

Annex for the Franco-Luxembourgish projects

Lead Agency (ANR) procedure Generic call for proposals 2027

IMPORTANT

The evaluation of the Franco-Luxembourgish projects will be carried out by the ANR only, in accordance with the procedures detailed in the Generic Call for Proposals 2027 (AAPG) [available here](#) to which are added the provisions of this document.

It is essential to read carefully the work programme 2027, the generic call for proposals 2027, the AAPG 2027 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.

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

ANR contacts:

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 IRIS

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

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1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF COLLABORATION WITH LUXEMBURG

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

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

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

The Lead Agency procedure established between the ANR and the FNR recognizes the ANR as the "Lead Agency" for the evaluation and for the selection of the Franco-Luxembourgish PRCI projects.

As a result, the submission and evaluation of project proposals **are solely handled by the ANR**. Nevertheless, the Luxembourgish scientific coordinator and the other partners of the Luxembourgish party must provide certain administrative information to the FNR, according to the terms and conditions specific to this agency.

The purpose of the partnership between ANR and FNR is to support projects in which there is genuine² collaboration between Franco-Luxembourgish partners. Within this framework, partners will ensure the complementarity of the scientific contributions of each country and the added value of European cooperation. Insofar as possible, the French and foreign partners' projects must start and finish on the same dates.

2. RESEARCH PRIORITIES

All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR (in the framework of the AAPG) and the FNR. For joint projects to be eligible at the FNR, the research topic of the proposal must fit within the Luxembourg National Research Priorities.

For projects involving clinical research submitted to the axis in the 'Life Sciences' field and the cross-cutting axis that include a 'Life Sciences' component (axis H.03, H.04, and H.13), it should

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

² Objectives defined jointly, shared skills and tasks, shared risks and results

be noted that the AAPG only supports projects upstream of the hospital clinical research program (PHRC) of the DGOS.

3. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

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

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

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The registration of projects proposals is mandatory on both sides (ANR and FNR) according to the terms and schedule of each agency.

French partners:

Projects proposals must be submitted within the framework of the PRCI ("International Collaborative Research Project») funding instrument in ANR's 2027 Generic call for proposals, according to its terms and schedule.

Luxembourgish partners:

Projects proposals must be submitted accordingly to the FNR INTER Guidelines.

3.1. REGISTRATION OF PROJECTS PROPOSALS WITH ANR AND FNR

French partners:

The French Scientific Coordinator must **register his/her intention to submit a "PRCI" project** on ANR's submission website before 5 pm (Paris time) on **October the 13th 2026**. **This registering with ANR is mandatory** (cf. §B.4. in the AAPG 2027 Guide) to be entitled to take part in the selection process. No pre-proposal is required at this stage.

To register an intention to submit a Franco-Luxembourgish PRCI project, the applicant must complete the online form, the content of which is detailed in the AAPG2027 Guide (cf. §B.4.1. *Submitting pre-proposals (PRC/PRME/JCJC instruments) and registering (PRCE and PRCI funding instrument)*).

Foreign partners must be clearly identified in the online form, including the **Luxembourgish scientific coordinator, this choice is definitive and cannot be modified when the full proposal is submitted.**

Particular attention must be paid to the drafting of the abstract (cf. AAPG 2027 Guide, §B.4), which is intended to be sent to reviewers taking part in the evaluation process.

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

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

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

The acronym chosen and the name of the French and Luxembourgish coordinator are definitive and cannot be modified when the full proposal is submitted. This also applies to the choice of the scientific evaluation panel (cf. AAPG2027 Guide, §B.4).

Luxembourgish partners:

The Luxembourgish Scientific Coordinator must **register his/her intention to submit a "PRCI" project** with his/her French counterparts on the FNR's submission website **a week after** the targeted ANR deadline on October the 13th 2026. **This registering with FNR is mandatory** (cf. FNR's *INTER Guidelines*) to be entitled to take part in the selection process. No pre-proposal is required at this stage.

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2027

The Luxembourgish coordinator must be the same as the one identified in the ANR registration form. The choice is definitive and cannot be modified when the full proposal is submitted.

3.2. SUBMISSION OF FULL PROPOSALS TO ANR

French PRCI project applicants registered before the **13th of October 2026 at 5 pm** (Paris time) deadline will be invited - subject to certain eligibility conditions - to submit a full proposal to ANR together with applicants to the PRC, PRME and JCJC funding instruments selected at the AAPG2027 first stage's outcome.

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

The French coordinator is subject to the rules (including eligibility) that apply to all national scientific coordinators under the Generic call for proposals (see AAPG2027 Guide §B.5.2, *Eligibility of full proposals*).

The full PRCI proposals must comply with the rules regarding format and content set out in the AAPG2027 Guide (cf. §B.5. Stage 2: full proposal submission and evaluation procedures). A template will be available on the AAPG2027 webpage at the opening of the full proposal submission.

Financial and administrative information on the foreign partners must be clearly indicated when the proposal is submitted on the website:

- the full name of the partner³, its acronym and its administrative category
- the foreign coordinator⁴ and the persons involved in the project
- The possible other foreign partners and the participating persons
- The amount of aid requested by the foreign partners from their national agency

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

- **the foreign teams' scientific contribution;**
- **foreign partners' financial data broken down into items of expenditure**, in the same way as that of French partners⁵.

Finally, applicants are requested to provide a summary table for each French or foreign partner:

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

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

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

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

Note: if one or more partners from Luxembourg decide to withdraw from the project after the submission of the full proposal, it will not be possible to change the funding instrument given that other funding instrument (PRC, PRME, JCJC) are subject to a two-stage selection procedure).

3.3. SUBMISSION OF FULL PROPOSALS TO FNR

Only full proposals submitted to ANR have to be submitted to FNR as an INTER application (including a copy of the project proposal and in addition the 3 INTER documents (see INTER

³ Partner as a legal entity

⁴ The information is essential for the data cross-checking with the FNR

⁵ With regard to the sub-criterion "Adequacy of the resources implemented and requested for the objectives of the project" of criterion 2 "Organization and implementation of the project", the resources mobilized and requested by the French partners AND by the foreign partners will be assessed.

Call documents, cf. Download center: [Download Center - FNR](#). More info on FNR requirements on the FNR website: <http://fnr.lu/international-cooperation/anr/>

4. ELIGIBILITY OF PROJECTS PROPOSALS

Each agency decides on the eligibility of a project in accordance with its own rules. The eligibility check is accomplished by both agencies at each step of the process (registration of projects proposals and full proposals submission)

4.1. ELIGIBILITY OF REGISTERED PROJECTS PROPOSALS WITH ANR

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Please note that PRCI projects are also concerned by the changes made to the eligibility criteria regarding “coordination limit” and “involvement limit”. Please refer to the AAPG2027 guide (see sections B.4.2 and B.5.2) for details on the applicable rules.

ANR verifies the eligibility of the registration of projects proposals taking into account the criteria detailed in the AAPG 2027 Guide (cf. §B.4.2 *Eligibility of pre-proposals and registrations*).

4.2. ELIGIBILITY OF REGISTERED PROJECTS PROPOSALS WITH FNR

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2027

FNR verifies the eligibility of the early registration of projects proposals taking into account the criteria detailed in the FNR INTER Programme Description and FNR INTER Application Guidelines.

4.3. FULL PROPOSALS ELIGIBILITY

Each agency decides on the eligibility of a project in accordance with its own rules, including the rules detailed below. **To be eligible, proposals must meet all of the eligibility criteria of the two funding agencies.**

Luxembourgish partners:

- As foreign agencies have their own eligibility criteria, it is necessary to read the text of the INTER guidelines published by the FNR: <http://fnr.lu/international-cooperation/anr/>
- FNR highlights that while applicants should aim for balanced proposals, a higher research effort (in person-months, funded and in-kind) must be in France. In addition, FNR is prepared to fund proposals with an FNR requested budget between 150k and 600k EUR. Proposals with a higher research effort in Luxembourg or/and an FNR requested budget outside the above funding range will not be eligible and rejected without any further evaluation.

Eligibility for proposals and applicants is determined by the FNR regulations in force on the ANR's 2027 Generic call for proposals full proposal submission date: All

eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the [FNR INTER guidelines](#) and in the [FNR INTER Programme Description](#). Only PIs⁶ who align with the FNR requirements for PIs and supervisors⁷ are eligible to apply.

The following eligibility criterion applies in addition to the criteria of each agency:

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

Summary table of the *specific eligibility criteria*⁸

Country (agency)	Submission to the ANR	Submission to the foreign agency	Duration	Participation of a company ⁹	Other
Luxembourg (FNR)	yes	Registration and copy of the project proposal	24, 30, 36, 42, 48 months	Eligible (FNR own funds only)	Specific eligibility criteria for the Luxembourgish partners, see above.

A project declared ineligible by one of the two funding agencies involved is automatically considered ineligible by the other funding agency.

5. EVALUATION

Projects proposals are evaluated by ANR only. They are evaluated according to the same main criteria as for the projects proposals submitted within the framework of another funding instrument of the Generic call for proposals 2027, some sub-criteria are specific to the PRCI funding instrument (cf. *AAPG 2027 Guide*, §B.5.3. *Evaluation of full proposals*), in particular related to the project's capacity to respond to the research challenges of the chosen scientific axis.

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

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

⁶ PI : Principal Investigator= coordinateur, scientifique, coordinatrice scientifique

⁷ Encadrant, encadrante

⁸ In addition to these eligibility criteria are the criteria of the foreign agency (to be checked with the foreign agency).

⁹ Cf. definition in ANR's Regulations for allocating grants

6. FUNDING PROVISIONS

Each agency provides funding for the relative expenditure of its own country's teams **according to its own rules**.

The ANR funding rules are available at this address <http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/financer-votre-projet/reglement-financier/>

7. SCHEDULE

- Closure of project proposals registration on the ANR website: October, 13th 2026 at 5 pm (Paris time)
- Closure of project proposals registration on the FNR website: **a week after** the targeted ANR deadline
- Closure of full proposals submission on the ANR website: end of March 2027 (*cf. AAPG website for updates*)
- FNR schedule for the submission of the full proposal copy (as submitted to ANR and according to FNR's schedule): **it is essential** to consult the website of the Luxembourgish agency
- Joint decision and publication of the results: October 2027 (indicative date)
- Possible project start date: final quarter 2027 – January 2028 / to be adapted according to the foreign partner constraints.