



**Franco-German Coordinated Call for Proposals  
on Future Security in Urban Areas**

**within the framework of the collaboration between  
the French National Research Agency (ANR) and the German Federal Ministry of  
Education and Research (BMBF)  
within their respective national calls  
“Franco-German call on Urban Security” and  
“Civil Security – Future Security in Urban Areas”**

**Call for proposals opening date: 14<sup>th</sup> of January 2016**

**Call for proposals closing date: 25<sup>th</sup> of April 2016**

This document outlines the topics and common procedure of the coordinated call between BMBF and ANR. The applicants from France and Germany will have to comply with their respective national rules and regulations. For further information please see the respective calls.<sup>1</sup>

In Germany as well as in France a high proportion of the population lives or works in cities or urban agglomerations. The broad range of recreational and cultural activities as well as a high density of infrastructures contributes to wealth and quality of life. However, the density of infrastructures and the constantly changing nature of cities and quarters also lead to new vulnerabilities for the population. Furthermore, cities are expected to be subject of major transformation in the long run that will require novel security solutions. Research is needed to enhance the security of the open society in today's cities as well as in the city of the future.

With this call for proposals the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and the French Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) aim at funding interdisciplinary research projects that enhance the security of today's and future cities in Germany and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://aap.agencerecherche.fr/layouts/15/SIM/Pages/SIMNouveauProjet.aspx?idAAP=1044> (FR) and <https://www.bmbf.de/foerderungen/bekanntmachung.php?B=1125> (DE)

France. By doing so, BMBF and ANR want to intensify the longstanding successful bilateral cooperation of Germany and France in the area of civil security research.

With their bilateral cooperation on civil security research, Germany and France do not only want to strengthen future national security but also want to provide a contribution to the European security architecture.

## **1 Funding purpose**

This call is based on the German Federal Government's "Research for Civil Security 2012 - 2017" framework programme (<http://www.sifo.de>) and on the French "Building the European Research Area (ERA) and France's international attractiveness" part of the "2016 Action Plan" of ANR (<http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/en/funding-opportunities/work-programme-2016/>), as well as on an agreement between BMBF and ANR concluded in January 2009 to cooperate in the field of civil security research.

Funding is expected to lead to research solutions that help improving citizens' civil security, that open up international markets for security products and processes and in full respect of fundamental freedom and individual rights: the collaborative projects must be designed in an interdisciplinary and inter-institutional way. The natural and engineering sciences shall cooperate with the humanities and social sciences and public authorities in developing joint security solutions which meet practical and societal needs. Projects must take account of societal, ethical, cultural and legal issues.

The call is aimed at companies, research institutions, public authorities and organizations involved in security tasks. The involvement of partners along the entire innovation chain from research to industry to end users will support the practical relevance of the developed solutions. End users include local authorities, public authorities, emergency and rescue services (for example police, fire departments, Technical Relief/THW, SDIS, German and French Red Cross and other aid organizations), operators of critical infrastructures, transport services and private security service providers.

Research shall be conducted within Franco-German consortia. Such consortia are understood as joint teams of French and German partners with complementary competencies working together in one common project creating a joint output.

In very exceptional singular cases BMBF may also fund consortia consisting of partners solely from Germany, if proposed projects are of outstanding scientific value and aim at solutions exceedingly relevant for both countries.

## **2 Object of funding**

Funding will be provided to collaborative projects that conduct research aiming at innovative solutions for improving the civil security in cities and urban agglomerations. Projects may address today's security situations or forthcoming security concerns in the city of the future and have to create added value from the Franco-German cooperation.

Research to be funded shall address one of the following thematic priorities:

## 1. Security in changing city quarters

Changes in the population structure may affect security within cities and urban agglomerations. Changing attitudes of people concerning who should create security and by what means could for example lead to a decreasing acceptance of public authority. Projects shall aim at increasing the security in quarters that are or have already been subject to transformations like segregation, mixing of former homogenous quarters, or demographic or socio-economic changes.

Topics to be funded include, but are not limited to, innovative strategies, methods, concepts, and technologies

- for the knowledge based sharing amongst cities of best practices related to increasing security in changing or already changed quarters, including legal evolution if necessary
- for increasing the engagement of civil society and individuals as well as the broad inclusion of all actors relevant to security in urban areas, for example by means of formal or informal partnerships
- for analysing crime phenomena, for identifying possible foci of criminal activity as well as for analysing intended or unintended effects of measures to fight against crime, taking into account for example relevant technical, legal, organisational, societal and ethical aspects
- for minimising tensions, conflicts and insecurity as well as for preventing and fighting against city or quarter based collective violence and organised crime, for example gang crime and protection racketeering

## 2. Protection of the citizens in open accessible areas

Publicly accessible areas and buildings are an integral part of urban public life but their openness may also lead to risks for the citizens. Projects shall lead to technical or societal solutions for protecting the population during their visit at such areas and for providing quick aid in case of an incident. Solutions shall thus contribute to strengthen the freedom of individual life in areas such as marketplaces, pedestrian areas, shopping malls, parks and schools as well as cultural, historic and religious places.

Topics to be funded include, but are not limited to, innovative strategies, methods, concepts, and technologies

- for preventing areas of perceived insecurity as well as reducing threats and their impacts by means of structural and design measures, for example by making areas less hidden from view, supporting the guidance of crowds or mitigating the effects of explosions
- for the use, extension and connection of existing technical installations and technologies within buildings for the recognition of threats
- for improving the collaboration of actors responsible for security, for example local authorities, police, owners of shops and buildings, and private security service providers

- for analysing and mitigating threats and risks for visitors of open accessible areas that arise from novel technologies

### 3. Securing mobility in urban areas

New means of mobility require novel security solutions. Beside conventional purely public or private transportation modes especially multimodal approaches and novel mobility concepts become increasingly popular, for example car sharing. Also connected and (semi-) autonomous vehicles may play an important role in future urban mobility. Projects shall increase the future security of mobility within cities as well as between cities and surrounding suburbs. Solutions shall protect the freedom of individual movement and of private life.

Topics to be funded include, but are not limited to, innovative strategies, methods, concepts, and technologies

- for increasing the resilience of mobility systems, for example utilisation concepts and concepts for contingency planning to maintain mobility in the case of crisis by means of an intelligent cooperation of conventional and new means of mobility as well as novel mobility services
- for using connected and (semi-)autonomous means of transport or intelligent traffic management systems to improve the coordination and execution of rescue and evacuation operations
- for analysing opportunities, risks and vulnerabilities for the security of the population that arise from an increased interconnection as well as enhanced usage of electrical and (semi-)autonomous vehicles

### 4. Protection of citizens in the case of a breakdown of critical infrastructures in urban areas

Public life in urban areas relies on a variety of facilities and infrastructures. Due to proximity or interdependencies, failure at a facility or infrastructure may lead to dangerous cascading effects. Projects shall aim at improving preparation of, response to, and recovering from outages of critical infrastructures.

Topics to be funded include, but are not limited to, innovative strategies, methods, concepts, and technologies

- for analysing and dealing with an outage of critical infrastructures in the light of the trend towards the so-called smart city, including the assessment of risks for the security of the population that may result from an outage of widely applied cyber-physical systems in the future as well as recommendations for actions building hereupon.
- for analysing the psychosocial impact of an outage of critical infrastructures as well as aligned strategies, methods, concepts, and solutions for preparing the population as well as for responding to and recovering from a crisis
- for the emergency supply of the urban population with water, food, energy and health care involving public and private entities as well as the population, including restoration of affected infrastructures

Franco-German proposals addressing the future security in urban areas not focussing on one of the specific thematic priorities mentioned above may also be eligible for funding, provided that the added value for the Franco-German cooperation is clearly justified.

All proposals shall be based on a clear and reasonable civil security scenario and shall aim at solutions geared to real-world needs for improving the security of the population, shall feature a high application potential and are expected to clearly go beyond current state of art. Scientific excellence shall be clearly evident, the exploitation plan be realistic and comprehensible.

Proposals shall aim for holistic solutions and follow an interdisciplinary approach. Taking into account specificities of each country's legal aspects (for example issues concerning privacy and liability), ethical and societal aspects as well as future-oriented approaches for education, training and continuing education shall be included if this is relevant for the topic of research.

Proposals should describe to which extent solutions comply with existing norms and standards. Project oriented activities for creating norms and standards may be funded where appropriate.

Applicants should, in their own interest, familiarize themselves with the EU's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation "Horizon 2020" and examine whether the envisaged project includes specific European aspects that would make it eligible for exclusive or additional EU funding (see, for example <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/>). The result of this examination should be briefly described in the proposal. The BMBF and ANR encourage German and French researchers to cooperate in conducting joint projects under the EU's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation "Horizon 2020".

### **3 Procedure**

Grants to applicants from France will be awarded by ANR and grants to applicants from Germany will be awarded by BMBF. Applicants from both countries have to fully comply with the respective national rules and regulations. Information concerning specific national rules and regulations are available on respective national websites<sup>2</sup>

#### **3.1 Submission of joint proposals**

German and French partners shall prepare a common proposal (joint proposal) in English using the template. The proposal shall be submitted by the coordinator of the respective countries in an identical version to ANR as well as to VDI Technologiezentrum GmbH (VDI TZ) and may not exceed 35 pages (including annexes). All project outlines shall be submitted using the official template, which can be obtained from ANR or VDI TZ<sup>2</sup>. In addition to the national coordinators, the proposal shall name a spokesperson acting as rapporteur and contact person for both funding agencies. His/her main tasks will include the preparation of joint reports and a final report for the ANR and the BMBF, respectively. Furthermore he/she will represent the consortium in public and within the scientific community.

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<sup>2</sup> See for further information <https://aap.agencerecherche.fr/layouts/15/SIM/Pages/SIMNouveauProjet.aspx?idAAP=1044> (FR) and <https://www.projekt-portal-vditz.de/bekanntmachung/FutureSecurityinUrbanAreas> (DE).

In **Germany**, the joint proposal has to be submitted to VDI TZ via the internet portal <https://www.projekt-portal-vditz.de/bekanntmachung/FutureSecurityinUrbanAreas>. For the validity of the online version of the joint proposal a signed version of the document shall be submitted to the project management organization by the date stated below. **Proposals have to be submitted before or on 25<sup>th</sup> of April 2016.**

In **France**, the joint proposal has to be submitted to ANR via the internet portal 25th April 2016. For the validity of the online version of the joint proposal a signed version of the document shall be submitted before or 25<sup>th</sup> of Mai 2016, 13.00 h. Special attention must be paid to the fact that French proposals shall not be eligible after 25<sup>th</sup> of April 2016 after 1 PM in the Franco- German bilateral evaluation.

**Proposals have to be submitted online before 25<sup>th</sup> of April 2016, 13.00 h.**

The joint proposal shall be structured as follows (see the official template, for details<sup>2</sup>):

- 1 Executive summary of the proposal
- 2 Objectives and context of the project
  - 2.1 Overall objective
  - 2.2 Context and relevance of the proposal to the call
  - 2.3 State of the art and patents filed (by applicants, third parties)
  - 2.4 Scientific and/or technical working objectives of the proposal, including envisioned innovations and project feasibility
- 3 Project consortium
  - 3.1 Qualification and contribution of each partner
  - 3.2 Consortium as a whole, including assignment of roles and complementarity
  - 3.3 Added value of the Franco-German cooperation for the project
- 4 Work plan
  - 4.1 Overall project structure
  - 4.2 Detailed description of work packages
  - 4.3 Milestone
  - 4.4 Network plan
- 5 Dissemination and exploitation
  - 5.1 Handling of intellectual property and know how arising in the project
  - 5.2 Scientific, technical and economic utilisation of the results achieved by the partners involved
  - 5.3 Preliminary analysis of ethical, privacy and legal issues
  - 5.4 Added value for the Franco-German research cooperation
- 6 Calculation of estimated costs and funding requests for each partner

## 7 References

## 8 Annexes

### 8.1 List of individuals involved in the project

### 8.2 Synthesis of the project (according to the French national procedure, not applicable for projects solely consisting of funded partners from Germany)

### 3.2 Eligibility criteria:

All applicants must fulfil their country's national eligibility rules for research grant application.

- Scope: The scope of the proposal must fit in with the topics outlined above.
- The time range for collaborative projects will run for a period of up to three years.
- The French part of the consortium shall consist of at least one research institute (non-university or university) and one company. End users shall be integrated as part of the consortium or through an ad hoc supervisory board.
- The German part of the consortium shall consist of at least one research institute (non-university or university) and one company. End users shall be integrated as partners or, be associated (without funding).

### 3.3 Selection of proposals

The joint proposals received will be evaluated in both countries in accordance with the following criteria:

- Relevance to the subject of the call for proposals
- Scientific and technical quality, innovativeness and knowledge gain
- Quality of consortium, including involvement of end users and role of SMEs
- Methodology and quality of project construction
- Overall impact of the project, including scientific dissemination and economic exploitation
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation and expected benefit for both the French and the German side.

Projects will be evaluated separately on French and German side. On the basis of the national evaluations, suitable proposals will be selected for funding in a selection process coordinated between BMBF and ANR. The BMBF, the ANR and the project management organization reserve the right to consult independent experts when evaluating the project outlines received. For further details on the national selection process please refer to the respective national calls.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> [https://aap.agencerecherche.fr/\\_layouts/15/SIM/Pages/SIMNouveauProjet.aspx?idAAP=1044](https://aap.agencerecherche.fr/_layouts/15/SIM/Pages/SIMNouveauProjet.aspx?idAAP=1044) (FR) and <https://www.bmbf.de/foerderungen/bekanntmachung.php?B=1125> (DE)

#### **4 Further support:**

##### **In Germany:**

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