

Annex to the Guide for Applicants

Generic call related to the “Major Societal Challenges” and the “All-Knowledge Challenge”

ANNEX FOR THE FRENCH-CANADIAN PROJECTS

IMPORTANT

1. The conditions of participation, including the eligibility and selection criteria and the important recommendations presented herein, supplement the provisions specified in the Work Programme 2014 and in the Guide for applicants.
2. **It is important to read carefully the Work Programme 2015, the Guide for applicants, and the regulations concerning the conditions of allocation of ANR funding (<http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/RF>), as well as the present document in its entirety before submitting a research project proposal.**

ANR contact :

international@agencerecherche.fr

Contact in CRSNG/NSERC :

Wendy Ryan
+ 1-613-996-9253
spg_international@nserc-crsng.gc.ca

http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/index_fra.asp

1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE COLLABORATION WITH CANADA

By setting up bilateral agreements with foreign funding agencies, the ANR gives French researchers the opportunity to begin or to further their scientific collaborations, and thereby hopes to give rise to European and international teams of excellence.

The aim is to fund bi-national innovative projects that clearly stand out from on-going national projects, and that clearly show a strong complementarity between the teams of each country and real integration of the work.

The French National Research Agency (ANR) signed an agreement with the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) in order to facilitate the setting up and implementation of scientific projects of quality jointly proposed by French and Canadian teams. The specific conditions of this agreement are presented below.

The proposals will be submitted as PRCI (International collaborative research projects).

2. RESEARCH THEMES

The bilateral agreement with Canada is open to the projects falling within the scope of the target areas of the NSERC's Strategic Projects Grant (SPG) programme and within the scope of ANR's challenges (societal challenges and all-knowledge challenge).

We therefore recommend that you contact the NSERC for further details on the SPG programme: http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/SPGTargetAreas-SPSDomainesCibles_eng.asp

3. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Attention: The French and the Canadian partners should prepare a joint scientific project and submit it in parallel to ANR and NSERC respectively. They must comply with the conditions and format of submission, the eligibility rules and the opening and closing dates of their respective agency.

The teams of each country must designate a **national scientific coordinator**.

The French scientific coordinator must pre-register his/her intention to submit a "PRCI project" on behalf of the consortium on the ANR submission website **before November 18th, 2014**.

In a second step the pre-registered French applicant of a PRCI proposal will be invited to submit to the ANR a full proposal **imperatively written in English**. The French scientific coordinator must be identified as the scientific coordinator on ANR submission website. He/She is subject to the rules (notably the eligibility rules) with which each national scientific coordinator of the generic call must comply (see Guide for applicants).

A copy of the administrative and financial document (or submission documents) signed by the legal representative (the person who will be authorized to sign the financing agreement if successful) of each French partner of the project must be submitted on the submission site at the closing date of submission of the full proposal.

3.1. CONTENT OF PROPOSALS

The proposal must comply with the provisions of the Ministerial order of July 3rd, 2012 on the protection of the scientific and technical potential of the nation.

3.1.1. Content of pre-registered documents

The proposals of international projects must comply with the rules concerning the format and content detailed in the guide for applicants. The **foreign partners** should be clearly identified in the online form and in the presentation of the consortium in the description of the project.

The provisional amount of grants requested filled in in the online form concerns the French partners only. The provisional amount of grants requested by the foreign partners should be completed in the scientific description.

Attention: in case of withdrawal of their Foreign (s) partner (s), applicants who pre-registered a PRCI (International collaborative research projects) proposal will not be allowed to change the funding instrument when submitting their full proposal, since the other funding instruments are subject to a two stage selection process .

3.1.2. Content of full proposals

The full proposals of international projects must satisfy the rules concerning the format and content detailed in the guide for applicants.

In the online form, the foreign partners should fill in the administrative information only, and not the financial data (budget = 0).

Moreover, it is important to introduce the **contribution of the foreign teams** in the scientific document. Sufficient information must be provided to accurately evaluate the respective contributions of each team in terms of scientific input, resources and funding request.

The summary table of the persons involved in the project requested in the guide for applicants must be replaced by the following table:

Country	Organisation	Last name	First name	Current position	Role (national coordinator or partner) and contribution to the project	Involvement in the project (person.months)*	Requested funding to the ANR (euros)	Requested funding to the NSERC (euros)
	University X / Company Y			Professor	Coordinator Characterization of recombinant transcription factors in in-vitro systems...			

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

4. EXAMINATION OF PROPOSALS

The selection procedure comprises the following main steps:

- The projects will be reviewed in parallel by ANR and its foreign counterpart according to their own evaluation procedure. Each project will thus be evaluated by the two parties. As regards the ANR, the projects will be reviewed using the same criteria as the other projects submitted to the generic call for proposals and described in the Work Programme 2015. The evaluation criteria specific to international cooperation detailed in paragraph C5 will also be applied.
- Then, the ANR and its counterpart will jointly decide which projects to fund, among those selected on the basis of both evaluation processes (French and foreign).
- **A project will be funded by the ANR only if both agencies decide to fund it.**

4.1. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The ANR will check that the proposals are eligible on the closing date of submission. It will take account of the criteria indicated in the Work programme 2015 and detailed in the guide for applicants, as well as the additional criteria that are specific to French-Canadian projects and that are described below.

4.1.1. Additional eligibility criteria of the full proposals

To be eligible, the full proposals must satisfy the following additional criteria:

- 1) The consortium shall include at least one French partner and one foreign partner concerned by the bilateral agreement.
- 2) The same scientific proposal shall be submitted to each agency according to their own submission rules and deadlines. Proposals submitted to only one country will not be eligible.
- 3) The full proposal must be declared eligible by both funding agencies.

4.2. SELECTION CRITERIA OF FULL PROPOSALS

Projects will be evaluated according to the evaluation criteria mentioned in the Work programme 2015.

The ANR will use two additional selection criteria that are specific to the international projects in order to support the discussions with the partner funding agency:

- Balance of the respective scientific and financial contributions of the partners of each country
- Added value of the international cooperation and benefit for France

5. IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations provide guidance for the preparation of projects proposals and supplement the recommendations described in the Guide for applicants.

5.1.1. Recommendation concerning the contribution of the partners

The partners should ensure that the scientific and financial contributions of each country are well balanced.

The costs of participation in one symposium abroad at mid-project or end of project are to be budgeted for each partner.

5.1.2. Recommendation concerning the duration of the project

The project duration must be the same for the French and foreign partners. Note that the NSERC counterpart agency requires maximum project duration of **36 months**.

6. PARTICULAR FUNDING PROVISIONS

The place of origin principle will be applied to the funding, that is to say that each agency will finance the expenses relative to its own team(s).

CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT

All the French and the Canadian partners of the projects selected and funded by the ANR must enter into a consortium agreement, mentioned in article 4.4 of the Funding regulations (<http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/RF>), even in the absence of enterprises in the consortium. This agreement shall also indicate the **common start and end dates of the project**.

The deadline for returning the consortium agreement to the ANR by the French partners is mentioned in article 7.5.1 of the funding regulations.

Before any payment is made by ANR, the project partners will have to provide the consortium agreement signed by all partners.

7. PROVISIONAL CALENDAR

- Approximate opening date of the NSERC call for proposals: mid-January 2015
- Deadline for the submission of full proposals to NSERC: April, 1st 2015
- Joint decision and publication of results: September / October 2015