



CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2017

FUNDING OF EXPLORATORY RESEARCH PROJECTS

1. GOAL OF THE CALL AND SCOPE OF THE PROPOSAL

This call for proposals (CfP) aims at supporting fundamental research projects within CeMEB research units, on the following axes:

- Axis 1 – Understanding the origin, dynamic and functioning of biodiversity and ecosystems
- Axis 2 – Predicting biological impacts of global changes on biodiversity and ecosystems

The goal is to support the emergence of exploratory and fundamental 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.

This CfP funding covers 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>). Proposals with a potentially broad interest for the scientific community will be favoured.

2. ELIGIBILITY / PARTNERS

Projects must be proposed by permanent researchers from at least two research teams from two different CeMEB research units (see list of CeMEB research units – Appendix 1). The respective roles of each of the involved research teams will be carefully described. External partners can be involved in the project in addition to the two CeMEB research units, but will not be directly funded by CeMEB.

Project leaders shall not have already succeeded in a previous CeMEB call for PhD or post-doc projects. Priority will be given to new collaborations. In case of existing or past collaborations between research team partners, the innovative nature of the proposed research objectives compared to previous collaborative work will be clearly described.

Proposals submitted by researchers who do not currently benefit from significant funding (ANR, ERC,...) will be favoured .

3. APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

3.1. Application

Applications shall be sent to cemeb-soumission@umontpellier.fr before June, 16th 2017 (midnight). Any question may be sent to the same address until this date.

3.2. Application form

Applications shall be written in English and signed by the Directors of all the involved Research Units. Projects shall be compiled using the provided application form and sent as a single document, both in Word and PDF, formats (8 pages maximum each).

3.3. Selection

Proposals will be evaluated by a dedicated selection committee, mostly composed of external experts and members of the CeMEB Scientific Council. In case of a large number of applications, a pre-selection step will be organized.



Selection criteria will be as follows:

C1 – Scientific quality of the topic: clarity, relevance and interest of the scientific objectives, expected deliverables. Score from 1 to 10 (1<10).

C2 – Exploratory nature of the project: ambition, position compared to the state of the art, level of risk-taking. Score from 1 to 10 (1<10).

C3 – Relevance of the proposed methodologies to reach the objectives of the project. Score from 1 to 10 (1<10).

C4 – Structuring effect of the project for the local scientific community: added-value and novelty of collaborations between researchers, complementarity of the partners, structural impacts (ex: development of innovative tools or methods), large scientific interest of the expected results (propensity to be generalized). Score from 1 to 10 (1<10).

C5 – Feasibility of the project: accordance between objectives and means (detailed budget), working plan. Score from 1 to 10 (1<10).

3.4. Calendar of the call for proposals

- Publication of the call: March 7th, 2017.
- Deadline for submission (see submission procedure): **June 16th, 2017.**
- Pre-selection step (if necessary): end of June 2017
- Project evaluations: July-September 2017
- Announcement of results: 1-15 October 2017.

4. FUNDING

4.1. Scope of funding

The global budget allocated to this action is 300 K€. Each selected project will receive up to 25 K€. The exact amount allocated to each project will be determined by the selection committee based on the provided budget.

The funding can cover internship gratifications, salaries, trips, experimentation costs, equipment < 4 000 €, publication costs, etc.

4.2. Administrative aspects

Leading unit :

The application shall precise which of the research partner will be the leading unit (from an administrative point of view).

The leading unit shall primarily be a research unit having Montpellier University (UM) as one of its “*tutelles*” (supervision authority institutions). Shall none of the research partners have UM as a *tutelle*, the leading project unit could be any of the partner units.

Financial aspects :

For projects having a UM leading unit, a line of credit will be opened in the leading research unit to allow the project leaders to spend the allocated funding directly.

For projects which cannot be lead by a UM unit, LabEx CeMEB will precise if the credits will be transferred to the leading unit through a financial convention, or if the LabEx CeMEB will manage costs directly for the project needs.

In all cases, all expenses incurred from this funding, must follow the rules of Montpellier University, and eligibility conditions of ANR credits (Terms and conditions will be provided to the leading research



units). Any financial engagement conflicting with ANR eligibility conditions may thereafter be claimed to the research unit which incurred the expense.
The allocated funding shall be spent before end of June 2019.

ELIGIBLE RESEARCH UNITS

LabEx CeMEB

Contact LabEx CeMEB : 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/cbgbp>

CEFE - Centre d'Ecologie Fonctionnelle et Evolutive

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

ECO & SOLS - Ecologie fonctionnelle et biogéochimie des sols et des agro-systemes

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

MIVEGEC

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