

# Annex for Franco – Singaporean Projects

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## Non-Lead Agency procedure

### Generic call for proposals 2024

#### **IMPORTANT**

The evaluation of the Franco-Singaporean projects will be carried out by the ANR in accordance with the procedures detailed in the Generic Call for Proposals 2024, [available here](#) to which are added the provisions of this document, and according to the procedure established by the NRF.

It is essential to read carefully the [work programme 2024](#), the generic call for proposals 2024, the AAPG 2024 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.adfi@anr.fr](mailto:aapg.adfi@anr.fr): questions about the administrative and financial arrangements

[aapg.science@anr.fr](mailto:aapg.science@anr.fr): questions about the scientific aspects of the proposal submitted

[aapg.si@anr.fr](mailto:aapg.si@anr.fr): difficulties encountered when entering data or during document submission on the website

#### **NRF contact:**

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NRF website (The National Research Foundation, Singapore): <https://www.nrf.gov.sg/>

## 1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF COLLABORATION WITH SINGAPORE

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.

ANR (*Agence Nationale de la Recherche*) and NRF (*The National Research Foundation*) have decided to renew their partnership **on biennial basis**. The aim of the present cooperation is to facilitate the setting up and implementation of high-quality scientific projects proposed jointly by French and Singaporean research teams and to set up borderless research funding areas. As part of this agreement, the agencies of each country evaluate the proposals and fund their national teams<sup>1</sup> for selected projects, according to its own procedures.

The purpose of the partnership between ANR and NRF is to support projects in which there is genuine<sup>2</sup> collaboration between Franco-Singaporean partners. Within this framework, partners will ensure the complementarity of the scientific contributions of each country and the added value of international cooperation. Insofar as possible, the French and foreign partners' projects must start and finish on the same dates.

## 2. RESEARCH PRIORITIES

The **biennial** bilateral agreement with Singapore is open to the following disciplinary fields **for 2024<sup>3</sup> edition of the Generic Call for Proposals**:

- Circular economy

These fields correspond to the following scientific axes<sup>4</sup>:

Axe A.4; Axe B.4; Axes D.1 and D.7; Axes H.1, H.6 and H.7; Axes H.18 and H.19

## 3. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

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

**The project must be submitted in parallel to the respective funding agencies.**

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<sup>1</sup> A French team is a partner with an institution or branch in France.

<sup>2</sup> Objectives defined jointly, shared skills and tasks, shared risks and results

<sup>3</sup> **the next edition is planned for AAPG2026**

<sup>4</sup> Cf. §G "Scientific axes related to the 2024 generic call for proposals" of the AAPG2024 text. Each scientific axis corresponds to a Scientific Evaluation Committee (CES).

### French partners:

Projects proposals must be submitted within the framework of the PRCI ("International Collaborative Research Project") funding instrument in ANR's 2024 Generic call for proposals, according to its terms and schedule.

### Foreign partners:

**It is essential to comply with the foreign agency's procedures, submission format, eligibility rules and opening and closure dates.**

#### 3.1. EARLY REGISTRATION OF PROPOSALS TO 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 19<sup>th</sup> 2023**. **This registering with ANR is mandatory** (cf. §B.4. In the AAPG 2024 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-Singaporean PRCI project, the applicant must complete the online form, the content of which is detailed in the AAPG2024 Guide §B.4.1. *Submitting pre-proposals (PRC/PRCE/PRME/JCJC instruments) and PRCI registering*). **Foreign partners** must be clearly identified in the online form.

Particular attention must be paid to the drafting of the abstract (cf. AAPG 2024 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 a foreign partner decides to withdraw from the project between the time a PRCI is registered and the time the full proposal is submitted, it will not be possible to change the funding instrument as there are two stages to the selection procedure for the other funding instruments (PRC, PRCE, PRME,JCJC).*

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. AAPG2024 Guide, §B.4).

#### 3.1. SUBMISSION OF FULL PROPOSALS TO ANR

French PRCI project applicants registered before October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 5pm deadline will be invited - subject to certain eligibility conditions - to submit a full proposal to ANR together with applicants to the PRC, PRCE, PRME and JCJC funding instruments selected at the AAPG2024 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 *AAPG2024 Guide §B.5.2, Eligibility of full proposals*).

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 partner<sup>5</sup>, its acronym and its administrative category
- the foreign coordinator<sup>6</sup> 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 partners<sup>7</sup>.

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 their equivalent in Euro):

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

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?	

<sup>5</sup> Partner as a legal entity

<sup>6</sup> The information is essential for the data cross-checking with the NRF

<sup>7</sup> 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.

				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 Singaporean 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 instruments (PRC, PRCE, 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 AAPG2024 Guide (cf. §B.5.2 Eligibility of full proposals) and detailed below:

- The project’s planned duration must be the same for both countries’ partners

As foreign agencies have their own eligibility criteria, it is necessary to refer to NRF’s grant call information document which will be disseminated to relevant institutional research offices (or equivalent).

Summary table of the *specific eligibility criteria*<sup>8</sup>

Country (agency)	Submission to the ANR	Submission to the foreign agency	Duration	Participation of a company <sup>9</sup>	Other
Singapore (NRF)	yes	yes	36	ANR eligible NRF: companies participate with own funds only	

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

#### 5. EVALUATION

The projects are evaluated in parallel by ANR and by the foreign agency according to their own evaluation procedure. Each project is thus evaluated on both sides. The evaluation by the ANR

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

<sup>9</sup> Cf. definition in ANR’s Regulations for allocating grants.

is carried out according to the same main criteria used for projects submitted as part of another funding instrument within the generic call for proposals 2024, with nevertheless some specific sub-criteria for the PRCI funding instrument, in particular related to the project's capacity to respond to the research challenges of the chosen scientific axis. (*cf. AAPG2024 Guide § B.5.3. Evaluation of full proposals*).

Next, ANR and the foreign agency decide on the projects to fund jointly from those selected by the two selection processes specific to each agency.

## 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 proposals registration on the ANR website: 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2023 at 5 pm (Paris time)
- Closure of full proposals submission on the ANR website: end of March 2024 (*cf. AAPG website for updates*)
- NRF schedule: refer to NRF's grant call information document which will be disseminated to relevant institutional research offices (or equivalent)
- Joint decision and publication of the results: October 2024 (indicative date)
- Possible project start date: final quarter 2024 – January 2025 / to be adapted according to the foreign partner constraints.