

Opportunities for Post-docs
in the Social Sciences and
Humanities


The French National Research Agency

Created by the French government in 2005 to organize the competitive funding of projects


Objectives:

- fostering creativity and openness, stimulating new ideas and partnerships
- targeting research efforts on economic and societal priorities determined at the highest level of State and through consultation with the other research players
- encouraging inter-disciplinary actions
- intensifying links between the public and private sectors
- developing international and European collaborations

The main challenges on which the ANR works are part of the **European Strategic Agenda.**



The ANR offers funding instruments adapted to the various challenges and needs of the scientific community

- Funds basic as well as technological & industrial research
 - In all disciplines and scientific fields
 - Any type of French organization (academic research organizations, companies, NGO's, etc.)
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Organisation

- 8 scientific departments

(each with a Head of Department and a number of Programme Directors and Project Officers)

- Environment and Biological Resources
- Engineering, Processes and Security
- Health and Biology
- Information and Communication Sciences and Technologies
- Sustainable Energy
- Social Sciences and Humanities

+ Exploratory and Emerging Research; Partnerships and Competitiveness

- 243 staff (about half administrative, half scientists, many of whom are « rotators »)

Key figures (2012)

- Funding budget : 555,5 M€ (400M€ in 2014)
- 67% academic projects / 33% public-private partnership projects
- 8,4% of funding awarded to companies
- Average success rate $\leq 20\%$
- SSH budget $\simeq 5\%$



2014: A renovated framework for action



ANR Work Programme 2014

- Consistent with the "*France Europe 2020*" national strategic agenda
- Simplification of submission/funding process
- Streamlining the funding supply



2014 Work Programme Generic Call for Proposals

Opening of the 2014 Generic Call for Proposals: 31 July 2013
Deadline for submission of pre-proposals: 23 October 2013,
13.00 (Paris time)



Changes, in accordance with ANR's fundamental principles

- The fundamental principles of project-based funding remain unchanged:
 - International standards
 - Competitive selection
 - Peer review
 - Fair treatment
- New, simpler processes for applicants

4 components of Work Programme 2014

**Major Societal
challenges**

**At the frontiers of
research**

**Building the ERA and
France's international
attractiveness**

**Economic impact of
research and
competitiveness**

LabCom (specific call open on a continuous flow basis)

Industrial chairs (specific call)

Carnot institutes

Each with a specific budget and governance

Work Programme Outline

- A **single generic call for proposals** replacing most calls for proposals as issued in previous editions
- And a **limited number of additional specific calls**, such as:
 - ERA-NETs, JPIs
 - Bilateral or multilateral calls with other agencies
 - Specific programmes: Astrid, LabCom, Hosting High Level Researchers, etc.

New structure of the calls for proposals

Generic call: evaluation in 2 steps
Societal challenges + All-knowledge challenge

Specific national and international calls for proposals (ERA-NETs, bi- and multilateral calls, etc.)
1 step (excluding some ERA-NETs), no change in the evaluation process

2 entry points and 2 types of entries for Post-docs

- Generic call (especially via « Young researchers », to coordinate the proposal)
- Specific calls (including international calls and the « High level researcher hosting » programme)
- As coordinator of the proposal
- As a post-doc hired within a proposal submitted by a more senior researcher



Generic call for proposals 2014

“Major societal challenges” component

1. Efficient resource management and adaptation to climate change
2. Clean, secure and efficient energy
3. Industrial renewal
4. Health and well-being
5. Food security and demographic challenges
6. Sustainable mobility and urban systems
7. Information and communication society
8. Innovative, inclusive and adaptive societies
9. Freedom and security of Europe, its citizens and its residents

Opportunities for SSH everywhere

Challenge 8: Innovative, inclusive and adaptive societies

5 sub-lines of application:

1. Innovations
2. Social dimensions of the digital turn
3. Education and learning
4. Creation, cultures and heritage
5. Law, democracy, governance and new referentials

“At the frontiers of research” component

- All-knowledge challenge (AKA challenge n°10)
 - Integral part of the generic call
 - Completes disciplinary coverage to support all scientific disciplines unrelated to societal challenges
 - Funding instruments available: the same
 - Evaluation of non-relevance to one or more major societal challenges

A large range of instruments, with various characteristics and evaluation criteria

- Collaborative projects
- Public-private partnership collaborative projects
- International projects
- Research networks (**new**)
- Young researchers

funding instruments for "cooperative research"

- **Collaborative projects**
 - Indicative ANR funding level: 100 to 500 k€
 - Consortium: at least two research bodies
 - Research category : mainly basic research, but also industrial research and experimental development
 - Duration: 24 to 48 months
- **Public-private partnership collaborative projects**
 - Indicative ANR funding level: 200 to 800 k€
 - Consortium: at least one research organisation and one enterprise
 - Research category: basic research, industrial research, experimental development
 - Duration: 24 to 48 months
- **International projects**
 - Indicative ANR funding level: 100 to 800 k€
 - Consortium: at least one French research organisation and one foreign partner
 - Research category: mainly basic research, but also industrial research and experimental development
 - Duration: 24 to 48 months

Kick-starting funding instruments

■ Research networks

Indicative ANR funding level: €50 k (approx.)

Consortium: a single funded partner of the research organisation type, broad partnership

Research category: technical feasibility studies

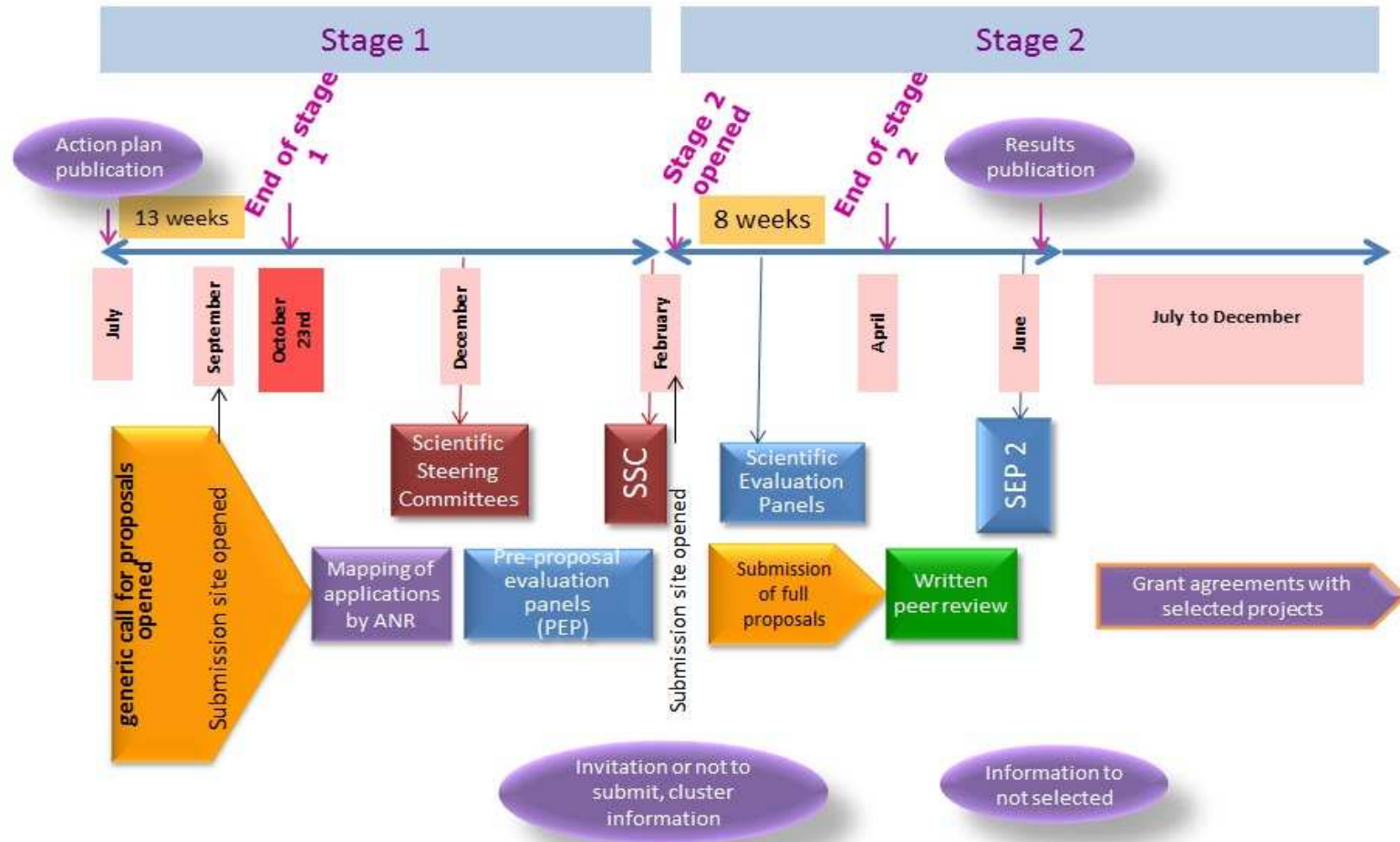
Duration: 12 to 24 months

Funding instruments targeting individuals

■ Young Researchers

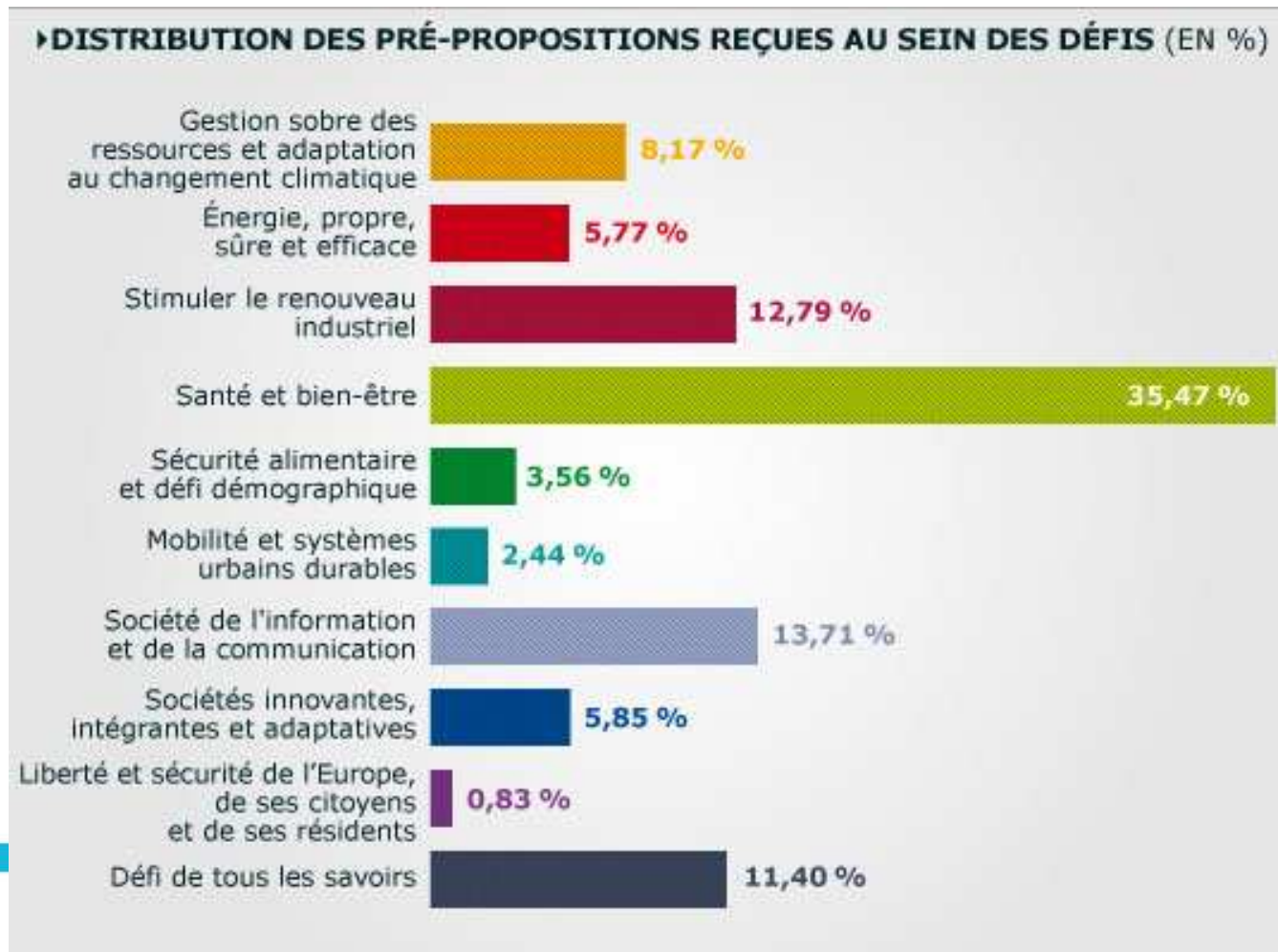
- Indicative ANR funding level: 100 to 400 k€
- Consortium: a single research organisation, the scientific coordinator having been awarded his/her doctorate less than 10 years from the publication date of the Work Programme
- Research category: mainly basic research, but also industrial research
- Duration: 24 to 48 months

Main steps of the evaluation process

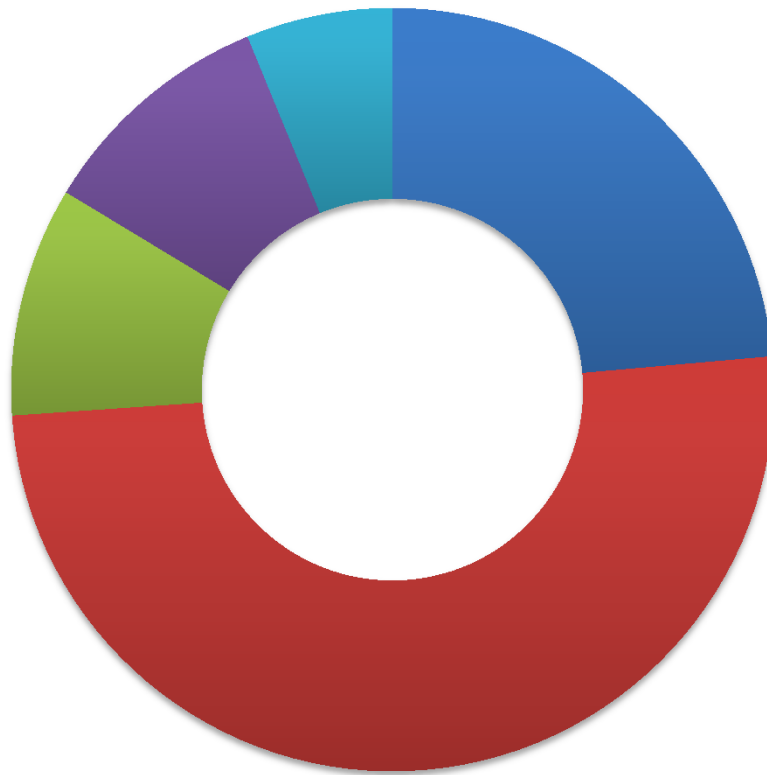


Generic call for proposals: A few figures regarding the outline stage

Break of the 8430 pre-proposals, per challenges



Break per instruments within challenge 8 (483 pre-proposals)



■ Jeunes chercheurs : 114

■ Projet collaboratif : 243

■ Projet collaboratif en partenariat public privé : 47

■ Projet international : 49

■ Réseaux de Recherche : 30



Specific calls

4 components of Work Programme 2014

**Major Societal
challenges**

**At the frontiers of
research**

**Building the ERA and
France's international
attractiveness**

**Economic impact of
research and
competitiveness**

LabCom (specific call open on a continuous flow basis)

Industrial chairs (specific call)

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“Building the ERA and France's international attractiveness” component

- Several types of European and international calls:
 - Bilateral options within the framework of the 2014 generic call in SSH : Brazil (FAPESP, Sao Paulo & FACEPE, Pernambuco), Luxemburg (FNR), Romania (ANCS), Taiwan (NSC), Hong Kong (RGC) + lead agency procedure with Austria and Switzerland
 - Specific European and international calls for proposals: ERANETs such as Norface; JPIs; bi- or multilateral calls: ORA (Open Research Area), Franco-German call in SSH
- France’s attractiveness
 - Creation of the “Hosting high-level researchers” funding instrument

Hosting High Level Researchers

- A specific call, part of component 3 “build the ERA and France’s attractiveness”
- Open to all disciplines and scientific fields
- Fundamental, technological and industrial researches
- **Objective: Host for a long period, high level junior or senior researchers from abroad in French Laboratories**

Hosting High Level Researchers

- **Individual funding (150K€-900 K€ for 3-4 years)** managed by the PI
 - To build a research team
 - To realize an ambitious and original project with high impact
 - To reinforce French Labs by introducing new approaches and cross-sectoral mobility
 - To foster new international research networks
 - The project must strongly benefit the hosting lab and demonstrate that ties will be initiated or strengthened with the previous research institutions of the PI or other foreign research organizations. The project must demonstrate the thorough, coherent and long term implication of the applicant within the hosting institution

- Funding covers the PI's salary + other necessary expenses (staff, travel, equipment, etc.)

Hosting High Level Researchers

Applicants' profile

- **Junior or senior researchers**
- **French or foreign**
- **Doctorate held for more than 4 years**
- **Common characteristic:** have spent a significant part of their career abroad

- **Evaluation procedure :** 1 step, with external peer review and panel

- **Timeline:** Call open March 2014 (see the ANR website) – deadline May 2014 – selection fall 2014 - projects start end of 2014/beginning of 2015

The ANR-DFG Franco-German call in the SSH

- A specific annual call since 2007: currently 7th edition
 - Opens January closes April. Project start from January Y+1
- Open to all SSH disciplines and all themes: entirely bottom up
- Explicitly open to post-docs

In a nutshell

- Coordinator or hired within a project
- On the French or foreign side in international calls
- 3 most suitable options as project PI:
 - Hosting high level researchers
 - The « Young researchers » instrument within the generic call
 - Franco-German call in the SSH



Thank you for your attention

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