



## **CNRS Joint Research Programme in Africa (CNRS-Africa JRP)**

*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.*

**Each funded programme will gather two (2) Principal Investigators (PIs), one affiliated with a CNRS laboratory and one working at an African academic institution. A yearly residential stay (minimum of three months) will take place on the African partner's premises. The package will include support for mobility and residence on both sides i.e. in France for the African PI and in Africa for the CNRS PI (excluding salary), along with a PhD grant and travel.**

The objective is to encourage research, training and engagement and to strengthen existing collaborative activities between pairs of researchers.

This call is open to all areas where sustainable development goals are central and meet the priorities of African partners. Multi-disciplinary projects are encouraged.

### *Framework of the award*

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- Duration: 4 years for each programme
- Number of awards: up to 10
- Ideally, the CNRS PI will spend at least 3 months each year at his co-PI's institution, totaling one-year residential stay at the end of the programme
- Ideally, the African PI will be supported for several periods of time in France
- CNRS funding will be made available to support mobility and residence on both sides i.e. in France for the African PI and in Africa for the CNRS PI
- A grant will be made available by CNRS for a PhD located at the CNRS PI's laboratory
- At the end of the first year of the CNRS-Africa JRP, a PhD student should start his/her doctoral programme at the African PI institution with a PhD bursary based in Africa.

### *Duration of the award*

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From September 2023 to September 2027.

### *Eligibility*

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- Researchers working in a CNRS laboratory, accredited to supervise PhD students (HDR).
- Researchers at post-doctoral level or above employed by an institution in Africa, with a formal link to a research group/department/faculty in their home institution, accredited to supervise PhD students.
- A PI cannot submit more than one application in the framework of this call.
- Both PIs in each pair must demonstrate support from their Head of Department or equivalent through a supporting letter.
- Both PIs should demonstrate ongoing collaboration (joint publications or participation in joint projects).

## Activities

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The programme is intended to give each team the necessary time to plan together and work on their project according to what is the most efficient way to advance their cooperative research, including of course the co-supervision of PhD students.

Events: it is required that the teams organize at least two (2) scientific events (workshop, school, international conference, etc).

## Funding

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Each programme will receive:

- One (1) *CNRS délégation* for 3 months per year (for French PIs employed by a university)
- 30k€ per year for travel, board & lodging and small equipment for the team
- One (1) PhD fellowship (3 years) located at the CNRS PI's laboratory
- 60k€ for the organization of two (2) scientific events

It is strongly encouraged for proposals to include an outlined plan for raising external competitive funding (e.g. EU collaborative grants, national research agency grants, etc.).

## Evaluation

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Proposals will be evaluated and ranked by a committee according to the following criteria: Scientific quality & originality of the project; Scientific merit of the teams; Synergy between the teams

## Application

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Applications (15 pages max.) should be written jointly and submitted as a single file in pdf format under the title (2022\_CNRS-Africa-JRP-proposal\_NamePI1\_NamePI2) on the platform CoopIntEER available at: <https://www.cooperation.cnrs.fr/coopinteer/> (Platform open from 1<sup>st</sup> Dec)

What to do on CoopIntEER (CNRS PI 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](mailto:derci_ami@cnrs.fr)

## Provisional Timeline

- Call circulation: 23 November 2022
- Submission: 20 February 2023
- Notification: March 2023
- Beginning of the CNRS Joint Research Programme in Africa: September 2023

## **Proposal template**

The proposal must consist of the following parts:

### *PART 1: Title Page*

Include: title of the proposal, key words, names of the Principal Investigators, laboratory/department names and code (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 Joint Research Programme in Africa".

### *PART 2: Description of the scientific project: supporting arguments and executive summary*

State of the art in the research area, description of the scientific project and its interest, historical context for application, qualities and originality of the project, objectives, scientific methodology, expected results and their meaning, future perspectives. Explain the added benefit of the PhD fellowship in the project. Explain the relation between the project and the research themes of the participating laboratories.

### *PART 3: Added value of the international cooperation*

Describe the added value of the international cooperation for the project to be fulfilled. Describe the expected benefits for all participants in the team and their institutions as well as the proportions of their contributions.

### *PART 4: Planned activities and provisional budget*

Provide details of all planned activities in the project and provide a timetable. Explain how these activities will help achieve the aims of the project. Include a provisional budget.

### *PART 5: Research profiles of team members*

Please attach as an annex a list of complete citations of no more than 10 publications in total related to the project for each team. This list is not taken into account for the page limit. Authors from the respective laboratories must be clearly indicated on the author lists, indicating their country of origin, using superscript or parenthesized letters corresponding to the respective countries, for example Dupont JP (FR).

### *PART 6: Short Curriculum Vitae of both applicants and PhD students if known.*

### *PART 7: 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
- A letter of support from the institution employing the African PI