

Annex for Franco-Austrian projects

Lead Agency Procedure (FWF)

Generic Call for Proposals 2026

IMPORTANT

1. Franco-Austrian projects shall only be evaluated by FWF Agency, according its own terms, through its “«principal investigator projects» or« clinical research » programmes. Full information available at the following address: [France - FWF](#)
2. This document sets out detailed rules for the submission and funding procedures applicable to French teams working on Franco-Austrian projects.
3. It is essential to carefully read the [work programme 2026, the generic call for proposals 2026](#), the [AAPG 2026 guide](#), the rules relating to ANR real cost funding allocation procedures (<https://anr.fr/fr/rf/>) and all of this document before submitting research project proposals.
4. In case of any difference of interpretation, the French version of the present annex shall prevail

ANR Contact Information:

aapg.science@anr.fr: questions about the scientific aspects of the project proposal, about its eligibility with regard to the call criteria, or about its submission on SIM

aapg.adfi@anr.fr: questions about the administrative and financial set-up of the project proposal

FWF Contact Information:

Beatrice Lawal

beatrice.lawal@fwf.ac.at

Tel : +43 676 83487 - 8703

Georg-Coch-Platz 2

A-1010 Wien / Vienna, Austria

1. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES OF COOPERATION WITH AUSTRIA

By developing bilateral agreements with foreign funding agencies, ANR enables researchers to initiate or intensify their collaborations, as part of its plans to foster and give rise to outstanding teams in Europe and throughout the world.

The objective is to support innovative bi-national projects **that break away** from existing national projects and show seamless synergy between both countries' teams and genuinely integrated joint research.

In order to simplify and streamline working arrangements, create research funding without borders and contribute to building out the European Research Area (ERA), ANR and FWF (*Austrian Science Fund*) have decided to forge a partnership.

The "Lead Agency" procedure has been continued in 2026 for the selection of Franco-Austrian PRCI ("International Collaborative Research Projects") projects. In this context, a joint project prepared by both countries' teams is evaluated by a single agency, the "Lead Agency", which manages projects' evaluation and selection. Transnational projects compete with the national projects of the Agency conducting the evaluation. The partner agency has access to all information regarding the projects. Each agency funds its respective national¹ teams according to its own procedures.

The two agencies take turns yearly handling the submission, evaluation and selection of projects according to its own procedures. For 2026, **the submission and evaluation of project proposals will be handled by FWF**. The scientific coordinator and other partners of the French part **must** nevertheless provide ANR with certain administrative information in accordance with procedures described in this Annex.

The purpose of the partnership between ANR and FWF is to support projects in which there is genuine² collaboration between Franco-Austrian partners. Partners will ensure the complementarity of the scientific inputs of each country and the added value of the international cooperation. Insofar as possible, the French and foreign partners' projects must start and finish on the same dates. Please note that FWF has a **maximum project length of 48 months**.

2. RESEARCH PRIORITIES

All research fields funded by ANR and FWF.

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

² Jointly defined objectives, sharing of skills and tasks, sharing of risks and results

3. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

The French and Austrian partners will prepare a joint scientific project. **Each country's teams** must designate a national scientific coordinator. FWF is in charge of submission and evaluation for both countries.

The submission and evaluation of project proposals will be handled by FWF.

Project proposals must be submitted by Austrian coordinators to FWF respecting the format and the details of its programmes for «*principal investigator projects*» and «*clinical research* »

Applicants must absolutely read over the information available on the website of FWF “section France”: [Principal Investigator Projects International - FWF France - FWF](#)

The deadline for the submission of applications to the FWF is **January 12th, 2026** at 2:00 pm (Vienna local time).

French partners:

No registration of intention to submit a project is required by ANR.

However, for administrative reasons, although the submission and evaluation are conducted by the foreign agency, the French participants must submit their proposals to the ANR via the ANR submission site:

- **The same scientific project proposal as that submitted to FWF, in the same format.** Note, the acronym and title of the project provided to each agency must be the same.
- **The administrative and funding information** linked to **both** French and foreign partners:
 - o **The detailed** information is expected from the French partners. The French coordinator has to appear as **scientific coordinator** on the ANR submission website
 - o The **minimum**³ information is expected concerning foreign partners: the foreign coordinator (**country referent**)⁴, the name of the Institute⁵, its category (private / public), and the information concerning, requested funding by foreign partners to their national agency

³ Simplified entry

⁴ The information is essential for the data crosschecking with the FWF

⁵ Partner as a legal entity

- **A budgetary data sheet** for the French partners, detailing the requested means by major expense categories for the analysis of the consortium's budget request by ANR. This document is mandatory for your file to be considered complete on the submission site, cf. eligibility criteria. *The template of the document is available for download on the webpage dedicated to AAPG 2026.*
- **A scientific panel responsible for the scientific monitoring of the project in case of success** (description of the scientific panels is available in the AAPG 2026 text). Please note: this choice cannot be changed once the closing date and time has passed.

The French coordinator is subject to the rules (in particular of eligibility) to which all national scientific coordinators of the 2026 Generic call for proposals must comply (see *AAPG 2026 Guide*, § B.5.2. *Eligibility of full proposals*).

The deadline for submitting this information to the ANR is **the day after the Austrian submission deadline, January 13th, 2026, 5 p.m. (Paris time)**. Projects proposals must be submitted to **both agencies** at due time. Those submitted to only one agency will be rejected.

The submission website will open on **November 13th, 2025**, the link will be indicated on the ANR website, on [the generic 2026 call for proposals page](#).

4. ELIGIBILITY

Each agency decides on projects' eligibility according to its own rules.

ANR verifies the eligibility of the full proposals, taking into account the criteria set out in the AAPG Guide § B.5.2, and detailed below:

- 1) The budgetary data sheet⁶.
- 2) The provisional project proposal duration must be the same for the two country partners.

As foreign agencies have their own eligibility criteria, it is necessary to comply with them. The FWF rules can be found at the following address: [France - FWF](#)

⁶ Applicable from 2026 edition onward (for the foreign Lead agency cooperation's)

Summary table of the *specific eligibility criteria*⁷

Country (agency)	Submission to the foreign agency	Submission to the ANR	Duration	Participation of a company ⁸	Other
Austria (FWF)	Yes	Copy of the project proposal	24,30,36,42,48	ANR eligible FWF to be checked with FWF eligibility rules	

To be eligible, proposals must meet all of the eligibility criteria of the two funding agencies.

5. EVALUATION

Projects shall only be evaluated by FWF in accordance with its own rules.

The FWF will propose a list of projects to be funded by ANR.

The two agencies then jointly validate the list of projects to be funded.

6. FUNDING PROVISIONS

Each agency will cover expenditures for their respective country's teams according to its own rules. ANR's funding regulations are available at: <https://anr.fr/fr/rf/>

7. SCHEDULES

- Proposal submissions on the FWF website: **January 12th, 2026 at 2:00 pm (Vienna local time)**
- Submission of copies of project proposals, budgetary data sheets, and administrative and financial information on the ANR website: **January 13th, 2026, 5 PM (Paris time), no registration**
- Joint decision and publication of results: September 2026 (indicative date)
- Possible project start date: final quarter 2026 – January 2027 / to be adapted according to the foreign partner constraints.

⁷ In addition to these eligibility criteria are the criteria of the foreign agency (to be checked with the foreign agency)

⁸ Cf. definition in ANR's Regulations for allocating grants