

Call for projects ANRS Emerging infectious diseases - Emergences Low- and middle-income countries (LMIC) 2024

Call for Projects - Terms and References

Context of the "Emergences PRFI 2024" call for projects:

ANRS MIE wishes to pursue its commitment and support for collaborative research projects involving teams in France and in low- and middle-income countries, and is opening a new call for Emergences PRFI projects targeting research into emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases.

General terms and conditions

Scope

Only research projects related to **emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases** are eligible, whether in the fields of basic, translational and clinical research, public health or human and social sciences. In line with the Agency's priorities concerning emerging and re-emerging pathogens, the call for proposals targets studies on viral hemorrhagic fevers, respiratory viruses and arboviroses.

The "Emergences PRFI 2024" Call for Projects will provide funding for :

- **research projects, which may or may not include funding for associated research grants** (doctoral or post-doctoral students).
- individual, **nominative, non-project-related research grants** (doctoral and post-doctoral students).

Initiation contracts are not eligible for this call for projects.

This call for projects is particularly aimed at **large-scale, multi-disciplinary projects involving several countries and designed to support the structuring of research in the countries concerned**. As a general rule, it is desirable, wherever possible, to be part of international processes (existing consortia or new collaborations). As each region has its own specific issues and characteristics, projects focusing on particular regions and their specific features are expected.

The participation of patient associations in research projects is strongly encouraged where possible.

Prerequisites

To be eligible, projects must be carried out in low- and middle-income countries (World Bank classification <https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519-world-bank-country-and-lending-groups>), and the research must be relevant and have a direct impact in these countries.

Projects must involve a **French team (Team A) and a team from a low- and middle-income country (Team B), to which the two project co-leaders belong respectively**. Projects not complying with this rule will be deemed ineligible. Other teams, both French and foreign, may be associated with the project leading teams as partners (teams C, D, E, etc.).

Through the *International Network*, ANRS MIE coordinates a network of research institutions and research and health authorities in Africa, South-East Asia, Brazil and France, brought together through partnerships known as Partner Sites and PRISMEs. The list of countries and contacts is given in the Appendix.1. The main mission of these partnerships is to bring together French and international network players, as well as the resources needed to respond to global health challenges through research. Researchers and young researchers submitting a project or a request for a research grant to this call for projects are strongly encouraged to contact ANRS MIE partners in advance, in order to share information and develop networking at national or international level, as well as to provide or obtain support for the design, implementation and management of projects and the training of teams.

Note AAP EMERGENCES PRFI 2024: Due to the current geopolitical context, the feasibility of funding teams based in countries where cooperation with France is currently suspended will be discussed with ANRS MIE Director. The funding decision will be taken in accordance with ministerial directives at the time of arbitration on the AAP.

Project duration

Under this call for projects, projects may not exceed 36 months in duration.

Budget

No minimum threshold or budget ceiling is defined for any project.

Calendar

Opening: **December 12, 2024 to March 12, 2025**

Notification of results: **July 2025**

Funding from other agencies or foundations

In addition to ANRS MIE, other public and private organizations also fund research and organize their own calls for projects, such as ANR, the French National Cancer Institute (INCa), Sidaction and the Foundation for Medical Research (FRM).

The eligibility of projects submitted to the ANRS MIE in areas likely to be supported by other organizations or funding agencies will be assessed by the ANRS MIE in conjunction with these organizations. Projects funded by other funding agencies within the framework of equivalent funding mechanisms and with identical expectations will not be accepted by ANRS MIE. However, co-financing of projects is possible.

How to submit

All applications must be submitted online via the ANRS MIE [Apogée](#) call for projects platform.

New rules adopted in 2024 :

For the **submission of research projects with or without applications for research grants (PhD or postdoc) associated** with the project:

- Use the **"AAP Flash"** form and the "Scientific project proposal (with or without associated request for a grant)" form, a model of which can be found on the AAP page of the ANRS MIE website. If an Allocation is requested within a project, it must be non-nominative.

For the submission of **research grant (PhD or Postdoc) applications not associated with research projects (mandatory nomanitives)**

- Use the **"Allocation de recherche Flash"** form and the "Proposition scientifique AR" form, the templates for which can be found on the AAP page of the ANRS MIE website.

The **"AAP Flash"** form, to be completed online for a research project with or without a research grant, comprises 3 main sections: administrative and scientific information on the project leaders and any associated teams, the scientific presentation of the project itself, and the budget section.

The section of the application form entitled "List of people involved in the project" must be printed out and signed **by hand or by certified electronic signature** by each person involved (one list per project team). The duly signed list can be scanned and sent by e-mail (aap@anrs.fr), with the original paper version sent within 30 days of the closure of the AAP. In all cases, the original of the list, including the certified handwritten or electronic signatures of all those involved, must have been sent before any funding is made available.

The budget section of the application is used to present **the project's budget, which must be drawn up on a full-cost basis**, i.e. listing and estimating all the costs required to carry out the project: both those for which funding is requested under the AAP and those that will be borne by the project's operating organizations (in particular the time of the permanent research and engineering staff involved in the project), or those that are already funded by ANRS MIE as part of structural support (e.g. methodology and management centers, trainee or fellowship positions already in place and who will contribute to the project). Methodology and management centers, instructor positions or fellowships already in place and who will contribute to the project). **The box at the bottom of the budget table must be completed to justify the budget request for each team involved.**

The **"Allocation de recherche Flash"** form to be completed online comprises 2 main parts: administrative and scientific information on the candidate and the scientific presentation of the candidate's project.

In both cases, **an outline of the detailed scientific proposal will be provided and must be uploaded to Apogée.**

Among the costs for which financing is requested from the AAP within the framework of the project, it will also be necessary to provide for those relating to promotion (insurance, additional hospital costs, etc.), **even when a request for promotion by the ANRS MIE is desired.**

Overheads and management costs can be deducted from project funding up to a maximum of 8% of the total amount of expenses supported. The rate chosen (between 0 and 8%) must be clearly specified, and will be applied to the total amount requested from ANRS MIE, taking all categories of expenditure together, and **added automatically** by the system to the amount requested for operating expenses.

No additional documents will be accepted after the call for projects has closed.

Specificities for research grants (PhD or Postdocs)

ANRS MIE supports research grants (PhD or postdocs) within the framework of this call for projects.

Research grants are intended for male and female researchers:

- French or foreign,
- doctoral or post-doctoral students,
- attached to a French public or private research organization,
- applicants to a French doctoral school (for doctoral students).

Duration of grants : Research grants are awarded for 12, 24 or 36 months.

Candidates for a doctoral grant **must hold at least a DEA / Master 2 or equivalent diploma when the thesis project is set up.** Proof of diploma must be submitted before funding is granted.

Research grants may or may not be associated with research projects submitted under this AAP.

- Applications for a **research grant associated with a project** will be **non-nominative**. The part corresponding to the project proposed for the recipient must be detailed **in the project form** provided for this purpose ("Scientific project proposal (with or without associated AR request)"). The cost of the grant should be **included in the general budget**, on the lines concerning personnel. The application must be submitted using the **AAP Flash** form (*c.f. submission procedures*).

Please note: the name of the selected candidate must be communicated to ANRS MIE before taking up the position, who will confirm the candidate's administrative eligibility.

- Applications **for research grants not associated with a project** must be **submitted nominatively**. Applicants may submit only one research grant application for this call for projects. Nominative research grant applications must be submitted through the host organization where the research will be carried out. The proposal folder must be submitted using the **Allocation de recherche Flash** form (*c.f. submission procedures*). There is no budget to fill in at the stage of submission of the non-project related grant, it will be established with the employer if the candidate is selected for funding.

A candidate who has already received financial support from ANRS MIE for a total of 3 years, for a research grant or a position as a clinical, biological or social science monitor, is not eligible for new funding under this title.

Selection of research projects and grants

The evaluation committee set up by ANRS MIE is responsible for the scientific evaluation and ranking of research projects and research grant applications. If necessary, the committee may rely on additional assessments carried out prior to the evaluation meeting by experts external to the committee. All applications submitted to the AAP are subject to a double review:

- **Scientific appraisal**, including scientific expertise of the application by one or more external and/or internal experts, carried out under the responsibility of ANRS MIE. Several criteria will be considered, including: the intrinsic scientific quality of the project, its feasibility, originality, strategic interest, and the applicant's scientific publications and communications.
- **Administrative and financial appraisal.**

The evaluation committee will also be attentive to criteria such as good control of the project's environmental impact, gender parity and the integration of young researchers into research projects.

The final decision to award funding is taken by ANRS MIE in light of all the elements gathered during these two phases of application appraisal, and aligned with the agency's scientific priorities.

Support modalities

Funding period

Funding is made available six to seven months after the closure of the call for projects, and around four months after publication of the results, i.e. **from September 2025 for this call for projects**, provided that the administrative, ethical and regulatory steps subsequent to project acceptance have been completed within the required timeframe.

In the case of nominative research grants not associated with a project, the date on which the grant-holder takes up his or her position may **not be earlier than 3 months** after publication of the results of the AAP, and not later **than 6 months** afterwards.

Form of support

For projects conducted in partnership between several teams, ANRS MIE funds each research project team separately.

Project funding (with or without associated research grant for PhD or postdoc): Funding is provided to the organization to which the scientific leader of each project team is attached. It is this organization ("the managing organization") that will be responsible for managing the grant, and must justify its use at the end of the project. The grant is divided between equipment, operational costs

and Human resources. However, the budgets of selected projects may be modified by ANRS MIE, in particular to ensure a balance between these different types of expenditure.

For multi-year research projects, the funding is provided in instalments, each covering a maximum of 12 months of project. The terms for submitting interim scientific and/or financial reports between each instalment are defined below, as well as in the acts awarding the grants concerned.

In all cases, payment of subsequent instalments will be subject to ANRS MIE's budget availability for the years concerned, and to its assessment of the project's progress.

Following the production of the final scientific and financial reports, and in accordance with public regulations, any funds remaining unused at the end of the project, or which have been used for a purpose or in a way that does not comply with the conditions of their allocation, must be returned to ANRS MIE by the managing organization.

Funding of non-project-related nominative research grants (PhD or Postdoc):

Non-project-related nominative research grants accepted for funding give rise to the payment of a grant by ANRS MIE to the management bodies of the host institution and lab ("the managing body"). Any candidate selected in this context should therefore contact his or her managing organization at least 6 weeks before the desired startdate, in order to prepare the setting up of his or her CDD, and provide ANRS MIE with the name and contact details of this organization. The grant covers the CDD's employer's costs (excluding environmental costs) for the entire duration of the allocation. Management costs may be charged up to 8% of the employer's cost.

Regulatory and ethical procedures

All research projects in low- and middle-income countries are subject to local ethical regulations.

ANRS MIE is committed to ensuring that research involving human subjects, research involving animals and research subjected to additional regulatory requirements is conducted in accordance with the highest internationally recognized ethical standards.

Awardees of this call are required to obtain the approval of the appropriate Institutional Review Board or Ethics Committee for any research involving human or animal subjects or samples, and to provide ANRS MIE with a copy of this approval prior to initiating the research.

All such research must, in addition to complying with ethical approval, be conducted in accordance with the generally accepted principles of "good clinical practice", which includes, but is not limited to, the requirement for prior informed consent of human subjects, and must be conducted in accordance with all national and international regulations and guidelines applicable to research involving human subjects, the management of data confidentiality, research involving animals, the use or release of genetically modified organisms, the use for research purposes of recombinant DNA and/or the use of any organism, substance or material considered to present a biological risk, including compliance with all standards applicable to the transport of samples, both locally and internationally, where applicable.

In the case of studies on a pathogenic micro-organism, the results obtained must be evaluated for their potential dual character (favoring malicious actions) by competent authorities before publication.

Project sponsors attached to an existing ANRS MIE research project (therapeutic trial, cohort, or pathophysiological study)

must contact the scientific council of the research in question to obtain its approval prior to the establishment of their project. A letter from the Scientific Advisory Board will be attached to the project application. Project leaders are also asked to provide a brief summary of the existing ANRS MIE research (objectives, study population, etc.) to which the project is linked, and to report on its progress (status of inclusions, follow-up, etc.).

Environmental impact

Research teams are invited to include in their project an assessment of its **environmental impact**, in particular an estimate of the carbon footprint of travel and other activities that will be required to carry it out, as well as the justification for these activities and/or the means proposed to limit their impact on the environment.

The principles and tools required for this assessment can be consulted at <https://labos1point5.org> and on the www.basecarbone.fr website.

Promoting open science

As these are projects funded by state allocations, publications will have to comply with the provisions encouraging open science set out in Article 30 of Law no. 2016-1321 of October 7, 2016 for a Digital Republic (https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/article_jo/JORFARTI000033202841).

As part of ANRS MIE's contribution to the promotion and implementation of open science, and in line with the French National Plan for Open Science (PNSO) and the international Plan S, the project teams and associated teams undertake to guarantee immediate open access to peer-reviewed scientific publications and to adopt a FAIR (Easy to Find, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) approach to research data, in line with the principle of "as open as possible, as closed as necessary".

All scientific publications resulting from projects funded under this call for proposals will be made freely available under the Creative Commons CC-BY or equivalent license, using one of the following three methods:

- publication in a natively open-access journal ;
- publication in a subscription journal that is part of a so-called transforming agreement or transforming journal;
- publication in a subscription magazine.

Manuscripts accepted for publication will be deposited in the HAL open archive by the leaders of funded projects and/or associated teams under a CC- BY license, implementing the Non-Transfer of Rights Strategy (SNCD), in accordance with the terms specified in the special conditions of the funding decision or contrat.

In addition, they undertake to deposit the full text of these scientific publications (version accepted for publication or editor's version) in the national open archive HAL, at the latest at the time of publication, and to mention the ANRS MIE reference of the research project from which they originate.

ANRS MIE encourages the deposit of pre-prints in open platforms or open archives, and to

use durable or unique identifiers (DOI or HAL Id, for example). ANRS MIE recommends publishing in natively open-access journals or books. Publication fees or "Article Processing Charges" are eligible for funding, with the exception of those concerning hybrid journals (subscription journals with no current agreement).

Lastly, the teams behind the funded projects and associated teams undertake to provide a first version of a Data Management Plan (DMP) for their project within 6 months of the start of the project. This plan can be entered and updated on the OPIDoR DMP portal, giving preference to the structured model. This plan should be updated as and when required, and at least at the end of the project. This obligation to submit a DMP continues after the expiry of funding decisions or agreements.

Activity reports and publications

The timetable for activity reports, set out in the relevant funding agreements, must be scrupulously respected.

For each **research project funded**, the beneficiary will be required to send at least the ANRS MIE, **within 3 months** of the support expiry date :

- A scientific report on the project,
- A maximum 5-page summary of work (for social science projects only),
- A financial report detailing the use made of the funds allocated to the project, certified by a representative of the managing body duly authorized in financial matters,
- A list of publications in peer-reviewed journals, provided they are relevant to the subject of the research project.

For each research grant, the recipient must send ANRS MIE, **on each anniversary date of his/her appointment**, a file containing :

- A 3-5 page progress report outlining the project's progress, obstacles encountered and research prospects for the following year,
- The recipient's list of publications on the funded project.

The recipient must send the ANRS MIE **within 3 months of the end of the research grant**,

- A final activity report (10 to 15 pages),
- The recipient's list of publications on the funded project,
- If applicable, the title and date of the thesis defended during, or after, the period of research grant funding,
- A reasoned opinion from the laboratory director highlighting the recipient's career prospects

In addition, the beneficiary must inform ANRS MIE at all times of any changes in his/her administrative situation.

All publications and communications resulting from projects or research grants funded under this call for projects must bear the following acknowledgement: "This study was supported by a grant from the ANRS Maladies Infectieuses Emergentes (program acronym, program year, project number: e.g. AAP Emergence PRFI 2024 ANRSXXXX)". In addition, any communication referring to a project funded under the calls for projects covered by the present acknowledgment must mention the support of ANRS MIE.

Contact

Département Soutiens Structurants à la Recherche -

Equipe Appels à projets : aap@anrs.fr

In case of technical problems with the application: apogee@anrs.fr

Appendix 1: List of ANRS MIE international network partners and representative contacts

PARTNERSHIP	CIVILITY	Title	NAME	First Name	MAIL
Partner site Brazil	Ms.	Dr.	DE CASTRO	Nathalie	nathalie.de-castro@aphp.fr
	Mr.	Dr.	TONINI	Maiko	maiko.tonini@saude.gov.br
Partner site Burkina Faso	Mr.	Pr	VAN DE PERRE	Philippe	philippe.vande-perre@inserm.fr
	Mr.	Dr.	KANIA	Dramane	draka3703@yahoo.fr
	Mr.	Dr.	DAHOUROU	Désiré	ddahourou@yahoo.fr
Partner site Cambodia	Mr.	Dr.	SPIRE	Bruno	bruno.spire@inserm.fr
	Mr.	Pr	SAPHONN	Vonthanak	vonthanak@uhs.edu.kh
Partner site Cameroon	Mr.	Pr	DELAPORTE	Eric	eric.delaporte@ird.fr
	Ms.	Pr	ZOUNG-KANYI BISSEK	Anne-Cécile	annezkbissek@yahoo.fr
PRISM* Coast d'Ivoire	Mr.	Dr.	BECQUET	Renaud	renaud.becquet@u-bordeaux.fr
	Mr.	Dr.	MOH	Raoul	raoul.moh@pac-ci.org
Partner site Senegal	Mr.	Dr.	TAVERNE	Bernard	bernard.taverne@ird.fr
	Ms.	Pr	TOURE KANE	Coumba	coumba.toure@ussein.edu.sn
Partner site Vietnam	Mr.	Dr.	LAUREILLARD	Didier	didier.laureillard@yahoo.fr
	Ms.	Dr.	PHAN	Thi Thu Huong	huongphanmoh@gmail.com
	Ms.	Dr.	LINH	Thi Thui Doan	thuylinhytcc@gmail.com
PRISME* Guinea	Mr.	Pr	TOURE	Abdoulaye	abdoulaye.toure@cerfig.org
	Mr.	Pr	DELAPORTE	Eric	eric.delaporte@ird.fr
PRISME* Republic Démocratique du Congo	Mr.	Dr.	AHUKA	Steve	amstev04@yahoo.fr
	Ms.	Pr	PEETERS	Martine	martine.peeters@ird.fr

* International Global Health Research Platform