, nor consultants, nor subcontractors, fall within one of the following cases:

2.1 Since the submission date of the complete proposal, are in a state of bankruptcy or the subject of proceedings for bankruptcy, liquidation, compulsory liquidation, receivership, ceasing of activity, or any analogous situation arising from proceedings of a similar nature;

2.2 Have been the subject:

Of a conviction within the last five years by a court decision, which has the force of *res judicata* in the country where the Project is implemented or the country in which we are established, for fraud, corruption, or any offense committed during the procurement or performance of a contract (in the event of such a judgement, we can attach to the present Statement of Integrity supporting information indicating that this conviction is not relevant in the context of the Project);

Of an administrative penalty issued in the last five years by the European Union or by authorities with jurisdiction in the country where we are established, for fraud, corruption, or any offense committed in connection with public procurement or the execution of public works (in the event of such a judgement, we can attach to the present Statement of Integrity additional information that could indicate that this adverse judgment is not relevant with respect to the Project);

Of an adverse judgment issued in the last five years by a ruling with the force of *res judicata*, for fraud, corruption or any offense committed in connection with public procurement or the performance of a contract financed by AFD.

2.3 Appear on the financial sanctions lists adopted by the United Nations, the European Union, and/or France, notably for the purposes of the fight against terrorist financing or threat to international peace and security[52];

2.4 Have been the subject of a termination of contract issued against us in the last five years due to a serious or persistent breach in our contractual obligations during the performance of an earlier contract, provided that this penalty is not currently being contested by us, or led to a legal ruling invalidating the termination of contract due to our exclusive breach;

2.5 Since the date of submission of the complete proposal, not fulfilled our obligations relating to the payment of our taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country where we are established, or those of France (country of tax residency for the ANR);

2.6 Are subject to an exclusion decision of the World Bank and appear on the list published on the website http://www.worldbank.org/debarr (in the event of such a decision of exclusion, we can attach to the present Statement of Integrity any additional information indicating that this exclusion is not relevant in the context of this Project);

2.7 Produced falsified documents or have been guilty of misrepresentation when providing the information requested by the ANR in the context of the complete proposal submission.

3) We confirm that **we do not**, and that none of the members in our group, or any of our suppliers, business owners, consultants, or subcontractors, fall within one of the following situations of conflict of interest:

3.1 Has business or family relations with a member of an ANR service, unless the resulting conflict of interest has been brought to the attention of the ANR and resolved to its satisfaction;

3.2 Has itself prepared, or has been associated with a consultant who has prepared for the call for proposals;

3.3 have been recruited or are proposed to be recruited, themselves or any of their affiliates, by the ANR to carry out supervision or inspection work for the Project.

4) If we are a public institution or a public company, we certify that we are legally and financially autonomous.

5) We commit to promptly communicate to the ANR, which will inform AFD, of any change of circumstance regarding sections 2 to 4 above, and we will take all measures required to remedy a change in circumstance in a manner satisfactory to AFD, including by ceasing use of the Grant awarded by the ANR to finance all or part of the project.

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[51] In the event of a group, indicate its name. The person signing the proposal on behalf of the applicant should attach the power of attorney issued by the submitter, the consultant, or the candidate.

[52] The following references are indicated for informational purposes:
For the lists issued by the United Nations, see: https ://www. un.org/sc/suborg/frlsanctions/un-sc-consolidated-list
For the lists issued by the European Union, see: https://www.sanctionsmap.eu or https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/8442/consolidated-list-sanctions_fr
For the lists issued by France, see: https://www.tresor.economie.gouv.fr/services-aux-entreprises/sanctions-economiques/dispositif-national-de-gel-des-avoirs

6) We declare that, in connection with the grant, and if we are the beneficiary of financing arising from the call for proposal process, with the execution of the Act of Attribution or Acts of Reallocation:

6.1 We have not committed and will not commit any dishonest conduct (act or omission) deliberately intended to deceive others, to intentionally conceal items, to violate or vitiate their consent, to circumvent legal or regulatory requirements and/or violate internal rules in order to obtain illegitimate profit.

6.2 We have not committed and will not commit any dishonest conduct (act or omission) contrary to our legal or regulatory obligations or our internal rules in order to obtain illegitimate profit.

6.3 We have not promised, offered, or given, and will not promise, offer, or give, to (i) any Private Person possessing a legal, executive, administrative, or legal mandate within the country where the project will be completed or in France, regardless of whether that person was nominated or elected, regardless of the permanent or temporary, paid or unpaid nature of the position, and regardless of the hierarchical level the person occupies, (ii) any other Person that performs a public function, including for a government institution or a government-owned company, or who provides a public service, or (iii) any other Person defined as a Public Officer in the country where the Project will be carried out or in France, an undue advantage of any kind, for himself or for another person or entity, for such Private Person to perform or refrain from performing any act in the exercise of their official functions.

6.4 We have not promised, offered, or given, and will not promise, offer, or give, directly or indirectly, to any Private Person managing a private sector entity or working for such an entity, in whatever capacity, an undue advantage of any kind, for himself or for another person or entity, for such Private Person to perform or refrain from performing any act in breach of their legal, contractual, or professional obligations.

6.5 Ourselves, or a member of our group, or one of our subcontractors, will not acquire or supply equipment, and will not operate in sectors which are subject to embargo by the United Nations, the European Union, or France.

6.6 We commit to comply with and ensure that all of our subcontractors comply with international environmental and social standards, including the fundamental agreements of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and international environmental treaties, consistent with the applicable laws and regulations of the countries where the Project will be completed. We certify by the present that our our own resrouces and our funds invested in the Project awarded by the ANR are not illicit in origin, which is to say funds obtained by:
The commission of any underlying infraction, such as those indicated in the FATF 40 Recommendations under the section "designated categories of infractions" (The FATF Recommendations (fatf-gafi.org)) or any action of corruption described in points 6.3 and 6.4 above.

7) We commit to inform the ANR, which will inform AFD, of any change in circumstance with respect to section 6 above, and will take all measures required to remedy a change in situation in a manner satisfactory to AFD, including by ceasing use of the Grant awarded by the ANR to finance all or part of the project.

8) We declare, in connection with the grant, and if we are the beneficiary of financing arising from the call for proposal process, with the execution of the Act of Attribution or Acts of Reallocation, that we, the members of our group and its suppliers, business owners, consultants, and subcontractors authorise AFD to examine the documents and accounting materials relating to the grant and the execution of the Project, and to submit them for approval with the auditors appointed by AFD.

Name: In the capacity of:
Duly authorised to sign on behalf of[53]:
Signature:
Date:

[53] For groups, indicate group name. The person signing the offer, proposal, or application on behalf of the applicant, consultant, or candidate, attach to the present the power of attorney granted by the applicant, consultant, or candidate.

Appendix 7: Indicators

Project monitoring is based on two sets of indicators.

- **Common indicators** requested by the ANR (and/or AFD) for all projects, aiming to establish a homogenous and unified presentation, as well as to provide items for assessing PeA project's overall impact. This first series does not have to be reproduced in the application.
- **Specific indicators** are defined at the initiative of project coordinators. Each project proposes a maximum of 5 additional strategic indicators specific to it, to provide an account of the major transformations it aims to pursue, and that are not captured by the first set of indicators, including one for gender equality and/or social equity (remote training, workforce integration, entrepreneurship, etc.). They are representative of the project's distinctive features and actions, and demonstrate the project's progress and the achievement of its objectives, notably with respect to: the transformation of the African institution's capacities, ties with the social and economic sector (internships, financing, etc.), and the sustainability of the partnership beyond PeA financing.

Common indicators[54]

1. Number of training programmes in the project	Bachelor's			Master's			PhD Programmes		
	Objective	Completed	Completion rate (%)	Objective	Completed	%	Objective	Completed	%
Pre-existing or converted training programmes									
New or recast training programmes									
Total									
Including the number of job-oriented training									

Number of international accreditations granted to the training programmes receiving support (number of new accreditations attributed during the year)[55]	Year 1	Year…. N

2. Number of students enrolled in the project's training programmes	Year 1			Year… n		
	Total	Women	% women	Total	Women	% women
Bachelor's						
Master's or Engineering Degree						
PhD students financed entirely by PEA						
PhD students co-financed 50% or more by PeA						
PhD students financed outside PeA						
Total (B+M+D)						

[54] The list below is for informational purposes, and could be subject to minor changes. The final version will be appended to the attributive aid agreement.

[55] Total of quality accreditations granted by international organisations in connection with the project. The accreditation agencies can be French (Hcéres, Cti) or international. The accreditations granted by national agencies are not included in this indicator. Accreditations can be accompanied by recommendations and reservations. There is no minimum accreditation duration below which accreditation will not be recognized.

Including the number of beneficiaries of job-oriented training[56]						

3. Number of students graduating from the project's training programmes	Year 1			Year… n		
	Total	Women	% women	Total	Women	% women
Bachelor's						
Master's or Engineering Degree						
PhD students financed entirely by PEA						
PhD students co-financed 50% or more by PeA						
PhD students financed outside PEA						
Total (B+M+D)						
Including the number of beneficiaries of job-oriented training**						

4. Number of stays in France financed by the PeA	Year 1			Year… n		
	Total	Women	% women	Total	Women	% women
Number of Bachelor's students						
Number of Bachelor's student-months						
Number of Master's/Engineering students						
Number of Master's/Engineering student-months						
Number of PhD students						
Number of PhD student-months						
Total number of students (B+M+D)						
Total number of student-months (B+M+D)						

5. Training of trainers	Year 1	Year… n
Number of trainers (participating in the PeA) trained		

6. Dissemination of knowledge	Year 1	Year… n
Number of publications, books, and academic articles		
Number of seminars and conferences organised or co-organised		
Number of communication campaigns		

	Year 1	Year… n
7. Number of French higher education and researsh actors involved in the partnerships[57]		

[56] Number of participants in job-oriented training (number of individuals/year) = annual total of students enrolled in training programmes supported by the project, with emphasis on the workforce integration of students. Training type and duration do no matter, as long as they underscore the workforce integration of graduates. Job-oriented training is one that fulfils at least four of the following five criteria: **1/** Enterprises are involved in creating the courses and curricula and/or in the institution's governance; **2/** The curriculum includes multiple months of experience in an enterprise; **3/** Part of the teaching is provided by professionals from the training programme's field of activity; **4/** The students receive support defining career objectives and with workforce integration; **5/** Studies are conducted on the workforce integration of graduates from the institution or the training programme.
This indicator represents a flow of individuals. In the event of a single beneficiary that is part of multiple training programmes, the data will not be recalculated to remove a beneficiary counted multiple times, because that person is enrolled in multiple training programmes.

[57] Calculation method: Number of partnership agreements signed in connection with the project (if the agreement is signed between two partners), or the number of French higher education actors present in each agreement (if the agreement is signed between a local institution and multiple French actors). French higher education actors =

8. Amount of own resources raised by the project	Year 1	Year… n
Amount raised during the year (from 1 September to 31 August)		
Total amount raised since the beginning of the project		0

9. PEA project status report as of 31 August	Amount of WP		Year 1		Year… n	
			% amount spent	% goals completed	% amount spent	% goals completed
WP 1						
WP 2						
WP 3						
WP 4						
WP 5						
WP X						
Total						

10. Financial execution of the project (in euros)	Year 1		Year… n	
	Initial	Executed	Initial	Executed
10.1 Execution of the annual budget				
African coordinating institution				
French coordinating institution				
French partner institution				
Total				
10.2 Cumulative execution since the beginning of the project				
African coordinating institution				
French coordinating institution				
French partner institution				
Total				

institutions (University Institute of Technology (IUT), universities, engineering schools, etc.), networks (Conference of University Presidents, N+i network, Engineering Education by Research Universities network (FIGURE), Assembly of IUT Presidents (ADIUT), …), accreditation agencies (HCERES, CTI), organisations under the supervisory authority of the MESR (Campus France). Unit of measure: number of French actors involved in partnerships (= number of new partners that signed a partnerships agreement during the period).

PEA Partenariats Académiques
Afrique • France

PeA Key Figures - 2024

13
projects in
7 African countries.

€40 M
invested since the beginning
of the programme.

€2.6 M
invested on average per project for
a period of 4 to 5 years.

4000
students enrolled each year,
as from 2027, on the 13 PeA-supported
training programmes.

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