



CNRS-AFRICA VISITING FELLOWSHIPS

The CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique) is launching a series of calls for proposals to promote scientific cooperation with and on the African continent. As stated in the CNRS multiyear cooperation roadmap, the objectives are to meet the various needs expressed by our scientific communities as well as the priorities set up by African partners.

The present call is to ease the connection between two early career researchers, one from a CNRS laboratory and one from an African academic institution. An eight (8) to twelve (12) week fellowship is granted to the pair with a compulsory residential stay in France at the laboratory of the CNRS PI.

This call is open to all disciplines with a priority given to projects responding to contemporary dynamics or societal challenges and responding to African partners' priorities. Multi-disciplinary projects are encouraged.

This call will fund up to twenty (20) CNRS-Africa Visiting Fellowships.

Framework of the award

- Duration: 1 year (8 to 12 weeks to be spent in France)
- Number of awards: up to 20
- Location: mainly in the laboratory of the CNRS PI in France. Support for participation in international conferences may be granted to both PIs
- All disciplines and all countries on the African continent eligible

Duration of the award

- The budget will become available during the spring of 2023 and may be used in 2023 and 2024.
- An end-of-fellowship report will be required stating perspectives for future cooperation and results.

Eligibility

- Researchers working at a CNRS laboratory
- Post-doctoral level or above researchers employed by an academic institution in Africa, with a formal link to a research group/department/faculty in their home institution
- Priority will be given to Early Career Researchers
- A PI cannot submit more than one application in the framework of this call.
- Both PIs must demonstrate support from their Head of Department or equivalent through a supporting letter.
- Both PIs must demonstrate ongoing collaboration (organization of schools/workshops, joint seminars, publications or participation in collaborative projects).

Activities

This new mechanism for joint collaboration aims to offer quality time for research to both beneficiaries. It should also present a good opportunity for networking at an international level. The CNRS PI will be responsible for facilitating the interactions between the French academic ecosystem and his/her African colleague.

It is required that the African fellow visits at least three (3) CNRS laboratories, presents his/her work at a laboratory seminar and takes part in at least one (1) international conference.

Funding

Each CNRS-Africa Visiting Fellowship will receive 25 000€ for travel, board and lodging and necessary equipment. Salary and consultancy fees are excluded.

Evaluation

Proposals will be evaluated and ranked by a committee according to the following criteria:

- Scientific quality & originality of the project
- Scientific merit of the PIs
- Synergy between the PIs

The committee will also be attentive to a good gender balance in the selection of fellows.

Application

Applications (15 pages max.) should be written jointly and submitted by the CNRS PI as a single file in pdf format. Please submit under the title (2022_CNRS-AFRICA-VISITING-FELLOWSHIPS_SurnamePI_SurnameFellow) on the platform CoopIntEER available at: <https://www.cooperation.cnrs.fr/coopinteer/> (Platform open from 1st Dec)

What to do on CoopIntEER (CNRS PIs only):

- Access the platform using your CNRS Janus credentials and select the dedicated call.
- Fill in the following sections only: *Porteur de projet*; *Propriétés générales*; *Porteur de projet à l'étranger*; *Instituts* (in case you wish to be evaluated by a different institute than the one your laboratory is attached to).
- In the sections *Résumés*, *Programme scientifique*, *Résultats* and *Publications* just type "see PDF" in each compulsory box and attach your PDF file named as described above
- If at any moment the application requires other information, kindly type "see PDF" in the compulsory boxes in order to move to the next section.
- For your information, once you have finalized your application, the Director of your laboratory will automatically receive a request for validation. Please note that without this validation, your application will not be deemed as submitted. We strongly advise you to link with the Director of the laboratory to ensure this is done before the deadline.

Please direct any question to: derci_ami@cnrs.fr

Provisional Timeline

- Call circulation: 23 November 2022
- Submission: 20 February 2023
- Notification: March 2023
- Beginning of the fellowship: September 2023

Proposal template

The proposal must consist of the following parts:

PART 1: Title Page

Title of the proposal, key words, names of the Principal Investigators, laboratory/department names and number (if applicable) and their contact addresses, telephones and e-mails. Please specify on the Title Page of the application "This application is submitted for consideration in the CNRS-Africa Visiting Fellowships Programme".

PART 2: Description of the fellowship: supporting arguments and executive summary

State of the art of the research area, description of the scientific project and its interest, quality and originality of the project, objectives, scientific methodology, expected results and their meaning, future perspectives.

PART 3: Planned activities

Describe the planned activities and provide a general timetable.

PART 4: Research profiles of the PIs

Please attach in annex a list of complete citations of no more than 10 publications. This list is not taken into account for the page limit. Authors must be clearly indicated on the author lists with superscript or parenthesized letters corresponding to the respective countries, for example Dupont JP (FR).

PART 5: Short curriculum vitae of both PIs. Please also provide a brief history of the cooperation and the added value of the fellowship.

PART 6: Ethics

Does the project raise ethical questions? If yes, please describe them and how they are dealt with.

Also to be included in the same submission (but as individual documents)

- A letter of support from the Head of the laboratory employing the CNRS PI agreeing to welcoming the fellow
- A letter of support from the institution employing the African PI