

Cross Disciplinary Program (CDP)

Call for projects
2016 & 2017

IDEX Université Grenoble Alpes

The « Initiative d'excellence » (IDEX for short) Université Grenoble Alpes launches a call for projects to foster its interdisciplinary¹ research. Beyond developing outstanding research, projects must contribute to the IDEX international policy and objectives and are encouraged to participate to the IDEX education objectives.

The CDP call provides seed funding. Under the assumption that the IDEX receives the requested funding from the French government (16 M€/year), the CDP funding is about 20 M€ over the period of 2016-2020. Each project will receive seed funding of 0,3 M€ - 0,5 M€ par year for a period of 4 years.

Projects including national or international partners or private companies, not part of the IDEX Université Grenoble Alpes, are welcomed. However, only laboratories of the IDEX are funded.

Two calls are planned during the next 4 years. The exact terms of the second call will depend on the outcome of the first one. Projects of the first call will start on January 2017.

Funded projects must:

- Bring together various research competences in order to produce new knowledge aiming to answer major challenges at the convergence of scientific and social and economic challenges;
- Develop actions aiming at enhancing the international visibility of “Grenoble Alpes”;
- Develop partnerships with renowned international research centres and universities;
- Develop actions to attract talented researchers;
- Develop a plan to sustain the project’s activities beyond the IDEX funding.

Project proposals are encouraged to contribute to the IDEX education objectives through the IDEX education project calls.

Eligibility criteria

- Projects must bring together research teams from different laboratories that belong to:
 - Two different research departments or
 - At least a research department and CEA-tech.
- Projects must gather researchers and faculty from different research departments and disciplines.
- Projects at the convergence of Science, technology and health on one side and Humanities and social sciences on the other side are encouraged.

¹ We use the word “interdisciplinarity” in a broad sense covering pluri-, multi-, trans- and interdisciplinarity.

- Project's principle investigator must be member of a research unit of one the IDEX partners.
- Project's principle investigator should not belong to the IDEX Research and Transfer Executive Commission, to the board of directors of a research department nor to the IDEX steering board.
- The electronic submission file must be submitted before the deadline, must be complete and comply with the mandatory structure given below.

Evaluation criteria

- Scientific quality and inter-disciplinarity character.
 - Relevance of the scientific and socio-economic challenges.
 - Clarity and relevance of the scientific objectives.
 - Quality of the scientific approach and coherence of the work plan.
 - Inter-disciplinary character of the project.
 - Ground-breaking nature, ambition and originality of the project.
 - Potential impact of the project.
 - National and international benchmark and positioning.
- International visibility and partnerships, attractiveness
 - Quality of the international partnerships and their implementation.
 - Commitments and actions for enhancing international visibility.
 - Commitments for attracting talented faculty and researchers.
- Funding and project sustainability
 - The project's consortium capacity to attract co-funding (ANR, Europe, private, local authorities, ...).
 - Funding plans beyond the IDEX seed funding.
- Governance
 - Efficiency of the projected governance.
 - Resources allocation model.
 - Commitment to be reactive to the IDEX management request of KPIs and to the half-period evaluation.

Funding

Project budget is composed of:

1. IDEX funding;
2. The IDEX partners contributions;
3. Co-funding (ANR, Europe, private, local authorities, ...).

The following are eligible to the IDEX funding:

- Human resources: salaries for Ph.Ds., postdocs, non-permanent technical staff, visiting professors, internships, second year master scholarships,
- Consumables, travel costs, etc.
- Equipment.

Partners contributions added to co-funding must be approx. 3,5 times the IDEX funding.

Partners' contributions include:

- Salaries of faculty and staff contributing to the project.
- Indirect costs.
- Equipment amortization costs.

Evaluation process

- Each project proposal will be evaluated by at least 3 exogenous experts. An experts' database is in progress. Applicants may mention the names of up to 3 experts to be excluded as evaluator for their proposal.
- A commission based on the IDEX Research and Transfer Executive Commission (ComEx), members of director boards of the research departments, representative of the ComEx of education and international relations selects proposals for audition.
- Following the auditions, a list of projects to be funded is proposed to the IDEX steering committee.
- Evaluation reports (after anonymization) and the reports on the commission work are made accessible to applicants on request and members of the academic council.

Submission file

The application file contains the following elements:

- Project identification:
 - Project identification sheet;
 - CV of the principal investigator and of other four investigators;
 - Disciplines and research departments;
 - Involved teams and research laboratories.
- Executive summary in French (max. 1 page);
- Executive summary en English (max. 1 page);
- Scientific contributions (max. 13 pages au total)
 - Scientific and socio-economic issues (max. 2 pages);
 - Scientific and technological challenges (max. 2 pages);
 - Scientific approach, work plan and expected results (max. 5 pages);
 - Well-foundedness and add-value of interdisciplinarity (max. 1 page);
 - Actions to attract talents (max. 1 page);
 - Actions to enhance international visibility et develop international partnerships (max. 2 pages) ;
- Governance and resource allocation (max. 2 pages);
- Sustainability strategy of the project (max. 1 page);
- Experts to be excluded: 3 max.;
- Impact on research and transfer IDEX KPIs;
- Funding.

- Competences and expertise of involved teams and faculty.
- Optional: issues in education, planned actions and commitment to apply to IDEX education calls (max. 2 pages).

It is strongly recommended to apply in English. Proposals written in French will be translated to English. In this case, experts will have access to the proposal in both languages. An executive summary is mandatory in both languages in all cases.