



## CALL FOR PROPOSALS - FALL 2017

## SUPPORTING EXPLORATORY RESEARCH PROJECTS

1. GOAL OF THE CALL AND SCOPE OF THE PROPOSAL

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This call for proposals (CfP) aims at supporting basic research projects within CeMEB research units along the following themes:

- Understanding the origin, dynamic and functioning of biodiversity and ecosystems.
- Predicting biological impacts of global changes on biodiversity and ecosystems.

This call aims at:

- Supporting the emergence of exploratory and basic research with a certain level of risk-taking. Projects can address new scientific questions, aim at conceptual advances and/or propose the implementation of new methodologies.
- Promoting interdisciplinarity and favouring new collaborations within CeMEB community.

The funding will cover all aspects of research pursuing these objectives: experimentations, observations, data collection, proof of concepts, meta-analyses, modeling, tool development, etc. Projects may involve CeMEB experimental facilities (<http://www.labex-cemeb.org/plateformes>). In case of significant involvement (e.g., new developments), the facility can be considered as a project partner.

Proposals with a potentially broad interest for the scientific community will be favored.

2. ELIGIBILITY / SORTING CRITERIA

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**Eligibility criteria:**

- Projects must be proposed by **at least two scientific leaders** (researchers or research engineers with a permanent position in a CeMEB research unit), not necessarily belonging to different research units.
- At least two of the **project leaders should have clearly distinct and complementary recognized expertise** serving the project (e.g., different research fields). The expertise and contribution of each participant to the project should be clearly described.
- Partners external to CeMEB can be involved, but the project should be clearly led by the CeMEB participants, and **no funding will be allocated by CeMEB to the external partners**.

**Sorting criteria:**

Projects of equal scientific quality will be ranked based on the following criteria:

- **New collaborations.** Investigators with a record of collaborations (to be mentioned in the project) are eligible provided that innovative research directions are proposed.
- **Involving more than one CeMEB research unit.**
- **No previous significant CeMEB funding.** If one of the scientists involved in the present project has supervised or co-supervised a PhD student or a post-doctoral researcher funded by CeMEB, his/her level of participation will be detailed.
- **No significant external funding.** If one of the scientists involved in the project benefits from a significant external funding (ANR, ERC, etc.), ongoing or accepted at the date of application, even if unrelated to the present project, this should be clearly stated in the application.



### 3. APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

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#### 3.1. Application

Applications (see the application form) should be written in English, signed by the directors of all the involved research units and sent by one of the unit directors as a single document, both in word and PDF formats (8 pages maximum each) to [cemeb-soumission@umontpellier.fr](mailto:cemeb-soumission@umontpellier.fr) before January 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 midnight). Any question may be sent to the same address.

#### 3.2. Selection

Proposals will be evaluated by a dedicated committee, composed of external experts (members of CeMEB Scientific Council and external to CeMEB) and scientists from the CeMEB community who did not submit any proposal (belonging to a research unit not involved in the project). In case of a large number of applications, a pre-selection step will be organized.

#### 3.3. Selection criteria

C1 – Clarity of the project, questions and objectives in relation with state of the art and clear definition of deliverables.

C2 – Novelty: ambition, general interest and impact of the question, level of innovation and of risk-taking.

C3 – Quality of the methodology, relevance of the proposed approaches to reach the project goals.

C4 – Feasibility: accordance between objectives and means (detailed budget), working plan.

C5 – Quality of the partnership: added-value and novelty of collaborations among participants, partner complementarity and expertise.

C1 to C5 will be scored from 1 to 10 (order of increasing quality).

#### 3.4. Schedule

- Cfp publication: September 7<sup>th</sup> 2017.
- Deadline for submission: **January 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 (midnight)**.
- Projects evaluation: February-mid March 2018.
- Announcement of results: mid-April 2018.

### 4. FUNDING

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#### 4.1. Funding scope

The global budget allocated to this action is 300 K€. Each selected project will receive up to 25 K€. The funding allocated to each project will be determined by the selection committee based on the provided budget. Funding can cover all types of expenses, except equipment costing more than 4 K€.

#### 4.2. Administrative aspects

- Managing unit: If the project is proposed by more than one research units, please specify the managing unit (from an administrative point of view). The managing unit should have the University of Montpellier (UM) as one of its “*tutelles*” (supervision authority institutions), except when none of the applying units fulfills this condition.
- Financial aspect: when the managing unit has UM as “*tutelle*”, funding will be transferred to, and managed by, the unit. Otherwise, funding will be transferred to the managing unit through a funding agreement or directly managed by CeMEB (to be discussed between CeMEB, the project leaders and research units direction).

In all cases, all expenses must follow the rules of UM, and eligibility conditions of ANR funding (conditions will be provided to the leading research units). Any financial commitment conflicting with ANR eligibility conditions may thereafter be claimed to the research unit that incurred the expense.



Funding should be spent before June 2019.

### ELIGIBLE RESEARCH UNITS

#### **LabEx CeMEB**

Contact LabEx CeMEB : [cemeb-direction@umontpellier.fr](mailto:cemeb-direction@umontpellier.fr)

**AMAP - Botanique et Modélisation de l'architecture des plantes et des végétations**

<http://amap.cirad.fr/fr/index.php>

**CBGP - Centre de biologie pour la gestion des populations**

<http://www6.montpellier.inra.fr/cbgp>

**CEFE - Centre d'Ecologie Fonctionnelle et Evolutive**

<http://www.cefe.cnrs.fr/fr>

**ECO & SOLS - Ecologie fonctionnelle et biogéochimie des sols et des agro-systèmes**

<http://www.umn-ecosols.fr/index.php/fr>

**ECOTRON**

<http://www.ecotron.cnrs.fr>

**IHPE - Interactions Hotes-Pathogènes-Environnements**

<http://ihpe.univ-perp.fr>

**ISEM - Institut des sciences de l'évolution de Montpellier**

<http://www.isem.univ-montp2.fr>

**LAMETA - Laboratoire Montpellierain d'Economie Théorique et Appliquée**

<http://www.lameta.univ-montp1.fr>

**MARBEC - Marine Biodiversity, Exploitation et Conservation**

<http://www.umn-marbec.fr/fr/>

**MIVEGEC**

<http://mivegec.ird.fr/fr/>