



Department of Science and Technology  
Government of India



## **Indo-French Programme in Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Human-environment interactions, Particle Physics, Engineering and System Sciences**

**Between**

**Department of Science and Technology(DST) and Centre National de la  
Recherche Scientifique of France (CNRS)**

Under Targeted Programme of CEFIPRA

***(Deadline for Submitting Proposals: 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2018)***

Following the Memorandum of Understanding signed between DST and CNRS in May 2015, Indian and French research institutions wish to strengthen scientific cooperation between both countries by contributing to researchers' mobility and by fostering joint research projects in the fields of Biodiversity, Ecosystems & Human-environment interactions, Particle Physics, Engineering & System Sciences.

For this purpose and in addition to the existing Indo-French Program in Information and Communication Sciences and Technologies, a Joint targeted Program in the fields mentioned above is launched this year by CNRS and the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. Projects emerging from CNRS' research units are eligible to the annual call and will be co-funded by CNRS and DST.

In India, on behalf of the Department of Science & Technology, Indo-French Centre for Promotion of Advanced Research (CEFIPRA) invites proposals from the Indian scientists / researchers, organize expert & review committee meetings for management/ disbursement of funds to the approved projects, etc.

### **1. Program goals and priorities**

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The program aims at supporting joint projects created between Indian and French research groups/researchers. The two partners jointly define a scientific objective with a clear added value for each of them, a research plan and a program for bilateral exchanges.

Each partner is responsible for disseminating the information concerning the call. The programme is aimed at supporting in priority new collaborative projects by:

- **Strengthening existing collaborations:** by creating a task force on a new joint project in the context of international laboratories or research programs.
- **Launching and supporting new partnerships:** by putting together complementary competencies to explore new research topics between the two countries.

### **Areas of Collaboration ( targeted topic for the call)**

For the first call, domains of common interest have been identified by the Joint Indo-French Selection Committee, which include:

- Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Human-environment interactions (including terrestrial/marine, past/present environments and socio-ecosystems)
- Detector and theory developments in nuclear and particle physics
- Engineering and Systems Sciences

### **Eligibility**

Applicants from both countries must fulfil the following requirements:

**On the Indian side:** Applicants have to hold a permanent position as scientists/ faculty members in universities/ deemed universities, academic institutes and national research and development laboratories/institutes.

**On the French side:** Applicants have to carry out their research activity in a CNRS research unit.

Joint projects must be submitted by the French PI via the dedicated Web site at: <https://www.cooperation.cnrs.fr/coopinteer/interne/login.do>

Contact : [anais.delbarre@cnrs-dir.fr](mailto:anais.delbarre@cnrs-dir.fr)/ Anaïs Delbarre, CNRS Project Officer for Africa/ Middle-East and India

### **Application:**

**Each project must be submitted separately to CNRS and to CEFIPRA** according to each institution's own procedures. In order to avoid mismatching projects, and consequently ineligibility, Indian and French PIs shall make sure that projects have been submitted to each institution. Proposals submitted to only one Party will not be considered.

- Applicants shall submit their proposals by using the prescribed format (downloadable)
- Each proposal should have both an Indian and a French Principal Investigators (PI's).
- Proposals shall be submitted in English.

## **Evaluation of Project Proposal:**

After the closure date of the Call CNRS and DST/CEFIPRA will exchange list of proposals, received on their side. Commonly received proposals will be evaluated by CNRS and DST/CEFIPRA according to their own evaluation rules, and they will rank the proposals based on scientific quality and interest.

The evaluation criteria will be based on the following:

- Relevance of the proposal to the call
- Technical and Scientific quality of the proposal
- Quality of the project management & methodology
- Global Impact of the proposal
- Quality of the consortium and good synergies between the partners
- Mobilization of resources
- Added value to be expected from French-Indian research collaboration
- Balanced Scientific and Financial contribution

Projects to be funded are selected by a Joint Selection Committee composed of representatives and Scientific Chairs of the funding institutions. The Joint Selection Committee takes into account the recommendations of Scientific Chairs and the strategic priorities of the funding institutions.

## **Project funding:**

Jointly selected proposals will be funded in India by DST through CEFIPRA and in France by CNRS (for CNRS Research units). The joint proposal must meet the criteria of the funding institutions for consideration. Each project will be funded for a period of three years. Joint research projects will be financed by Indian and French funding partners for a period of three (3) years.

French partner: 5 000- 7 000€, per project and per year (CNRS)

Indian partner: 10 000 – 15 000€ (Rs. 8-12 lakhs), per project and per year.

The support will be given on Indian side under the following heads:

- International travel (including airfare (India to France & vice-versa), daily allowance, accommodation and domestic travel in the receiving country during a participant's stay abroad) for researchers, engineers, post-doctoral Fellows, PhD Students, as per CEFIPRA norms ([Click here to download](#))
- Support for JRF /SRF / RA/ PDF (as per DST's guidelines)
- Contingency up to Rs. 30,000 per year

The cost of accident and sickness insurance during travel will not be supported under this Programme. Since the project is supported mainly for collaboration; applicants have to indicate about the status of co-funding.

As the joint projects are funded in bilateral mode the mobility between the two countries should be balanced. Applicants are reminded to include sufficient budget for travel between India and France to ensure successful collaboration.

Additional support from both sides could be provided, in the scope of the existing co-operation programs from the different funding partners. The request for such additional support should be

mentioned in the proposals. The selection process will be subject to the rules of each funding institution and an IP Management Charter will be signed by successful applicants.

### **Report:**

Joint projects are created for a period of 3 years and progress is monitored on a yearly basis by funding partners. A report along with financial Utilization Certificate (UC) and Statement of Expenditure (SoE) must be submitted annually to CEFIPRA that describes the progress of the work and requests a budget for the following year.

At completion of the third year, the PIs present the final report to the Indian and the French funding partners.

### **Intellectual Property:**

The rights of Intellectual Property (IP) arising from the programme shall be, in principle, the joint property of the project participants and their employing institutions. In respect of each result, which is to be protected, the project participants shall decide the modalities of protecting the rights. For each selected joint proposal, the project participants shall prepare a joint Intellectual Property Management Plan. A template for this IP Plan will be provided by partner institutions of this programme. Fund will be released only after receiving of the mutually accepted IP management Plan.

### **Guidelines for submission of applications:**

DST advises Indian applicants to make sure that their French partner is eligible to apply for funding from CNRS.

Application in prescribed proposal format([Click here to download](#)) along with joint submission agreement signed by both the partners and certificates duly signed by Heads of the Institutions should be submitted to the Director, Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research, 5B, Ground Floor, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003 (India) on or before **26<sup>th</sup> September, 2018**.

One advanced copy must be sent by email to [proposal@cefipra.org](mailto:proposal@cefipra.org) with subject as '**Proposal for DST-CNRS Targeted Programme**'. Applications received after due date or received on only one side will not be considered for evaluation.

### **Important Dates:**

- July 2, 2018: publication of the call
- September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018: deadline for submission of joint proposals
- October-November, 2018: national evaluations
- December, 2018: Joint Selection Committee
- End of January, 2019: notification of grants and publication of results

***(Deadline for Submitting of proposals: 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2018)***

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For further information please contact:

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