

# Annex for the Franco-Luxembourgish projects

## Lead Agency (ANR) procedure

### Generic call for proposals 2020

#### **IMPORTANT**

The evaluation of the Franco-Luxembourgish projects will be carried out by the ANR only, in accordance with the procedures detailed in the Generic Call for Proposals 2020 **available at this address:** <https://anr.fr/fr/detail/call/appel-a-projets-generique-2020/>, to which are added the provisions of this document.

It is essential to carefully read **Work Programme 2020, the Generic Call for Proposals, ANR's Regulations for allocating grants** (<https://anr.fr/fr/rf/>), as well as this entire document before submitting a research project proposal

**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 project proposal

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

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## 1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF COLLABORATION WITH LUXEMBURG

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.

To simplify and streamline the terms of collaboration and to set up borderless research funding areas, thus contributing to the development of the European Research Area (ERA), ANR and FNR (*Luxembourg National Research Fund*, in French *Fonds National de la Recherche*) have decided to enter into a Lead Agency type of agreement. Within this framework, the teams from the two countries prepare a joint project and one single agency (the Lead Agency) takes charge of the whole evaluation process (peer review and scientific panel evaluation) of the projects. Transnational projects compete with the national projects of the agency carrying out the evaluation. The partner agency can access all information on the projects. Each agency provides funding for its national teams<sup>1</sup> according to its own terms.

The Lead Agency procedure established between the ANR and the FNR recognizes the ANR as the "Lead Agency" for the evaluation and for the selection of the Franco-Luxembourgish PRCI projects.<sup>2</sup>

As a result, the submission and evaluation of project proposals **are solely handled by the ANR**. Nevertheless, the Luxembourgish scientific coordinator and the other partners of the Luxembourgish party must provide certain administrative information to the FNR, according to the terms and conditions specific to this agency.

The purpose of the partnership between ANR and FNR is to support projects in which there is genuine<sup>3</sup> collaboration between Franco-Luxembourgish partners. Partners will ensure that each country provides equitable contributions and scientific inputs. The same applies to agencies' grant applications. Insofar as possible, the French and foreign partners' projects should strive to align projects' start and end dates. Partners will ensure that each country provides equitable contributions and scientific inputs. The same will apply to grant applications made to agencies.

## 2. RESEARCH PRIORITIES

The bilateral agreement with Luxembourg covers all research fields funded by ANR and FNR.

## 3. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

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

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

### French partners:

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

<sup>2</sup> International Collaborative Research Projects

<sup>3</sup> Jointly defined objectives, sharing of skills and tasks, sharing of risks and results

Projects must be submitted within the framework of the "International Collaborative Research Project" process (PRCI) in ANR's 2020 Generic call for proposals.

### **Foreign partners:**

**It is essential to provide FNR with a copy of the project proposal or any additional documents in accordance with this agency's specific terms:**

### **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 1pm (Paris time) on **24 October 2019**. **This registering with ANR is mandatory** (cf. §B.4. In the AAPG2020 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-Luxembourgish PRCI project, the applicant must complete the online form, the content of which is detailed in the AAPG2020 Guide (cf. §B.4.1. *Submitting pre-proposals (PRC/PRCE/JCJC instruments) and registering (PRCI instrument)*). **Foreign partners** must be clearly identified in the online form.

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 possible to change the funding instrument given that other funding instrument (PRC, PRCE, 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. AAPG2020 Guide, §B.4).

### **3.2. SUBMISSION OF FULL PROPOSALS TO ANR**

French PRCI project applicants registered before the 24 October 2019 at 1 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, PRCE and JCJC funding instruments selected at the 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.

On the ANR submission website, the French coordinator must be listed as **the scientific coordinator** and the foreign coordinator must be listed as the **country's referent**. The French coordinator is subject to the rules (including eligibility) that apply to all national scientific coordinators under the Generic call for proposals (see AAPG2020 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 *AAPG2020 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 minimum information expected concerning foreign partners is: the name of the Institute<sup>4</sup>, its category (private / public), and the information concerning the foreign coordinator (country referent).

Only the amount of requested funding by foreign partners must be stated in the online form (via simplified entry only).

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.

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, FNR).

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?	
				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)

## 4. ELIGIBILITY OF FULL PROPOSALS

Each agency decides on the eligibility of a project in accordance with its own rules. As foreign agencies have their own eligibility criteria, it is strongly recommended to review these criteria <http://fnr.lu/international-cooperation/anr/>

**ANR verifies the eligibility of the full proposal** taking into account the criteria detailed in the AAPG2020 Guide (cf. §B.5.2 Eligibility of full proposals) and detailed below:

<sup>4</sup> Partner as a legal person

- 1) The provisional project proposal duration must be the same for the two country partners.

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

## 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 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 2020, with nevertheless some specific sub-criteria for the PRCI funding instrument, including one related to the ability of the project to address the research issues covered by the chosen scientific theme<sup>5</sup> (*cf. AAPG2020 Guide § B.5.3. Evaluation of full proposals*).

Concerning the specific sub-criterion " Balance and complementarity of the scientific contributions by respective partners in each country and added value/benefit for France from this European or international cooperation" of the criterion 3 " Impact and benefits of the project", the economic context of the countries partners are taken into account.

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: 24 October 2019 at 1 pm (Paris time)
- Closure of full proposals submission on the ANR website: 24 March 2020 at 1 pm (Paris time)
- FNR schedule: it is essential to consult the website of the Luxembourgish agency
- Joint decision and publication of the results: **September** 2020 (indicative date)
- Possible project start date: final quarter 2020 / to be adapted according to the foreign partner constraints.

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<sup>5</sup> New evaluation sub-criterion