



2025 Work Programme

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A. Context, objectives and priorities of the 2025 Work Programme

A.1) Overall context of the 2025 Work Programme

The French National Research Agency (ANR) is the funding agency for project-based research conducted by public operators working together or with enterprises. Under the authority of the French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, it is the operational research funding agency. In addition, the ANR was appointed as Government operator for the management of major investment programmes in higher education and research in 2010. The agency can also provide easy access to various related calls for proposals through digital portals.

Given that its core responsibility is to fund public research, the ANR must implement the national research strategy further defined in the Research Programming Law¹ (LPR) for 2021-2030 and establishing various provisions for higher education and research. Under the LPR, the Agency's missions have been reinforced and its resources for intervention increased. That way, the ANR will keep a substantial part of the funding granted on a "investigator-driven" basis, i.e., through non-targeted calls for proposals, such as its "Generic Call for Proposals (AAPG)", which should give researchers from various scientific disciplines access to co-funding opportunities, in addition to recurrent funding granted, on a large number of research themes, whether targeted or not, within both a disciplinary and interdisciplinary framework. In this respect, the 2025 Work Programme aims to fully consider how the needs of disciplines and projects vary (particularly in terms of resources and duration), while providing strong support to young researchers.

The LPR provides for an increase in research project funding allocated by the ANR. This increase in resources will make the following objectives possible by 2027:

- i) the calls for proposals managed by the ANR should reach a 30% success rate (including on the Generic Call for Proposals);
- ii) the *overheads* rate (current management fees and preciput) should double (40% target) to increase funding for institutions and laboratories.

The Research Programming Law also provides for the ANR to become a "key instrument to contribute to the dialogue between science and society", with at least 1% of its funding budget dedicated to actions supporting the dissemination of scientific culture. Its attached report also provides for increased partnership-based research funding, with twice the number of industrial chairs and Labcoms by 2027, and more than double the amount dedicated to the Carnot programme during the LPR period of application.

Therefore, the ANR is confirmed and consolidated in its role as a key instrument "to help increase research contributions to all public policies implemented by the French Government and local and regional authorities".² Its mission is to support French research excellence, both academically and technologically, through a competitive and thorough peer-reviewed selection process in line with international standards.

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¹ https://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/fr/loi-de-programmation-de-la-recherche-pour-les-annees-2021-2030-49733.

² See in particular the report attached to the LPR.

Additionally, the ANR strives to intensify European and international scientific cooperation by combining its programming with European and international initiatives, and by following the guidelines of the international scientific strategy defined by its supervising authority.

In particular, the ANR supports international consortia, in partnership with other funding agencies in Europe and worldwide in bilateral or multilateral programmes (cf. appendices \underline{E}). Its activities are also part of the implementation of the "National action plan for the improvement of French participation in European research and innovation funding schemes" (PAPFE)³.

Therefore, the ANR's Work Programme reflects part of the French research efforts conducted to support our society in addressing the major issues it faces, in line with the themes defined in the European Commission's⁴ "Horizon Europe" plan, or the United Nations' "Sustainable Development Goals" (SDGs)⁵. Mobilising science to implement the 2030 SDG agenda is a major research and innovation issue for the coming decade, particularly to encourage consistent digital, energy, social and ecological transitions. This SGD approach is defining, both for Europe, which uses it as a backdrop for its new 2021-2027 "Horizon Europe" programme, and for France, which has been mobilised since 2019 through the establishment of a 2020-2030 roadmap involving all public or private research stakeholders and citizens.

In short, the ANR's 2025 Work Programme is, in this overall context, the roadmap that integrates our country's research priorities. It also factors in the contributions made by programming advisory panels, including representatives of the institutions conducting research missions, such as the CNRS (French National Centre for Scientific Research) and France Universités, and applies the guidelines and priorities of the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research (MESR), which is in charge of coordinating inter-ministerial actions among the ministries involved⁶. That way, the ANR makes public research funding efforts more transparent to citizens, it promotes scientific, technical and industrial culture and ensures quantified monitoring of Government actions.

A.2) Priorities of the 2025 Work Programme

The 2025 Work Programme outlines the actions and calls for proposals⁷ offered by the ANR as part of the 2025 financial year, thereby providing a general overview of its funding opportunities. **It targets all scientific communities and public or private stakeholders involved in French research**⁸, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), very small enterprises (VSEs), and associations or foundations contributing to research issues.

Special attention is paid to the entire research continuum, in terms of "disciplinarity" (mono-, multi-, inter- and transdisciplinarity), including in cross-disciplinary research areas and the 7 cross-disciplinary fields of the 2025 WP (see <u>B Cross-disciplinary fields</u>). To further improve its evaluation processes and support the whole continuum, the ANR considers project interdisciplinarity or transdisciplinarity through the composition of its panels and peer review procedures.

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³ The "PAPFE", or European Action Plan, approved mid-2018, aims to call on French higher education, research and innovation (ESRI) communities to harness their potential, motivate researchers to get involved, and increase the involvement of public and private French stakeholders in the PRCI and all European research and innovation research funding instruments. The objective is to provide French knowledge, expertise and values to build the European Research Area.

⁴ Horizon Europe (European Union Framework Programme for Research and Innovation for 2021-2027): https://www.horizon-europe.gouv.fr

⁵ <u>https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/</u>

⁶ Supervising Ministry: French Ministry of Higher Education, and Research (MESR). French Ministries for Agriculture, Ecology, Health, Industry, Defence, Foreign Affairs, Culture, and National Education.

⁷ Research, experimental development and innovation projects.

⁸ Any partner with an establishment or branch in France.

The 2025 Work Programme also integrates strategic priorities⁹ set by the French Government and the implementation of government plans, such as artificial intelligence; social sciences and humanities; quantum technologies; autism in neurodevelopmental disorders; translational research on rare diseases, mathematics, and scientific exploitation of the data generated by ISOs and RIs*10. These priorities are detailed in the scientific themes outlined in the Generic Call for proposals. They will also revolve, if required, around the "France 2030 Investment Plan", and particularly around "Priority Research Programmes and Equipment" (PEPRs).

Finally, the ANR's 2025 Work Programme aims to strengthen France's participation in the European Commission's Horizon Europe Framework Programme, and to intensify multilateral strategic collaborations, mainly in consolidating the European Research Area (ERA), and bilateral strategic collaborations, particularly between France and Germany.

A.3) Structure and objectives of the 2025 Work Programme

The 2025 Work Programme (2025 WP) is structured around four cross-disciplinary components, each with its own budget. Each component has specific instruments, calls for proposals and programmes. The main "Research and innovation" component corresponds to the Generic Call for proposals (AAPG).

The objectives of the funding instruments proposed by the ANR are summarised below, in section $\underline{\mathbb{C}}$ of this document. Each funding instrument has a purpose, specific expectations and different eligibility, selection and monitoring characteristics. These could include collaborative research instruments, instruments devoted to individuals or any other programme or calls for proposals outlined below. As in 2024, a number of calls or programmes will be conducted in 2025, in the form of pilot or experimental calls. This includes republishing the programme supporting European or international scientific networks (SRSEI) and the Access-ERC call in SSH.

The **four components** of the 2025 Work Programme, integrating several strategic aspects, are outlined below:

1. The "Research and innovation" component covered by the Generic Call for proposals

The "Research and innovation" component includes both the acquisition of basic knowledge and targeted, often applied research. It is covered by the Generic Call for Proposals (AAPG) and makes use of all instruments (detailed in \subseteq) to fund:

- ➤ individual research projects coordinated by young researchers under the "Young Researcher" (JCJC) instrument;
- > ambitious and innovative research projects coordinated by a team under the "Single-Team Research Project" (PRME) instrument;
- collaborative research projects;
 - between a laboratory or national public partner under the "Collaborative Research Project" (PRC) instrument;
 - between a laboratory or national public partner and Enterprises under the "Collaborative Research Project involving Enterprises" (PRCE) instrument¹¹, or
 - between French or foreign laboratories and public partners, in a bilateral international

⁹ Each priority is broken down in one of more scientific themes of the Work Programme and its Generic Call for Proposals (see the full description of these scientific themes in the Generic Call for Proposals).

¹⁰ The list of international scientific organisations (ISOs) and research infrastructures* (RIs*), previously known as very large research infrastructures, is provided in Appendix 5.

¹¹ See the ANR's funding regulations: https://anr.fr/en/funding-regulations/

context¹², under the "International Collaborative Research Project" (PRCI) instrument.

Regardless of the AAPG funding instrument selected, all types of proposals are possible, without limitation: proposals with unprecedented objectives or concepts, breakthrough or exploratory proposals, proposals aiming to remove scientific obstacles that are well known to the community, proposals exploiting the data generated by research infrastructures¹³, or proposals resulting from previous proposals and intended to consider new objectives.

The "Research and innovation" component, covered by the AAPG, has been collaboratively structured around research themes, factoring in the fundamentals of the national research strategy outlined in the LPR (maintaining excellent disciplinary research, developing interdisciplinarity, supporting digital technology and SSH), the contributions made by institutions conducting a research mission, including the CNRS and France Universités, for possible updates, and requests from MESR, which is in charge of implementing the French Government's strategy by coordinating the inter-ministerial action between the ministries involved within Programming Advisory Panels¹⁴.

Thus, the "Research and innovation" component, covered by the AAPG, consists of 57 research themes:

- **38 research themes** are introduced within 7 **disciplinary** fields:
 - o Environmental Sciences
 - o Materials Science and Engineering
 - Life Sciences
 - o Social Sciences and Humanities
 - o Digital Sciences
 - Mathematics and its Interactions
 - o Physics of Matter, High Energy, Earth and Universe Sciences
- 19 **research themes** corresponding to **cross-disciplinary** issues (trans- or interdisciplinary) at the interface of several scientific sectors.
 - o Sustainability Science
 - One Health
 - o Ecological and environmental transition
 - o Energy transition
 - o Technological transitions
 - Digital transformation
 - Transformations of socio-technical systems

Each research theme has its own scientific evaluation panel set up in the Generic Call for Proposals (AAPG). Panels dealing with cross-disciplinary or inter-disciplinary themes are therefore accordingly arranged to cover all disciplines.

When submitting a proposal for the 2025 AAPG, researchers should select the funding instrument that will best meet the scientific objectives and needs of their project, as well as the research theme that matches a scientific evaluation panel.

¹² The ANR has entered into a number of bilateral agreements with foreign agencies (see Appendix <u>E</u>) to fund projects conducted between teams from two signatory countries. Some collaborations on targeted themes are covered by specific calls (<u>Table 2 – Appendix E</u>).

¹³ In 2022 and 2023, the ANR implemented a pilot call on the scientific exploitation of research infrastructure data (ESDIR). As of 2024, this call has been replaced by (1) the opportunity to submit projects requiring the scientific exploitation of data from research infrastructures to the AAPG and (2) the establishment of a priority for the "scientific exploitation of data generated by ISOs and RIs*"

¹⁴ Programming Advisory Panels (CPP) were established in 2018. CPP and inter-CPP meetings were held from March to April 2024, as part of the development of the 2025 Work Programme.

2. Specific actions not included in the AAPG (Flash, Challenges, specific calls, etc.)

A number of topics highly focusing on specific objectives warrant an urgent response or a specific instrument. The ANR has set up an emergency instrument, the **Flash call**, to support an urgent need for research whose scientific relevance is connected to an unprecedented event or disaster. When a Flash call is opened, extensive advertising (website, newsletter, social networks, mailshots) regarding the sudden event is provided.

Specific calls¹⁵ may also be established beyond the usual Generic Call for Proposals schedule. These calls correspond to:

- new priorities decided by the French Government;
- the implementation of scientific plans or issues proposed by external (co-)funding agencies;
- pilot or experimental calls that best meet the needs and expectations expressed by scientific communities in programming advisory panels (CPP).

The most recent examples of these specific calls launched by the ANR are:

- the 1st joint "Chlordecone" call, in partnership with the territorial collectivity of Martinique and the Guadeloupe region, launched in 2022;
- the programme to host Ukrainian scientists, in partnership with the PAUSE Solidarity with Ukraine emergency fund, launched in 2022 and still underway;
- the 2024 "Specific Topics in Artificial Intelligence (TSIA)" call focusing on "Software Engineering for AI" and "AI for future 6G telecoms", falling within the 2nd stage of the national artificial intelligence strategy launched in 2023;
- the "Quantum sensors" call, falling within the national quantum strategy launched in 2023.

The specific, pilot or experimental calls launched under the 2025 Work Programme will be announced through statements issued by the supervising authority, the ANR, or funding agencies, and will be posted on the Agency's website or social networks.

Other topics require opposing teams developing competing approaches to remove major scientific or technological obstacles. Therefore, the ANR elaborated a specific scheme: the **Challenge**. The challenge is covered by a specific, usually co-funded call, outlining its objectives and the type of tests considered. These calls are also announced on the Agency's website and are extensively advertised. The Challenges recently operated by the ANR are:

- the "IA-Biodiv" Research in artificial intelligence in the field of biodiversity Challenge, in partnership with the French Development Agency (AFD), launched in 2021;
- The "Mobilex" Mobility in complex environments Challenge, in partnership with the French Defence Innovation Agency (AID), French National Centre for Space Studies (CNES) and French Agency for Innovation in Transport (AIT), launched in 2023.

3. The "Building the European Research Area (ERA) and France's international attractiveness" component

This component provides French researchers and teams with funding instruments to increase the impact and attractiveness of French national research, and help build the European Research Area (ERA). These actions specify or supplement those conducted under the Horizon Europe programme. They aim to drive high-level partnership-based research dynamics and build French team leadership in European and international programmes.

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¹⁵ Specific calls are scheduled throughout the year and are announced on the agency's website. The "ANR newsletter" regularly provides regular news updates about the Agency.

Within the 2024 Work Programme, the "Building the European Research Area (ERA) and France's international attractiveness" component proposes several funding instruments falling within the implementation of the "National action plan for the improvement of French participation in European research and innovation funding schemes" (PAPFE)³:

- ➤ "Setting up European or International Scientific Networks" (MRSEI), aiming to strengthen the position and impact of French research in Europe and internationally (cf. D.5).
- ➤ "Supporting European or International Scientific Networks" (SRSEI), aiming to improve the quality of the applications submitted by project coordinators to fund a research project in European (Horizon Europe) or international collaborative calls (cf. <u>D.6</u>).
- ➤ "Tremplin-ERC" (T-ERC), aiming to extend the success of French researchers to the "Starting grants" and "Consolidator grants" calls for proposals of the European Research Council (ERC). (cf. D.7).
- ➤ "Access-ERC in SSH" to fund the hosting of young post-doctoral researchers (French or foreign PhDs who defended their doctoral thesis less than 4 years ago) in a French laboratory, who are seeking to boost their international exposure and submit a future application to the ERC's Starting Grants. (cf. D.8).

In addition to these individual-targeted instruments, the ANR contributes to funding French teams through multilateral programmes, such as European instruments (calls co-funded by the "Partnerships" European Commission under the "Horizon Europe" programme, and recent instrument calls of the "Horizon 2020" programme) but also as part of other multilateral actions on major global challenges (G7 research, Belmont Forum, etc.) (cf. D.9 and table 3 - appendix E for the projected summary of these international calls; the updated list of open and forthcoming calls is available on the ANR website).

Finally, bilateral agreements between the ANR and foreign agencies help set up strategic partnerships or encourage a number of international collaborations. There is, on the one hand, the bilateral "International collaborative research project" (PRCI) instrument included in the "Research and Innovation" component and, on the other hand, dedicated bilateral thematic calls run separately from the Generic Call for Proposals (cf. D.9 and table 2 – appendix E).

4. The "Economic impact of research and competitiveness (IERC)" component

This component aims to boost enterprise partnerships and the transfer of public research results to the economic world. The actions proposed intensify cooperation and partnerships, and lead to the promotion of public research results. As a result, they aim to support R&D enterprise efforts by encouraging them to invent and innovate.

These actions follow increasing technological readiness (Technology Readiness Level - TRL), but also a more or less strengthened integration of these cross-sectoral partnerships. In addition, it has become apparent that, in France, relatively few SMEs and ETIs provide service or product innovations due to their difficulties in forging links with the public research sector, which leads to a number of actions being directed towards these SMEs and ETIs.

Therefore, the IERC component is based on specific programmes supplementing the "Collaborative research projects involving enterprises" instrument in the "Research and innovation" component (cf. C.3-3):

> LabCom (Joint laboratory): to create and strengthen joint laboratories built jointly between a

public research laboratory and a start-up¹⁶, small or medium-sized enterprise (SME), or an intermediate-sized enterprise (ETI). The level of technological or social readiness of the projects is intermediate. (*cf.* <u>D.1</u>).

- ➤ *Industrial chairs*: by creating chairs that are jointly built and funded between public laboratories and enterprises, this action aims to strengthen the potential for innovative and strategic research in priority areas for the French industry, where technological or social readiness levels are still low. (*cf.* <u>D.2</u>).
- ➤ *Carnot Institute*: to develop contractual research between public research structures and the socio-economic world. (*cf.* D.3).
- ➤ Astrid and Astrid Maturation: calls run by the ANR and funded by the French Defence Innovation Agency (AID) to develop dual research (cf. <u>D.4</u>).

All these actions focusing on public-private partnerships are coordinated with academic research transfer structures, funded in particular under the Investments for the Future Programme (PIA), such as Technology Transfer Acceleration Companies (SATTs) and University Innovation Clusters (PUIs), but also public structures close to the socio-economic sector.

A.4) Other funding, partnership and co-funding opportunities

In keeping with its responsibility to fund project-based research, the ANR builds partnerships with other funding institutions (*cf.* table 4, in appendix), such as:

- the French Biodiversity Agency (OFB),
- the French Development Agency (AFD),
- the French Defence Innovation Agency (AID),
- the General Directorate for Healthcare Provision (DGOS) of the French Ministry for Solidarity and Health,
- the French General Secretariat for Defence and National Security (SGDSN),
- the French Ministry of Ecological Transition (MTE),
- local and regional authorities.

These highly significant partnerships represent project funding or co-funding opportunities that supplement the ANR's own funding budget¹⁷. Examples include the *Astrid* and *Astrid Maturation* programmes, dedicated to dual research and implemented by the ANR, under the auspices of and with funding from the AID (*cf.* D.4).

More recently, the ANR partnered with the French Development Agency (AFD), as part of specific "Partnerships with African Higher Education" calls (the results of the first PEA1 and PEA2 calls were published in 2021 and in 2023) funded by the AFD. Each call is funded by the French Development Agency (AFD), under the "Welcome to France" strategy coordinated by the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE), and operated by the French National Research Agency (ANR) and Campus France. It will establish strategic partnerships for the co-development, among peers, of higher education training in Africa. A first edition, launched in 2021, built six strategic partnerships, and the second 2023 edition, with 8 recipients, further expanded this partnership-based higher education training network, now consisting of 14 African and 35 French higher education institutions.

¹⁶ As of 2024, start-ups are also eligible to the LabCom call.

¹⁷ Co-funding means that part of the funding allocated to the project (based on the initial application) comes from the ANR partner. Usually, this does not constitute additional funding.

The strategic partnership built with local and regional authorities focuses on simplification, transparency and co-development. One of its objectives is to support and improve the already active mobilisation of regional scientific communities regarding their involvement in ANR calls for proposals, and to promote the visibility of regional calls using the portal (https://www.appelsprojetsrecherche.fr/). Partnerships are also focusing on supporting researchers responding to European and international calls for proposals, to strengthen the ties between the Region, the French Government and Europe, to meet current societal issues and transitions.

The ANR also established partnerships with very large research infrastructures, which can support research projects funded by the agency. Requests for resources may, for instance, be made to GENCI (*Big National Equipment for Intensive Computing*) to access computing and storage resources for needs in digital simulation, big data processing or artificial intelligence.

All these calls and actions conducted in partnership, or not, will be announced on the Agency's website and the <u>national calls for proposals portal</u> (https://www.appelsprojetsrecherche.fr/).

Certification by competitiveness clusters

For many years, the ANR has been enjoying privileged relationships with competitiveness clusters. A label may be requested before submitting projects (regardless of the call) to benefit from support and monitoring provided by competitiveness clusters.¹⁸

Funding by other agencies or foundations

Public entities other than the ANR, such as the *French National Cancer Institute* (INCa), *French National Agency for Research on AIDS and Viral Hepatitis – Emerging Infectious Diseases* (ANRS-MIE) and *French Foundation for Medical Research* (FRM), provide project-based funding and organise their own calls.

To ensure efficiency, projects covered by these calls for proposals are not intended to be funded by the ANR. Thus, the eligibility of the projects submitted to the ANR, regardless of the 2025 Work Programme's call for proposals, and falling within themes likely to be supported by other organisations or funding agencies, will be jointly evaluated by the ANR and these organisations. Projects funded by other agencies, foundations, or local authorities under similar instruments and with identical expectations will not be eligible for double funding.

A.5) The ANR's values and commitments within the 2025 Work Programme

All calls for proposals or programmes of the 2025 Work Programme are concerned. All participants in the proposals submitted to these calls and everyone involved in ANR-funded projects undertake to abide by these values and commitments.

1. Ethics, scientific integrity and professional conduct

One of the Agency's main concerns is contributing to the dissemination of ethical, scientific integrity, and social science responsibility culture, and it must be a priority for its recipients. Maintaining society's trust in research stakeholders is contingent upon observance of the rules and values, which should govern research to ensure its honest and scientifically rigorous nature.

The ANR, who signed the French National Charter for Research Integrity, also adopted an Ethics Charter, which was amended in 2018 to include scientific integrity. For greater visibility of its coherent principles, the Agency formalised its ethics, scientific integrity and professional conduct policy in a single document including all principles and operational schemes to ensure their proper application. This policy is also backed by

¹⁸ https://www.economie.gouv.fr/entreprises/tout-savoir-sur-poles-competitivite.

the appointment of an ethics, scientific integrity and professional conduct officer responsible for the compliance with these fundamental principles, the prevention and proper management of conflicts of interests, and training of staff internal or external to the agency.

In this respect, a scientific project coordinator (regardless of the call for proposals) undertakes to ensure that all project participants (seeking funding or not) comply with the principles reflected in the <u>French National Charter for Scientific Integrity</u> and the <u>ANR's Ethics and Scientific Integrity</u> Charter²⁰.

The ANR encourages the research teams involved in a project to include, in their research approach, a reflection on ethical challenges that may arise from the objectives, methodology or the results expected of their project and their applications.

The ANR reiterates that, when conducting research, each researcher is responsible for leaning the best practices recognised in his/her scientific discipline, and for rigorously applying them in his/her efforts and when publishing his/her results, in order to submit them for a review by the scientific community and allow everyone to use them.

In addition, each scientific coordinator applying for a grant formally declares that his or her superior (namely the unit director, the relevant administrative and financial departments and person(s) authorised to legally represent the institution managing the grant, or its representatives) has approved the ongoing submission procedure, and that the information regarding the application has been communicated to them. The ANR may send the list of recorded submissions to laboratory directors and administrative officers of the managing institutions for projects that concern them.

2. Gender equality

The ANR is committed to addressing gender inequalities in higher education and research (ESR), and therefore added the principle of equality in its Ethics and Scientific Integrity Charter, and rolled out an equality action plan resulting in the awarding of the equality label in 2023. The goals pursued include ensuring equal treatment between projects, whether they are coordinated by women or men. To this end, the Agency undertakes to train reviewers on the issue of potential gender biases in the selection process, and to regularly provide submission and selection data assessments.

The ANR is also committed to promoting women in science who received ANR funding, or were involved in scientific evaluation panels as chairwoman or panel member, to give them greater exposure and fight against a too often masculine representation of science, and encourage young women to invest in areas where they are either missing or a minority.

In this context, the coordinator of an ANR-funded project undertakes to provide fair visibility to all research efforts produced, whether they are conducted by women or men.

In addition, the project coordinator undertakes, where relevant, to consider the sex and/or gender aspect in his or her research, regardless of the field, set aside gender biases in the production of knowledge and anticipate the potential impacts of their applications.

¹⁹ https://www.ofis-france.fr/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/2015 National Charter NoLogo.pdf

²⁰ https://anr.fr/en/anrs-role-in-research/commitments/scientific-integrity/

3. Scientific publications, research data, source codes and software

As part of the ANR's contribution to promoting and implementing Open Science, and in line with the French National action plan for Open Science (PNSO) and international Plan S, ANR recipients undertake to:

I - Ensure immediate open access to peer-reviewed scientific publications.

Thus, all scientific publications stemming from ANR-funded projects under the 2025 Work Programme will be made available in open access under the *Creative Commons CC-BY* license²¹ or equivalent, by using one of the three following methods:

- publication in a natively open access journal;
- publication in a subscription journal that is part of a transformative agreement or transformative journal²²;
- publication in a subscription journal. The publisher's version or manuscript accepted for publication will be deposited in the Open archive HAL under a *CC-BY* license, by implementing the Rights retention Strategy (RRS),²³ according to the terms specified in the special conditions.

When submitting a proposal, the author will use the following wording in the article and/or in the letter addressed to the publisher:

"This research has been funded, either in full or in part, by the French National Research Agency (ANR) under project ANR-nn-XXXX-nnnn. With a view to open access publication, the author has applied for an open access CC-BY licence for any manuscript accepted for publication (AAM) as a result of this submission."

The authors can use the Journal Checker Tool to check whether their selected journal or review complies with Plan S and which channel is open to them.²⁴

Furthermore, the project coordinator undertakes to ensure that the **full text** of these scientific publications (version approved for publication or publisher's version) is **deposited in the national Open archive HAL**, no later than the time of publication, and to mention the ANR research project reference (e.g. ANR-25-CE64-0001) from which they result, by associating a permanent identifier (e.g. DOI Crossref).

Additionally, the ANR recommends that peer-reviewed book chapters and scientific publications stemming from ANR projects be made available in open access under the Creative Commons license or equivalent (the CC-BY license is recommended). The ANR encourages submitting the full research chapter or publication in the national Open archive HAL (version approved for publication or publisher's version) and mention the ANR research project reference (e.g., ANR-22-CE56-0001) by associating a permanent identifier (e.g. DOI Crossref).

The ANR also encourages the submission of pre-publications (*preprints*) in open platforms or archives.

II - Facilitate research data sharing and re-use, particularly for publication data, by adopting a FAIR approach (Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability, Reusability) in line with the "as open as possible and

²¹ https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/deed.en

²² Definition of a transformative agreement or transformative journal: https://www.coalition-s.org/transformative-journals-fag/

²³ https://www.ouvrirlascience.fr/implementing-the-rights-retention-strategy-for-scientific-publications/

²⁴ https://journalcheckertool.org/

as closed as necessary" principle, and provide, within 6 months after the start of the project, a first version of the Data Management Plan (DMP), under the terms set out in the special conditions²⁵. In addition, recipients undertake to submit the data they seek to publish in a thematic repository of reference, or in recherche.data.gouv, by mentioning the ANR project reference from which they result (e.g., ANR-22-CE56-0001).²⁶

Finally, pursuant to the 2nd National plan for Open Science, the ANR recommends that any software developed during the project be made available under a free license, and that source codes be stored in the Software Heritage archive and described in HAL by indicating the ANR project reference (e.g., ANR-22-CE56-0001).

4. Promoting scientific, technical and industrial culture, and the dialogue between science and society

The ANR encourages its funding recipients to take and/or participate in actions to transfer knowledge to citizens and decision-makers, such as the publication of articles in the press, media interviews, public decision-making support, involvement in science festivals, organising public debates, outreach efforts, writing of articles in a free online encyclopaedia, etc.

The Research Programming Law (LPR) for 2021-2030 goes beyond to improve the relationships between science, research and society. In line with MESR, the ANR launched in 2021 a call for expressions of interest on "Science with and for society (AMI-SAPS)", which resulted in the planning of several calls for proposals under the National "Science with and for Society" Plan to:

- 1) support scientific mediation and communication research
- 2) encourage the development of scientific, technical and industrial culture within research and knowledge dissemination institutions and organisations.
- 3) develop and structure participatory research
- 4) increase the expertise to support public policies, with a view to meeting major societal challenges.

Details of this multi-annual programming will be provided from September 2024, and throughout 2025 with "The ANR Meetings" (dedicated webinars), and will be communicated on the Agency website.

5. Accessing genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources

The Nagoya Protocol on the access to genetic resources and the traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity was adopted on 29 October 2010. It contributes to the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and to increasing the contribution of biological diversity to sustainable development and human well-being.

The Nagoya Protocol significantly pushes forward the third objective of the Convention by ensuring greater legal certainty and transparency for genetic resources suppliers and users. The European Regulation No. 511/2014 and French Act No. 2016-1087 determined the terms of implementation for

²⁵ With a view to simplification, and to promoting FAIR principles, the ANR recommends adopting the <u>structured data</u> <u>management plan</u>, available at DMP OPIDoR, to auto-complete the administrative data of the ANR project.

²⁶ To help you select the repository, you can review the resources at <u>recherche.data.gouv</u>. The Open Science Committee also established a <u>list of selection criteria</u> for a trustworthy repository.

this protocol.²⁷ Therefore, two check points are defined:

- i) during the funding stage for research efforts under the supervision of the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research (MESR), and
- ii) during the final product development stage, under the supervision of the French Ministry of Ecological Transition (MTE).

In this respect, the ANR must obtain "Due Diligence" Declaration receipts (DDD) for all the research projects it has been funding since 2019. Applicants to the 2024 Generic Call for Proposals will be asked to report any possible use of genetic resources throughout their projects. As part of research, DDDs can be registered online through the dedicated application on the MESR website. Credentials to access the application can be obtained from the director of the hosting institution. For more information, please visit http://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/pid37627/utilisation-ressources-genetiques-associees.html.

6. Scheme to protect the nation's scientific and technical potential (PPST)

The scheme to protect the nation's scientific and technical potential (PPST) aims to protect the access, within public and private institutions, to their strategic knowledge and expertise, and their sensitive technologies. It provides more effective protection against attempts to capture strategic or sensitive information that may be used for malicious purposes. The ANR encourages the recipients of its grants and project applicants to the ANR 2025 WP calls to contact their institution to implement the scheme to protect the nation's scientific and technical potential (PPST), pursuant to the recommendations of the French General Secretariat for Defence and National Security (SGDSN).²⁸

In addition, as part of the 2025 Work Programme and the 2025 Generic Call for Proposals, as recommended by MESR's Department of the Senior Defence and Security Official, the ANR implemented the PPST for submitted projects including, within their consortia, foreign public or private partners. Therefore, scientific or technical international cooperation projects identified by the ANR will be submitted to SHFDS/MESR for an opinion, while considering the national guidelines established by the SGDSN. Projects will not be selected if SHFDS/MESR provides a negative opinion.

SHFDS/MESR is not required to justify its opinion to the applicant.

Important: Before submitting a project to the ANR (all calls and instruments are concerned), applicants are invited to contact their Defence and Security Official (FSD) or the departments responsible for the application of the PPST within their institution in order to check, as soon as possible, if their project is eligible.

B. Research themes covered by the 2025 Generic Call for Proposals

The scientific themes are described in the 2024 Generic Call for Proposals with the associated keywords, ERC codes and, where relevant, SDGs.

Environmental Sciences

Theme A.1. Solid earth and fluid envelopes

Theme A.2. Living earth

Theme A.3. Biology of animals, photosynthetic organisms and micro-organisms

²⁷ Act for the recovery of biodiversity, nature and landscapes (Act No. 2016-1087 of 8 August 2016) and its implementation Decree on the <u>access to genetic resources</u> and <u>sharing of benefits arising from their use</u> (Implementation Decree No. 2017-848 of 9 May 2017).

²⁸ http://www.sgdsn.gouv.fr/missions/protection-du-potentiel-scientifique-et-technique-de-la-nation/ (CIR No. 3415/SGDSN/AIST/PST of 7 November 2012).

Theme A.4. Nutrition and food systems

Materials Science and Engineering

- Theme B.1. Polymers, composites, physical chemistry of soft matter
- Theme B.2. Metallic and inorganic materials
- Theme B.3. Engineering and Process Sciences
- Theme B.4. Molecular chemistry
- Theme B.5. Analytical chemistry, theoretical chemistry and modelling
- Theme B.6. Fundamental concepts of physics and diluted matter physics
- Theme B7 Condensed matter physics

Life Sciences

- Theme C.1. Biochemistry and chemistry of living organisms
- Theme C.2. Characterisation of structures and structure-function relations of biological macromolecules
- Theme C.3. Genetics, genomics and RNA
- Theme C.4. Cellular biology, developmental biology and evolution
- Theme C.5. Physiology and pathophysiology
- Theme C.6. Immunology, Infectiology and Inflammation
- Theme C.7. Molecular and cellular neurosciences Developmental neurobiology
- Theme C.8. Integrative and cognitive neurosciences
- Theme C.9. Translational health research
- Theme C.10. Biomedical innovation
- Theme C.11. Regenerative medicine

Social Sciences and Humanities

- Theme D.1. Individuals, enterprises, markets, finance, management
- Theme D.2. Institutions and organisations, legal frameworks and standards, governance, international relations
- Theme D.3. Contemporary societies: status, dynamics and transformations
- Theme D.4. Cognition, behaviours, language
- Theme D.5. Arts, languages, literature, philosophies
- Theme D.6. Studies of the past, heritage, cultures
- Theme D.7. Societies and territories in transition

Digital Sciences

- Theme E.1. Foundations of digital technology: information technology, automation, signal and image processing
- Theme E.2. Artificial intelligence and Data Science

Theme E.3. Software Science and Engineering - Multi-purpose communication networks, digital infrastructures

Theme E.4. Interaction, robotics

Theme E.5. High performance computing, digital models, simulations, applications

Theme E.6. Quantum technologies

Mathematics and its Interactions

Theme F.1. Mathematics

Subatomic Physics, Universe and Earth Sciences

Theme G.1. Planetary science, structure and history of the Earth

Theme G.2. Subatomic physics and astrophysics

Cross-disciplinary fields

Sustainability Science

Theme H.1. Sustainability Science

One Health

Theme H.2. Contaminants, ecosystems and health

Theme H.3. Infectious diseases and environment

Theme H.4. Public health, health and societies

Ecological and environmental transition

Theme H.5. Methodologies, instrumentation, sensors and solutions for the ecological transition

Theme H.6. Dynamics of socio-ecosystems and their components

Theme H.7. Bioeconomy, from biomass to uses: chemistry, materials, systemic approaches and processes

Energy transition

Theme H.8. Basic energy sciences

Theme H.9. Sustainable, clean, safe and efficient energy

Technological transitions

Theme H.10. Nano-objects and functional nanomaterials, interfaces

Theme H.11. Sensors, imagers and instrumentation

Theme H.12. Micro and nanotechnologies for information processing and communication

Theme H.13. Healthcare technologies

Digital transformation

Theme H.14. Interfaces: Mathematics, Digital Sciences – Biology, Health

Theme H.15. Interfaces: Mathematics, Digital Sciences – Social Sciences and Humanities

Theme H.16. Interfaces: Mathematics, Digital Sciences – Earth System and Environmental Sciences

Transformation of socio-technical systems

Theme H.17. Global security, resilience and crisis management, cybersecurity

Theme H.18. City, buildings and construction, transport and mobility: transition towards sustainability

Theme H.19. Industry and factory of the future: Humans, organisation, technologies

C. Funding instruments provided under the Generic Call for Proposals

The ANR's 2025 Generic Call for Proposals mobilises several funding instruments to respond to both its mission in France's public research and innovation policy, and the project-funding needs expressed by research communities. There are three categories of instruments within the Generic Call for Proposals whose expectations and characteristics determine key points in project selection and monitoring:

- ➤ The "individual" category solely focuses on the "Young researchers" (JCJC) instrument.
- ➤ The "team" category solely focuses on the "Single-team Research Project" (PRME) instrument.
- ➤ The "collaborative research" category proposes three instruments:
 - the "Collaborative research project "(PRC),
 - the "Collaborative research project involving enterprises" (PRCE),
 - the "International collaborative research project" (PRCI).

All eligibility and evaluation rules are outlined in the Generic Call for Proposals itself and the AAPG 2025 Guide (available in early September 2025). As some rules or criteria have slightly changed between 2023 and 2025, these documents must be read before submitting a proposal.

C.1) Young Researchers Instrument (JCJC)

The JCJC funding instrument aims to prepare the next generation of talented young researchers by encouraging them to take responsibility, and prompting them to tackle scientific or technological obstacles using original approaches.

Therefore, the instrument aims to help young researchers acquire scientific autonomy, develop their own research theme, set up or strengthen their own team within and beyond their laboratory, acquire project-based culture and quickly demonstrate their capacity for innovation. It is also a springboard for young researchers who, thanks to initial support from the ANR, will be more willing to consider submitting a proposal in response to the calls launched by the *European Research Council* (ERC).

Focusing on the individual, this instrument provides funding solely for the young researcher's team. This instrument is open solely for researchers from research and knowledge dissemination organisations and institutions eligible for ANR funding. It is not open to non-tenured staff and cannot be used to fund the coordinator's salary.²⁹

C.2) Single-team Research Projects (PRME)

²⁹ Insofar as they are currently under contract (or will be) with the managing authority. The contract may have not started before the agreement. See the new eligibility rules listed in the 2025 AAPG Guide.

The "Single-team research project" (PRME) funding instrument is intended to fund a single team or laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination institution or organisation eligible for ANR funding.³⁰

A PRME project corresponds to research directed towards outstandingly ambitious and innovative scientific objectives. The PRME is coordinated by a team or laboratory manager with all the skills and expertise required to achieve these ambitious and innovative objectives.³¹ A PRME coordinator is expected to be strongly involved. The applicant team or laboratory must justify its continuity, in the application, over the duration of the project.

PRME eligibility, evaluation and funding rules are specified in the 2025 Generic Call for Proposals (available in July 2025) and the 2025 AAPG Guide (available in September 2025).

C.3) Funding instruments devoted to collaborative research

Collaborative projects aim to achieve scientific or technological objectives by sharing knowledge and resources from various national or international public or private research teams or groups.

Therefore, the funding granted helps accelerate the research proposed through collaborative efforts. These instruments encourage research teams to conduct research for which collaboration provides a scientific added value, either because research can be conducted or because it makes it possible to consider results of greater ambition or quality. Inter-disciplinary or multi-disciplinary research is encouraged as part of these collaborative instruments.

A collaborative project is led by a coordinating partner (also referred to as coordinator), acting on behalf of all partners (at least two) and making up the consortium. A scientific manager is appointed for each partner.³²

C.3-1) Collaborative research projects (PRC)

The "Collaborative Research Project" (PRC) funding instrument is the ANR's main funding instrument. It includes all types of multi-partner research projects other than those covered by PRCI and PRCE instruments.

It involves at least two partners³³, including at least one from an "organisation" or "research and knowledge dissemination institution" eligible for ANR funding. Collaborations using own funds are possible, particularly for foreign team(s) from countries that are not eligible for the PRCI (*cf.* C.3-2)), in which case the consortium must include at least one team from research and knowledge dissemination organisations or institutions eligible for ANR funding.

C.3-2) International collaborative research projects (PRCI)

The ANR works in cooperation with research funding agencies from other countries, and provides agreements facilitating collaborations between teams from these various countries to its supervisory ministry. These bilateral agreements, which may cover targeted themes or be open to all research themes funded by the ANR, focus on priority objectives or geographical areas for limited periods of time, except for the special case of the Franco-German collaboration (Elysée Treaty, revised in 2019)

³⁰ Applicants should ensure not to submit a project that may be considered as a collaborative project. As such, a project submitted by several teams from the same laboratory should be considered as a collaborative research project (PRC) and not a PRME.

³¹ Only the project coordinator's team or laboratory is funded under the single-team research project.

³² See: Appendix 1 – Definitions (pages 19 and 20) of the ANR's Funding Regulations. https://anr.fr/en/funding-regulations/

³³ A PRC may involve two teams from the same laboratory, each being considered a partner in the collaborative project. In this case, it is not a PRME (cf. C.2).

in Aix-La-Chapelle).

Depending on the case, these agreements aim to:

- fast-track and develop collaborations between French researchers and the best international teams on major themes;
- promote partnerships with emerging countries based on themes of mutual interest and shared benefits;
- foster the development of transnational teams of excellence to conduct and share research worldwide.

For agreements targeting specific themes, the ANR and its partner agencies aim to renew the theme over two to three years to strengthen collaborations and foster the emergence of quality projects.

The "International collaborative research projects" (PRCI) funding instrument is devoted to these bilateral collaborations, which are established between at least one French partner (a laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination organisation or institution eligible for ANR funding) and at least one foreign partner (eligible for funding from a foreign funding agency, which has signed a bilateral agreement with the ANR).

A strong synergy is expected between the two partners submitting their proposal and should be reflected by complementarity of each country's scientific contributions and clear identification of real scientific project coordinators for each country. For the 2025 Work Programme, the countries involved in these bilateral agreements would be (pending confirmation):

- > In Europe: Germany, Austria, Luxembourg and Switzerland.
- International: Brazil, Canada, Quebec, United States, Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan.

<u>Table 1</u> (in appendix \underline{E}) provides details on the research issues and themes covered by these collaborations.³⁴

In addition to the agreements related to the PRCI instrument of the Generic Call for Proposals, bilateral agreements that are strategic for the French Government are subject to specific calls for proposals. The result of a joint effort with partner agencies, these calls are subject to a dedicated budget and, most often, to specific evaluation and selection conditions. ($\underline{\text{Table 2}}$ in appendix $\underline{\text{E}}$).

Information on these specific international collaborations is available on the ANR website and updated regularly as negotiations progress.

C.3-3) Collaborative Research Projects involving Enterprises (PRCE)

The "Collaborative Research Project involving Enterprises" (PRCE) funding instrument is dedicated to collaborations established between at least one laboratory from a research and knowledge dissemination institution or organisation eligible for ANR funding <u>and</u> at least one enterprise or trading company involved in R&D In France.³⁵ The project may be coordinated by the laboratory or public research partner <u>or</u> the private Enterprise partner.

³⁴ List established when the 2025 WP was published: applicants are invited to regularly consult the ANR website. Appendices specific to each country (available on the ANR generic call for proposals web page) describe the themes eligible and specific submission and selection procedures. They describe the additional eligibility provisions for the generic call for proposals, and must absolutely be consulted before any application is submitted to the ANR or a foreign partner.

³⁵ For the definition of an enterprise or trading company, see: Appendix 1 – Definitions (pages 19 and 20) of the ANR's Funding Regulations. https://anr.fr/en/funding-regulations/

These collaborative research projects involving enterprises aim to jointly reach research results which will be beneficial to both parties, by allowing the laboratories of research or knowledge dissemination institutions to address new research issues, or to approach them differently, and by giving enterprises access to the best public research so they can improve their capacity for innovation in various ways.

D. Funding instruments covered by specific calls for proposals

The 2024 Work Programme provides various **funding instruments**, each with specific expected impacts and distinct selection and monitoring characteristics.

This part is devoted to presenting funding instruments that may be used <u>beyond the Generic Call</u> <u>for Proposals</u>. They correspond to specific programmes or calls whose schedules should be consulted on the ANR website and the Work Programme's publication page.

1. Specific actions beyond the AAPG (Flash, Challenges, Science with and for society, etc.)

Challenges and Flash calls³⁶ are subject to specific calls that determine their objectives, or the research covered. Flash or Challenges calls are subject to specific communication when they are launched. To know the scientific scope and timetables, it is recommended to regularly check the 2024 schedule on the ANR website.

Since its inception, the **Flash** instrument has been used on numerous occasions (Flash Haiti, Flash Fukushima, Flash Drones, Flash Ebola, Flash Asylum, Flash Genocides, Flash OG2024, Flash Sargassum, Flash Covid-19, etc.).

The arrangements for a quick intervention allow projects to be selected and funded in a very limited timeframe (two to three months), while ensuring a competitive peer selection process of the highest standards.

The **Challenge** instrument, most often coordinated by a co-funding partner, aims to select and fund several teams that must compare their respective approaches during a series of tests, mostly organised in collaboration with the LNE (French National Laboratory of Metrology and Testing). For instance, the most recent Challenges implemented focused on Image Forgery Detection (DEFALS), Indoor Person Positioning (MALIN), Robotics and Sensors Serving Ecophyto (Challenge ROSE), Research in Artificial Intelligence in the field of Biodiversity (IA_Biodiv), and Mobility in Complex Environments (Mobilex).

As part of the **National "Science with and for society" plan**, the ANR developed a multi-annual programme for specific SAPS calls for proposals (2021-2025), which includes two components. The first focuses on "mobilising researchers for CSTI" by providing the projects selected to the AAPG with additional funding devoted to the societal promotion of scientific knowledge. The second, thematic, will develop other aspects and dimensions of the dialogue between science and society (participatory research, social innovation, etc.).

Six SAPS call were launched between December 2021 and December 2023. Four calls are set to be launched in 2024:

- March 2024: Mobilising researchers for CSTI and scientific medication, intended for recipients of the 2021 AAPG.
- July 2024: Participatory research
- September 2024: Mobilising researchers for CSTI and scientific medication, intended for

³⁶ These calls are referenced on the "open calls" page (https://anr.fr/en/open-calls-and-preannouncements/) on the ANR website.

recipients of the 2022 AAPG.

• October 2024: Expertise in support of public policies (with reservations)

Other specific calls may be set up at the initiative of the supervising ministry, other ministries, the ANR, co-funding agencies, regional partners, other French or foreign partners, or under the implementation of France 2030 PEPRs.

The information regarding these specific calls, which were still unknown when the 2025 Work Programme was published, will be posted on the Agency's website and will be widely promoted within communities, namely through the <u>national calls for proposals portal</u>.

2. The "Economic impact of research and competitiveness" (IERC) component

One of the ANR's missions is to promote the transfer of public research results to the economic world. In addition to collaborative projects with enterprises (see "Collaborative Research Projects involving Enterprises" in <u>C.3-3</u>), which constitute the instrument of the Generic Call in the relationship with the socio-economic world, the ANR has a number of programmes aiming to galvanise the partnership between laboratories and enterprises.

This cross-disciplinary component brings together three programmes, which are covered by specific calls for proposals: *LabCom, Industrial Chairs*, and *Carnot Institute*, as well as two programmes fully funded by the French Defence Innovation Agency (AID): *ASTRID and ASTRID Maturation*.

All the instruments of the IERC component imply the involvement of research organisation(s) and enterprise(s).³⁷ The eligibility requirements and the detailed characteristics of the expected proposals are explained in the corresponding calls for proposals available on the ANR website.

D.1) Joint Laboratories (LabCom)

The support programme for the creation of joint laboratories (*LabCom*) between public research or knowledge dissemination institutions or organisations and start-ups (new in 2024), small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) or intermediate-sized enterprises (ETIs) aims to develop the potential for industrial partnership and transfer that already exists among academic research stakeholders, particularly those involved in non-partnership research activities. The purpose of this programme is to support these stakeholders in the establishment of sustainable bilateral partnerships with enterprises, especially SMEs and ETIs, insofar as these links are essential in the innovation chain. The transfer of results or expertise from public research towards this type of enterprises can be a major factor in innovation, competitiveness and job creation.

For this programme, which has been open since 2013, the ANR provides €363k funding for the laboratory of a public research or knowledge dissemination institution or organisation. It is simple to set-up such funding, which allows for very fast implementation and greater flexibility in how the grant is used. This programme continues in 2025, under the terms and conditions and criteria close to that of 2024, mainly with the terms of agreement being extended to 5 years.

The programme is subject to a specific call on an *ad hoc* basis, and two evaluation sessions are scheduled for 2025. It is recommended to consult the dedicated page on the ANR website before submitting an application.

D.2) Industrial Chairs

The "Industrial Chairs" programme aims to mobilise resources to reaffirm and strengthen the competitiveness of French enterprises. Its objectives are threefold:

³⁷ Meaning a trading company. For the definition of an enterprise or trading company, see Appendix 1 – Definitions (pages 19 and 20) of the ANR's Funding Regulations. https://anr.fr/en/funding-regulations/

- Enabling French or foreign research professors or researchers, internationally recognised and possibly on the move, to work on an ambitious, innovative research programme of indisputable industrial scope.
- Building and structuring collaborative scientific research actions in priority and strategic
 areas, through a strong and sustainable partnership, for public and private stakeholders
 involved in the industrial chair.
- Providing quality training through research, at the highest international level, by including
 the long-term vision, methods and experience of stakeholders from the economic world
 when hosting doctoral or post-doctoral students in academic research laboratories.

This programme features a call for proposals open to all research themes, on topics jointly determined by the hosting institution³⁸ of the industrial chair and one or more partner enterprise(s). The proposal is coordinated by a distinguished scientist, future tenured of the industrial chair, and funded equally by the ANR and the partner enterprise(s). The selection process is based on a single submission document that includes the curriculum vitae of the candidate being considered for the industrial chair's tenure position. The application is submitted by the chair's hosting institution, in close consultation with the enterprise or partner enterprises (which sign a commitment letter when submitting the proposal).

Funding is granted for 48 months, with the ANR's contribution (€1.2 million maximum) being matched by that of enterprises (cash contribution paid to the hosting institution). This action is subject to a specific call once a year (the call is planned to be published in the last quarter of 2024). Researchers are invited to consult the 2024 calls for proposals schedule on the ANR website.

"LabCom" and "Industrial Chairs" instruments benefit from the introduction of a simplified ANRT procedure for participating enterprises seeking to be awarded a CIFRE grant.

Through partnerships about to be finalised, these instruments may also be subject to specific calls for proposals launched with partners in 2025.

A first partnership was established with the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region (SOUTH) An additional regional incentive devoted to scientific equipment will be operated in the form of a trial regional call for proposals over 2023 and 2024. This equipment must structure, facilitate and accelerate the partnership project. It will be open to any public research and higher education institution based in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region, and the recipient of the ANR's LabCom or Industrial Chairs call for proposals. This specific call for proposals will be announced on the dedicated LabCom instrument page, the Agency's website and the co-funding partner website.

D.3) Carnot Institute

Since 2006, the *Carnot* label is awarded by the French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, to public research structures qualified as "*Carnot Institute*", which are committed to put partnership-based research, namely through bilateral contractual research, at the heart of their strategy.

To guide and support the grouping of institutes with socio-economic stakeholders, an annual contribution, calculated according to partnership revenues, is paid by the ANR to *Carnot Institutes*. This contribution is dedicated to scientific resourcing, the professionalisation of the partnership and integration with the business world.

³⁸ The hosting institution must be a research partner: public partner or equivalent, whose main purpose is to conduct research such as public scientific and technical research institutions (EPST), universities, public scientific, cultural and professional institutions (EPSCP), public industrial and commercial research institutions, university hospitals, etc.

With more than ten years of existence and stability, this programme enjoys increasing visibility with enterprises. Its operation is based on a scheme involving regular retrospective evaluations and is internationally recognised by the academic and socio-economic world for its efficiency as a vector of technology transfer and innovation. The involvement of *Carnot* panel members, who are mainly from the business world, strengthen this symbiosis and encourages the institutes in this approach.

Simultaneously, the programme benefited from several calls for proposals to strengthen actions on a specific theme. From the outset, the "internal Carnot institute programme (P2IC)" in 2007 and "inter Carnot-Fraunhofer programme (PICF)" in 2009 were established in the Carnot programme budget to develop links between Carnot Institutes, and then between Fraunhofer Institutes. The investments for the future programme (PIA) also funded several initiatives. In 2011, the call for proposals "Exploitation - Carnot Institutes: Specific SME Action" and the call for proposals "Exploitation - Carnot Institutes: Specific International Action" aimed to focus on SMEs and international development. In 2014, the call "Exploitation - Carnot Institutes: Organising supply in response to the needs of economic sectors" was implemented for strengthening small and medium-sized enterprises or industries (SMEs/SMIs) or intermediate-sized enterprises (ETIs) by sectors. This final call was closed in 2023. Finally, the PIA also funded the Tremplin Carnot scheme.

A new call for proposals will be launched in the first half of 2025. In line with previous calls, it will help confirm the commitment of the current institutes and open new applications.

D.4) ASTRID and ASTRID Maturation

ASTRID (Specific Support for Defence Research Projects and Innovation) and ASTRID Maturation programmes, funded entirely by the <u>French Defence Innovation Agency</u> (AID), are subject to specific calls for proposals managed by the ANR.

The ASTRID programme aims to foster the opening of new research avenues on themes of dual interest (civil and military applications), and cover a wide range of disciplines. The objective is to explore scientific or technical hard points and encourage potential technological breakthroughs benefitting Defence, civil research and the industry. The significance of the "Defence" requirement is one of the selection criteria (possible impacts to be outlined upon submission).

The ASTRID programme is subject to an annual call which extensively covers all the key areas of dual research. The organisation and timetable are similar to the previous year's call (see the ANR's website³⁹). The launch of one or more additional thematic calls is possible, depending on the needs identified by the AID.

The ASTRID Maturation programme is intended to support the promotion of scientific efforts conducted under research support schemes funded by the AID and include projects from the ASTRID programme (see eligibility requirements⁴⁰). Since 2020, one calendar edition covers several submission sessions to encourage the fast selection and funding of innovative projects.

3. The "Building the European Research Area (ERA) and France's international attractiveness" component

In addition to international collaborative research projects ("PRCI" (cf. <u>C-3.2</u>)) which constitute the ANR's main instrument of bilateral collaboration, other types of European and international actions are planned under this component:

³⁹ For more information: https://anr.fr/en/latest-news/read/news/the-essentials-of-the-astrid-and-astrid-maturation-programmes-in-3-questions/ and https://www.defense.gouv.fr/aid/deposer-vos-projets/subventions/astrid

⁴⁰ For more information on specific eligibility requirements, please refer to the documents of the call for proposals.

- Setting up European or international scientific networks (MRSEI)
- ➤ Supporting European or international scientific networks (*SRSEI*)
- ➤ Tremplin-ERC (*T-ERC*)
- > Access-ERC
- Specific European and international calls for proposals (Horizon Europe Partnerships, ERA-NET, JPI, Belmont, etc.)
- > Strategic bilateral calls focusing on strengthening the Franco-German collaboration.

The MRSEI, SRSEI, T-ERC and Access-ERC funding instruments fall more specifically within the implementation of the "National action plan for the improvement of French participation in European research and innovation funding schemes" (PAPFE).

D.5) Setting up European or international scientific networks (MRSEI)

The "Setting up European or international scientific networks" (MRSEI) programme aims to help French researchers access European (Horizon Europe 2021-2027) and international funding programmes. Therefore, the proposals submitted must foreshadow an application to a European or international call for proposals.

The purpose of this instrument is to strengthen France's scientific position through the coordination of a proposal submitted to a major European or international call for proposals. The proposals expected under this call must demonstrate the actions to be carried out to build a scientific network recognised internationally, on topics from all disciplines and with a strategic, economic, technological, cultural or social impact.

To be as consistent as possible with European timetables and to quickly respond to project coordinators, the MRSEI programme has been the subject of continuous submissions, since 2018, with several evaluation and selection sessions per year.

D.6) Supporting European or international scientific networks (SRSEI)

The SRSEI programme was created in 2022 to provide scientists working in French laboratories, who submitted a research project to European (Horizon Europe) or international collaborative calls as project coordinator, with the resources to improve the quality of their application (full proposal or interview) for the final stage of the call targeted.

Under this programme, the expected proposals must strengthen a European or international scientific network coordinated by a French team and having been invited to further its application to the final stage of a European and international call organised in several stages. The applications selected, as part of a call for proposals continuously open throughout the year, will benefit from lump sum funding.

D.7) Tremplin-ERC (T-ERC)

The Tremplin-ERC (T-ERC) funding instrument falls within the national strategy to strengthen French technological research and innovation and increase France's scientific outreach and attractiveness internationally.

Therefore, the **T-ERC** programme aims to help French or foreign young researchers attached⁴¹ to a French public research and knowledge dissemination institution or organisation to submit a new application, with the best chances of success, in response to a *European Research Council* (ERC) proposal for the "Starting Grants" or "Consolidated Grants" call.

⁴¹ Researchers in the process of being attached are eligible for the T-ERC programme.

The T-ERC programme is subject to two specific calls in 2025 (dedicated respectively to "Starting Grants" and "Consolidated Grants"). All applicants who received an "A" rating under these ERC calls are eligible for ANR funding without any further evaluation of their application by the ANR. Switching from "Starting Grants" to "Consolidator Grants" is allowed under the "T-ERC Starting Grants" call since the 2022 Work Programme.

D.8) Access-ERC in SSH

As part of the National action plan for the improvement of French participation in European research and innovation funding schemes (PAPFE), the 2025 Work Programme also provides for the possibility to further an experimental "Access-ERC" call.

The purpose of the **Access-ERC** instrument is to allow the funding and hosting, over two years, of young researchers and post-doctoral student members in a French research laboratory, regardless of their nationality, who are committed to submitting an application to the European Research Council's *Starting Grants*.

The applications submitted to the ANR are subject to a single-stage evaluation and selection process, conducted by a multi-disciplinary panel including previous recipients or ERC panel members. The evaluation focuses on the **strategy to apply to the ERC's** *Starting Grants* **call**, **the scientific project**, **the applicant's background**, and **his/her partnership with the hosting laboratory**.

Over the first two years of the trial stage (2023 and 2024 editions), "Access-ERC" calls for proposals exclusively focused on Social Sciences and Humanities. That will also be the case for 2025.

Over the first two years of the trial stage for the 2023 and 2024 editions, "Access-ERC" calls for proposals exclusively focused on Social Sciences and Humanities ("Access-ERC in SSH"). That will also be the case for 2025.

D.9) Specific calls for proposals in European or international collaboration

In addition to the relationships established with some European and international agencies under the Generic call (<u>PRCI</u> instrument), the ANR is developing strategic partnerships with foreign funding agencies resulting in international specific calls for proposals.

These actions are usually focusing on a specific theme, and conducted under a multilateral "international" partnership (e.g. CRCNS/NEUC, ORA or Belmont Forum calls).

In line with *Horizon Europe* and previous *H2020* programmes, the ANR is also developing multilateral partnerships with its counterparts as part of European actions, such as ERA-NET, EJP, Article 185, Joint Programming Initiatives (JPI), and within new European HE partnerships.⁴² These actions are complementary with the other sections and funding of EU framework programmes. With this in mind, special attention is paid to a multi-annual approach to prioritise activities and combine national and European tools. The synergy of these actions is considered, in the long run, sector by sector, and may also lead to a combination of initiatives (e.g. joint calls between European partners and the Belmont Forum).

Finally, the ANR is setting up specific calls for proposals under strategic bilateral collaborations for the French Government. In this respect, and at this stage, five collaborations are being considered for 2025:

• Social Sciences and Humanities (ANR/DGF Germany)

⁴² <u>European Partnerships in Horizon Europe (europa.eu)</u> https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/european-partnerships-horizon-europe en

- ANR-JST CREST (Japan)
- Nuclear engineering (ANR-TACR Czechia)
- Hydrogen (ANR-DST India)
- AI, biotechnologies and quantum technologies (ANR-NRF South Korea)

All international actions are subject to various calls for proposals announced on the ANR website.

It is recommended to regularly check the list of ongoing calls (cf. <u>tables 2 and 3</u>) and their specific appendices on the ANR website

(submission and eligibility requirements).43

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⁴³The ANR's calls for proposals: https://anr.fr/fr/

E. Appendices

E.1) Table 1: Provisional list of bilateral collaborations under the 2025 Generic Call for Proposals: International Collaborative Research Project (PRCI)

Applicants are invited to consult the ANR website before submitting a proposal to the ANR or the foreign partner.)

Subscribe to the ANR newsletter to be kept up to date on any new collaborations.44

Method of collaboration	Country (agencies)	Themes of collaboration ⁴⁵
	Germany(DFG)	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and DFG, except for Social Sciences and Humanities ⁴⁶
	Austria (FWF)	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and FWF
	Brazil (FAPESP) and (FACEPE)	 Mathematics and Digital Sciences Social Sciences and Humanities Materials Engineering, chemistry, physics Environment, ecosystems and biological resources Biology and Health
ANR Lead Agency	Canada (CRSNG)	Artificial Intelligence
	Canada –Quebec (FRQ)	• (with reservations)
		Quantum technology
	United States (NSF)	Digital SciencesMathematics and its interactions
		Neurosciences
	Luxembourg (FNR)	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and FNR
	Switzerland (FNS)	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and FNS
Excluding Lead	Hong Kong (RGC)	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and RGC, except for Theme H.17
Agency	Taiwan (NSTC)	All disciplinary fields funded by the ANR and NSTC, except for Theme H.17
Foreign agency Lead Agency	United States (NSF)	Molecular chemistry (precious metal-free catalyst)

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⁴⁴ Subscribe to the newsletter at: https://anr.fr/en/newsletter/

⁴⁵ Each theme matches scientific fields. Each scientific theme matches a Scientific Evaluation Panel (CES). They will be subsequently specified the 2025 AAPG Guide.

⁴⁶ Social Sciences and Humanities are subject to a specific ANR-DFG call, beyond the AAPG.

E.2) Table 2: Specific bilateral collaborations under the 2025 Generic Call for Proposals: International Collaborative Research Projects (beyond PRCI)

This list is a provisional list of actions in which France, through the ANR, is likely to engage. Additional actions may be implemented during the second half of 2024 or throughout 2025.

Applicants are invited to consult the ANR website before submitting a proposal to the ANR or the foreign partner.

Subscribe to the ANR newsletter to be kept up to date on any new calls.⁴⁷

Country (agencies)	Provisional call for proposals themes	Relevant Scientific Fields
Germany (DFG)	Franco-German call for proposals in Social Sciences <u>and</u> Humanities	Social Sciences and Humanities
Germany (BMBF) South Korea	Artificial Intelligence With reservations Franco-Korean call for proposals on artificial	Digital technology and Mathematics, with reservations Digital technology
(NRF)	intelligence, biotech and quantum technologies	and Mathematics
India (DST)	Franco-Indian call for proposals in hydrogen	Physical Science, Engineering, Chemistry, Physics
Japan (JST)	The ANR is pursuing its collaboration with the <i>Japan Science and Technology Agency</i> (JST), as part of the Japanese CREST programme.	Under development
Czech Republic (TACR)	Nuclear	Physical Science, Engineering, Chemistry, Physics

⁴⁷ Subscribe to the newsletter at https://anr.fr/fr/newsletter/ Version 1.0 – 12 July 2023

E.3) Table 3: Specific calls for proposals in European or international collaboration beyond the Generic Call for Proposals and bilateral calls.

This list is a provisional list of actions in which France, through the ANR, is likely to engage. Additional actions may be implemented during the second half of 2024 or throughout 2025. Some calls may also be altered or rescheduled over time. Applicants are invited to consult the ANR website before submitting a proposal to the ANR or the foreign partner.

Subscribe to the ANR newsletter to be kept up to date on any new calls.⁴⁸

Reference	Short description	Relevant scientific fields
ERA4HEALTH	Call for proposals for the ERA4HEALTH Partnership	Life Sciences
	Theme to be defined	
	The ERA4HEALTH partnership focuses on fighting diseases and reducing the induced burden on patients and societies. It aims to support high-impact translational research meeting public health needs.	
ERDERA	1 st call for proposals for the ERDERA Partnership	Life Sciences
JPI AMR / Cofund JPI	5 th call for the ERA-NET Cofund JPIAMR-ACTION, under the JPI AMR	Life Sciences
AMR-ACTION	The JPI AMR aims to improve the understanding of the transmission mechanisms of antimicrobial resistance among humans, animals and the environment, and to implement surveillance and actions to limit the transmission of resistance genes, antimicrobial residues and resistant organisms.	
EP PerMed	2 nd call for proposals for the PerMed Partnership on personalised Medicine	Life Sciences
NEURON	4th call under the ERA-NET NEURON Cofund 2	Life Sciences
	NEURON aims to coordinate international and European research on mental health to reduce the burden of mental, neurological and sensory system disorders for patients and society.	
NEURON	"Task force" call for proposals under the ERA- NET NEURON Cofund2	Life Sciences

 $^{^{48}}$ Subscribe to the newsletter at https://anr.fr/fr/newsletter/ Version 1.0 – 12 July 2023

Reference	Short description	Relevant scientific fields	
JPND / JPcoFund 2	7th call for the ERA-NET Cofund JPcoFund 2, under the JPI JPND. The JPcoFund 2 aims to coordinate research to understand the origins of neurodegenerative diseases, find treatments and identify the best resources to care for patients with these diseases.	Life Sciences	
JPND / JPcoFund 2	"Task force" call for proposals under the JPI JPND and ERA-NET JPcoFund 2	Life Sciences	
COEN	"Path finder" Maturation call - under the national neurodegenerative diseases plan	Life Sciences	
CRCNS (NEUC)	International call for proposals in computational neurosciences	Life Sciences Digital Sciences	
THCS	3rd call for proposals for the European Partnership Transforming Health and Care Systems	Life Sciences Social Sciences and Humanities	
Biodiversa+	4th call for proposals for the European Biodiversa+ Partnership: <i>BiodivTransform</i>	Environmental Sciences	
Blue economy (SBEP)	3 rd call for proposals for the European Partnership <i>Blue economy (SBEP)</i>	Environmental Sciences	
Future foods	1st call for proposals for the European Partnership Future foods Future foods aims to draw on European research and innovation to speed up the transition to sustainable food systems Specific theme of the call to be defined	Environmental Sciences	
EUPAHW	1st call for proposals for the European Partnership EUPAHW (Animal health and welfare) Theme to be defined	Environmental Sciences	
Water4all	4th call for proposals for the <i>Water Security for the Planet</i> (Water4all) Partnership Theme to be defined	Environmental Sciences	
Agroecology	1st call for proposals for the European Partnership $Agroecology$ Theme to be defined	Environmental Sciences	

Reference	Short description	Relevant scientific fields	
PRIMA	PRIMA section 2 "2024 Call"	Environmental	
	under the Euro-Mediterranean PRIMA research programme	Sciences	
	NB: 1st stage closed on 02/04/2024. 2nd stage closes on 22/09/2024. Launch of the next call ("2025 Call") under the 2026 ANR Work Programme: January 2025		
Belmont Forum	"Amazon & Tropical Forest" Call for proposals	Environmental Sciences	
Belmont Forum	"Africa regional" Call for proposals	Environmental Sciences	
JPI Climate	"Climate Services for Risk Reduction in Africa" call for proposals (provisional title)	Environmental Sciences	
QuantERA	1 st call for the QuantERA III initiative on quantum technology research	Digital Sciences	
LEAP-SE	2 nd call for the LEAP-SE initiative (Long-Term Joint EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership on Sustainable Energy)	Energy and Materials Sciences	
	LEA SE focuses on Africa-Europe cooperation in sustainable energy		
M-ERA.NET	"2024 Call" under the ERA-NET M-ERA.NET 3: Materials Science and Engineering for Innovation in Europe	Energy and Materials Sciences	
СЕТР	3 rd call for proposals for the European <i>CETP Clean</i> energy transition Partnership	Energy and Materials Sciences	
DUT	3 rd call for proposals for the European Partnership <i>DUT Driving urban transitions to a sustainable future</i>	Energy and Materials Sciences Social Sciences and Humanities	

E.4) Table 4: Partnerships and co-funding under the 2025 Work Programme

All partnerships and co-funding are likely to be changed or supplemented.

Applicants are invited to consult the ANR website before submitting a proposal.

	Major themes that	
Partner		Relevant scientific fields
AID French Defence Innovation Agency	funding Themes of dual civil and military interest (energy, global security, cybersecurity, RBCE, etc.)	Astrid and Astrid Maturation programmes
DGOS French General Directorate for Healthcare Provision	Translational health research (synergy between basic research and clinical research)	Life Sciences and "One Health" cross- disciplinary fields
JU/KDT Key digital technologies	Contribution from the KDT programme	Digital Sciences
JU / Euro HPC Joint undertaking European high- performance computing	Contribution from the EuroHPC programme	Digital Sciences
MTE French Ministry of Ecological Transition	Innovative projects in support of public policies, to redefine climate change adaptation policies and determine their terms of implementation under the ecological transition.	Environmental Sciences
OFB French Biodiversity Agency	Implementation of part of the Ecophyto II+ National plan, including Theme 2 "Improving the knowledge and tools of tomorrow and encouraging research and innovation" or involvement in the	Environmental Sciences

Partner	Major themes that may be covered by co- funding	Relevant scientific fields
	Ecophyto- Maturation plan	
Regions Normandy, Grand-Est, Hauts-de-France Pays de la Loire, Guadeloupe, Brittany, Réunion, Martinique, SOUTH	Specific regional themes	All scientific fields
SGDSN French General Secretariat for Defence and National Security	Themes related to public protection and the sovereignty of the nation (to be confirmed)	Global security and cybersecurity
DGRIS French General Directorate of International Relations and Strategy	Social Sciences and Humanities, strategic research, defence, security, interdisciplinarity.	SSH
AFD French Development Agency	Partnership with African Higher Education. (PEA); Biodiversa+; SIOMPA	Higher education training Environmental Sciences

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E.5) Table 5: List of International scientific organisations and Research infrastructures RIs* (previously TGIR) eligible to the "scientific exploitation of the data generated by ISOs and RIs*" priority

Scientific field	Acronym	Name of the infrastructure	Type
Astronomy and	ESO	European Southern Observatory	ISOs
astrophysics	SKAO	SKA Observatory	ISOs
	CFHT	Canada-France-Hawaii Observatory	RIs*
	CTA	Cherenkov Telescope Array	RIs*
	IRAM	Institute for Millimetre Radio Astronomy	RIs*
Biology & Health	EMBL	European Molecular Biology Laboratory	ISOs
	OEBM	European Molecular Biology Organisation	ISOs
High-energy	CERN	European Organisation for Nuclear Research	ISOs
nuclear physics	CERN LHC	Large Hadron Collider	RIs*
	DUNE PIP-II	Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment	RIs*
	EGO-Virgo	European Gravitational Observatory – Virgo	RIs*
	FAIR	Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research	RIs*
	GANIL-SPIRAL2	National Large Heavy Ion Accelerator - 2nd generation heavy ion online production system	RIs*
Social Sciences	HUMA NUM	Very Large Research Infrastructure in the Digital Humanities	RIs*
and Humanities	PROGEDO	Production and Management of Data	RIs*
Materials Science	Apollon	Apollon Laser	RIs*
and Engineering	ESRF	European Synchrotron Radiation Facility	RIs*
	ESS	European Spallation Source	RIs*
	E-XFEL	European X-Ray Free Electron Laser	RIs*
	ILL	Max von Laue – Paul Langevin Institute	RIs*
	SOLEIL	SOLEIL Synchrotron	RIs*
	CRG ILL	Collaboration Research Group – ILL	RIs*
	CRG ESRF	Collaboration Research Group- ESRF	RIs*
Earth System and	СЕРММТ	European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts	ISOs
Environmental Sciences	CONCORDIA	CONCORDIA Franco-Italian research base in Antarctica	RIs*
	ECORD/IODP	European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling / International Ocean Discovery Programme	RIs*
	EURO-ARGO France	European contribution to the Argo programme / International in-situ ocean observation programme	RIs*
	FOF	French Oceanographic Fleet	RIs*
	ICOS France	Integrated Carbon Observation System	RIs*
Digital Services	GENCI	Big National Equipment Intensive Computing	RIs*
	RENATER	Public interest group for the National Telecommunications Network for Technology, Education and Research	RIs*
	IDRIS	Institute for Development and Resources in Intensive Scientific Computing	RIs*
	TGCC	CEA Very Large Computing Centre	RIs*