

The French National Research Agency (ANR)

Created in 2005, the ANR is a public agency which supports project-based research in France.

Two types of programmes:

- **Thematic:** targeted calls for proposals in 6 thematic areas
- **Open:** non targeted calls in all scientific fields without restriction

Focus on open calls for [Young Researchers](#) and [Return of Post-Docs](#).

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- **Thematic Programmes** (35 calls in 2011/ 273 M€)

Financing for targeted calls for proposals in 6 thematic areas. Each area under responsibility of ad hoc department:

- ✓ Biology and Health.
- ✓ Ecosystems and Biological Resources.
- ✓ Sustainable Energy.
- ✓ Information and Communication Science and Technology.
- ✓ Engineering, Processes, Safety and Security.
- ✓ **Humanities and Social Sciences.**

In 2013, 3 calls for proposals have been opened:

- Learnings (Apprentissages). Closing date: 14 May 2013.
- ORA: Open Research Area for the Social Sciences. In collaboration with several foreign agencies (Germany, UK, Netherlands, USA). Closed on 15 February 2013.
- Emergence and Evolutions of Cultures and Cultural Phenomena. Closing date: 20 March 2013.

- **Open Programmes**

- ✓ Financing for open calls for proposals in all scientific fields without restriction: 284M€ in 2011.
- ✓ A specific department: Department for Exploratory and Emerging Research.
- ✓ Three calls for proposals opened in 2013:
White (Blanc) programme. Totally free research, without any specific condition. Aimed at ambitious scientific projects, with original objectives.

Young Researchers (JCJC) programme. Intended:

- to identify and support **original scientific projects** led by **young teaching or research faculty** with a **permanent position**.
- to help young teaching and research faculty:
 - to access rapidly **research responsibilities**,
 - to **develop their own research** within the laboratory to which they belong,
 - to demonstrate their ability in engaging in **exploratory and innovating research**.

Return of Post-Docs (PDOC) programme. Intended:

- to encourage the **return to France** of young French or foreign Post-Docs,
- to help young researchers to **develop their own research**,
- to enable young Post-Docs to **find employment** in a research (or research oriented) public or private structure.

Facts and figures for 2012

White programme (SHS): 194 projects, 40 financed (20,62%), average budget 234 570€. Total budget SHS: 9,4M€

Young Researchers programme (SHS): 86 projects, 20 financed (23,26%), average budget 150 691€. Total budget SHS: 3,1M€

Return of Post-Docs programme: 173 projects (9,8%in SHS), 38 financed (22%), average budget 382 451€. Total budget: 14,5M€

Facts and figures for 2013

White programme (SHS): 202 projects (+4,12%)

Young Researchers programme (SHS): 122 projects **(+41,86%)**

- Seven major criteria for acceptability:
 - ✓ For the 2013 call for proposals, the coordinator must be born after the 31st December 1974 (**under 39**).
 - ✓ The coordinator must devote at least **75% of his/her research time** to the project.
 - ✓ The coordinator must hold a **permanent staff position** in France.
 - ✓ The coordinator is authorized to submit **only one research proposal** to the ANR in 2013.
 - ✓ The coordinator **cannot combine funding from this programme with other fundings of similar nature** financed by the French Research Ministry, the ANR, a research organisation, the ERC, etc.
 - ✓ **Only one partner** (the coordinator) is authorized in the framework of this programme.
 - ✓ The duration of the project must be between **24 and 48 months**.

- 10 major criteria for acceptability:
 - ✓ The coordinator must devote **100% of his/her research time** to the project (some time can be for teaching/training students).
 - ✓ If the **coordinator is French**, he should have a French or a foreign PhD. If he is a **foreigner**, he must have a French one.
 - ✓ The coordinator must have **obtained his PhD less than five years** before the closing date of the call for proposals.
 - ✓ The coordinator must have **at least one year post-doc experience abroad** at the closing date of the call for proposals.
 - ✓ The time between the coordinator's last post-doc experience abroad and the closing date of the call for proposals must **not exceed one year**.

- 10 major criteria for acceptability:
 - ✓ The coordinator is authorized to submit **only one research proposal** to the ANR in 2013.
 - ✓ The coordinator **cannot combine funding from this programme with other fundings of similar nature** financed by the French Research Ministry, the ANR, a research organisation, the ERC, etc.
 - ✓ **Only one partner** (the coordinator) is authorized in the framework of this programme.
 - ✓ The research organisation and the laboratory must be **located in France**.
 - ✓ The duration of the project must be between **24 and 42 months**.

The Evaluation Criteria (common to both programmes)



- Five evaluation criteria to be considered by the peer reviewers and members of the evaluation panels:
 - ✓ Scientific and technical quality
 - ✓ Methodology, quality of project construction and coordination
 - ✓ Overall impact of the project
 - ✓ Quality of the team
 - ✓ Appropriateness of project resources/Project feasibility

For further information: www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr