



## **Call for Proposals in Biodiversity research (IfbAnr2005)**

The **National Research Agency** Public Interest Group (**ANR GIP**) launch a call for proposals in biodiversity research. ANR asked the **French National Institute for Agronomy Research** (INRA) to support the administrative and financial management of this call for proposals.

ANR also asked **The Institut Français de la Biodiversité** (IFB), to manage and lead the 2005 Biodiversity call for proposals.

The Institut Français de la Biodiversité, a “Scientific Interest Group” has for mandate to coordinate the French research on biodiversity and to promote it at the European level and the international level as well.

INRA is the legal person in charge of IFB.

## 1. Scientific and Strategic Objectives

The International Conference « Biodiversity: Science and Governance », held in Paris in January 2005, gave the opportunity to raise several biodiversity issues and underlined the necessity to conduct biodiversity-research at a wider scale. This call of proposals is one of the consequences of the International Conference.

Furthermore, this call for proposals, funded by ANR, is a tremendous opportunity for the implementation of the National Strategy for Biodiversity Research, drafted in 2003 by IFB with the agreement of the Department of State for Research and the different National research institutes. So this call for proposals was built on the Strategy and the International Conference, calling for enhanced research on the biodiversity issues underscored by the scientific community.

Given the importance and the emergency that biodiversity research is facing on, interdisciplinary and international research involving foreign and French teams, labs, institutes will be encouraged. Cooperation with researchers from the biodiversity-rich countries is also wished .

*Hence, any proposals under € 300,000 in total costs will not be reviewed.*

## 2. Information and Contacts:

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ANR Project Leader: Michel Griffon

### **3. Call for proposals ifbanr2005**

**The call for proposal ifbanr2005 considers the 4 major concerns established by the National Strategy in Biodiversity Research:**

#### **1. Characterize and assess biodiversity;**

Projects could:

- Promote systematics and enhance the potential of taxonomic expertise,
- Develop approaches concerning Biodiversity evolution and regulation,
- Support long term monitoring systems and improve databases,
- Enhance emerging technologies for observation,
- Have a special interest in Biodiversity in the French overseas territories.

#### **2. Understand Biodiversity dynamics and foresee its evolution;**

Projects could:

- Support integrative and interdisciplinary research linked to the functional approach to biodiversity,
- Improve research on “biodiversity change“ models,

### **3. Assess ecological, social and economic impacts of Biodiversity changes;**

Projects could:

- Support experimental and theoretical research with a view to understanding and predicting biodiversity changes in ecological processes,
- Promote the development, the coordination and consolidation of real-size facilities involved in this research,
- Support research involving both human and environmental sciences to predict economic and social consequences of biodiversity changes.

### **4 Develop sustainable uses and conservation methods for species and their habitats;**

Projects could

- Analyse social parameters and choices leading to biodiversity losses or preservation,
- Develop innovative approaches aiming to optimize the social uses of biodiversity,
- Facilitate relationships between researchers and ecosystems managers.

### **General comment:**

Projects in then field of microbial diversity, linked with ecological processes or their consequences on human health, are included in the IfbAnr2005 call for proposal.

In order to fund significant projects, call proposals over € 300 000 in total costs are encouraged

Projects will be funded for 3 years

The project could involve one only team or gather several partners (international partners, especially developing countries).

Interdisciplinary project will be privileged. Participation of non-profit organizations and private partners is possible and expected.

The project could fund postdoctoral students and short-term contracts (engineers, technicians) on condition that they are involved in the scientific process. Equipments and facilities could be also funded (even big equipment for real size experiment).

Employment opportunities should be clearly motivated.

PhD funding is not wished.

*Documents available on IFB website, [www.gis-ifb.org](http://www.gis-ifb.org)*

- National Strategy for Biodiversity Research
- 2002 IFB Statement (in French only)

#### **4 Selection and decision authorities**

The selection committee is composed of the IFB scientific board and several international scientists.

The steering committee of the call for project will be mostly composed of the IFB Board.

The list of the review panel members and the steering committee will be published on the ANR and IFB website.