



RÉPUBLIQUE
FRANÇAISE

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agence nationale
de la recherche

Annex for the Franco-Swiss projects

Lead Agency (ANR) procedure

Generic call for proposals 2027

IMPORTANT

The evaluation of the Franco-Swiss 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 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 arrangements

SNSF contacts:

Humanities and Social Sciences : Paul Pignat: leadagency.ssh@snf.ch

Mathematics and Engineering sciences: Salomé Schumacher: leadagency.mint@snf.ch

Biology and Medicine: Sabrina Engesser leadagency.ls@snf.ch

Interdisciplinary projects: Daniel Pouly leadagency.id@snf.ch

1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF COLLABORATION WITH SWITZERLAND

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.

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 SNSF (*Swiss National Science Foundation*) have decided to forge a partnership.

The “Lead Agency” procedure has been continued in 2027 for the selection of Franco-Swiss 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 national teams¹ 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 2027, **the submission and evaluation of project proposals will be handled by ANR**. The scientific coordinator and other partners of the Swiss part **must nevertheless provide** SNSF with certain administrative information in accordance with its own procedures.

The aim of the partnership between the ANR and the SNSF is to support projects in which collaboration between the Franco-Swiss partners is genuine².

Within this framework, the partners will ensure the complementarity of the scientific contributions of each country and the added value of international cooperation. As far as possible, the project start and end dates should be the same for the French and foreign partners.

2. RESEARCH PRIORITIES

All research fields funded by ANR and SNSF.

¹ A French team is a partner with an establishment or subsidiary in France.

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

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 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 Swiss partners must prepare a joint scientific project. Each country's teams **must designate** a national scientific coordinator.

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

French partners:

Projects must be submitted within the framework of the "International Collaborative Research Project" process (PRCI) in ANR's 2027 Generic call for proposals.

Foreign partners:

It is essential to provide a copy of the project proposal to the SNSF. Instructions for the submission of it as well for any additional documents can be found at the following address:

[Lead Agency process \(snf.ch\)](https://www.snf.ch/lead-agency-process)

3.1. EARLY REGISTRATION OF PROPOSALS WITH ANR

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 mandatory³** (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-Swiss 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 instrument)). **Foreign partners** must be clearly identified in the online form, including **Swiss scientific coordinator**.

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*

³ It is carried out **only with the ANR**

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 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*).

3.2. SUBMISSION OF FULL PROPOSALS TO ANR

French PRCI project applicants registered before the **October 13th 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 **strongly advised 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** may 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*).

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 partner⁴, its acronym and its administrative category
- the foreign coordinator⁵ 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 indicated in each of the national currencies, and its equivalent in euros

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 partners⁶.

⁴ Partner as a legal entity

⁵ The information is essential for the data cross-checking with the SNSF

⁶ 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.

Finally, applicants are requested to provide a summary table for each French or foreign partner, with amounts indicated in each of the national currencies, and its equivalent in euros:

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

The following table must be included in the full proposal scientific document's 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 Swiss partners 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.

4. ELIGIBILITY OF FULL PROPOSALS

Each agency decides on the eligibility of a project in accordance with **its own rules**.

ANR verifies the eligibility of the full proposal taking into account the criteria detailed in the AAPG 2027 Guide (cf. §B.5.2 *Eligibility of full proposals*) and detailed below:

New
2027

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.

- 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 SNSF rules can be found at the following address: [Project funding \(snf.ch\)](https://www.snf.ch/en/project-funding)

Please note in particular the following two new SNSF provisions:

1. Under Project Funding, the SNSF will consider only one application per applicant within any 12-month period.
2. Holders of SNSF Project Funding grants may hold a maximum of two SNSF grants during the same funding period, provided that at least one of these grants was awarded on the basis of a Lead Agency, Weave, or International Co-Investigator Scheme evaluation.

Summary table of the *specific eligibility criteria*⁷

Country (agency)	Submission to the ANR	Submission to the foreign agency	Duration	Participation of a company	Other
Switzerland (SNSF)	yes	copy of the project proposal	24,30,36,42,48	ANR eligible SNSF not eligible	

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

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

7. SCHEDULE

- Closure of project proposals registration on the ANR website: October, 13th 2026 at 5 pm (Paris time)
- Closure of full proposals submission on the ANR site: end of March 2027 (*cf. AAPG website for updates*)
- SNSF schedule: no registration; it is essential to consult the website of the Swiss agency regarding the full proposal submission procedures
- 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