

## International Excellence and Outreach (IDEX-RI) Call for applications 2025

*International Development Directorate (DGD-DI)  
Université Grenoble Alpes (UGA)*

<b>Monday 16 December 2024: Opening of the call</b>
<b>Monday 10 March 2025 at 12 noon: Submission deadline</b>
<b>September - December 2025: Start of the projects</b>

### Introduction

The *International Excellence and Outreach (Initiatives d'Excellence – Rayonnement International)* Call for Projects is open to the entire scientific and academic community at UGA with no restrictions in terms of disciplines or methodology. It is led by UGA's Vice-Presidency for International Affairs, with the support from UGA's International Development Directorate.

This call for proposals will fund doctoral theses or postdoctoral projects involving a collaboration with an international partner.

### Objectives of the call

- Support an international scientific cooperation and continue to promote UGA's strategic partnerships
- Provide funding for doctoral and postdoctoral research in a wide range of disciplines and fields of research
- Develop new international collaborations or partnerships

### Eligibility criteria

#### Project coordination

- The principal investigator must be a permanent, currently active member, researcher or professor belonging to one of the research units of UGA's research departments.
- As a thesis supervisor, the principal investigator must also be affiliated with an UGA Doctoral School.

- The principal investigator must not be a member of a research department, of the Vice-Presidency for Research and Innovation, of the Vice-Presidency for International Affairs, or of the UGA Council of Deans.
- An emeritus researcher or professor is not entitled to act as a principal investigator.
- Principal investigators who have benefited from an IRGA 2024 funding are not entitled to submit a project.

### Project-related criteria

- In the case of projects co-funded by an international partner, the principal investigator will have to provide a letter of commitment from the partner.
- All international partners are eligible, with priority given to projects involving an UGA strategic partner:

→ [UGA strategic partners](#):

- Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)
- McMaster University
- National Taiwan University
- University of Oxford
- University of Tsukuba
- Swansea University

Priority will also be given to projects involving partnerships with Université de Sherbrooke, Nanyang Technological University – NTU Singapore, and the universities which are part of the [Unite!](#) European alliance.

- The support of the principal investigator's laboratory management board must be obtained. All projects are eligible, without any quotas for each laboratory.
- If the joint supervisors are already jointly supervising a thesis, the submitted project will be rendered ineligible.
- A project must be submitted primarily within the research department corresponding to its main theme, irrespective of the main research department with which the principal investigator's laboratory is affiliated. A second research department may be added if this genuinely adds value to the dissemination of knowledge for both of the departments involved, and goes beyond a purely methodological or technical involvement.

### Funding

Three types of funding are available:

- One Doctoral Research Grant (ADR) co-funded by UGA and the partner (cotutelle and/or joint supervision),
- One postdoctoral fellowship co-funded by the UGA and the partner, for a period of 12 to 24 months.
- In the case of the strategic partners only, and the members of the [Unite!](#) alliance, matching PhDs may also be funded, one funded by UGA and the other by the international partner

Depending on the available funds, the recipients will also receive additional funding of up to €15k (€5k per year) for travel expenses and research activities (workshops, conferences).

### Assessment criteria

- Scientific excellence, potential impact and feasibility of the project.
- Leverage effect of the project to obtain other sources of funding
- Extension to other research communities (interdisciplinarity)
- Extent of the partner's involvement beyond the supervision of the doctoral/postdoc student, quality and complementarity of the teams involved.

## Additional criteria

- In the event of a given project being submitted for a second time, the assessments from the previous year will be taken into consideration in addition to the ones from the current year. The changes made to the newly submitted project will also be taken into consideration.
- In the context of UGA's environmental policy, each principal investigator will explain how they plan to limit any of the potential environmental impacts of their project.
- The strategy for disseminating and exploiting the project's results will be taken into consideration, especially regarding the choice of the national or international conferences, the national or international journals, including peer-reviewed journals, and the referencing in the international databases. Moreover, the submission of the articles and manuscripts written in an open database (such as HAL or arxiv) will be mandatory.

## Submission of projects

Applications must be complete and submitted electronically, in the required format, within the deadline and according to the procedure specified on the submission platform: <https://projects-call.univ-grenoble-alpes.fr/>

They may be written in English or in French.

Mandatory documents for the application to be complete (Calibri 11 pt font or equivalent, single-spaced) include:

- The CV of the principal investigator or co-investigators (no more than 2 pages per investigator),
- The project description (which should not exceed the required number of pages),
- The certificate of the project submission signed by the Director of the main UGA laboratory
- The letter of commitment from the partner co-funding the project.

**Link to download the application form:** <https://cloud.univ-grenoble-alpes.fr/s/ZZkNrrrwrzx5bKP>

## Call schedule

Monday 16 December 2024: Publication of the call

Wednesday 15 January 2025 : Opening of the project submission platform

Monday 10 March 2025: Closing date for submission

Mid-May 2025: Publication of results

## Project selection procedure

- Scientific projects will be assessed by the UGA research departments, and by the CEA in the case of projects submitted by one of its institutes.
- For projects co-funded by UGA's strategic partners, the assessments of the partners will also be taken into account
- The different evaluation committees are mentioned below:
  - **Coordination:** VP International Affairs
  - **Selection committee:** VP International Affairs extended to the departments and strategic partners, when required
  - **Consultative body:** Research Commission of the UGA Academic Board
  - **Decision-making body:** IDEX Council of Deans

The selection procedure will comply with the UGA code of ethics for all calls for projects, including the treatment of potential conflicts of interest.

Each committee will vote formally on the application of the commitment and confidentiality charter (Appendix 1 of the UGA charter) by each committee member.

Committee members will be asked to provide a declaration of interests. All members of the committees and bodies are bound by the rules of confidentiality and professional ethics. Consultative bodies will be exempt from the declaration of conflicts of interest.

## Project implementation

- Principal investigators for an accredited project will be required to produce another letter confirming the partner's commitment (detailed schedule and modes of funding...) within two months of the results of the call for projects being published. In the event of the partner's withdrawal, the UGA grant will not be maintained.
- ADRs (Doctoral Research Grants) are allocated within a research unit supervised by UGA or by a CEA institute of technology.
- The thesis must start before 31 December 2025.
- Doctoral students must be recruited in close collaboration with the appropriate Doctoral School. The recruitment procedure (drafting and publication of the job description, definition of the working conditions, pre-selection and then interviews) will be defined by the future supervisors and then validated by the Doctoral School. People with experience in thesis supervision and the international recruitment of doctoral students must be involved in each phase of the process. It is therefore not necessary to identify a candidate when submitting the project.
- The Doctoral School will be questioned regarding (1) the number of theses in progress supervised by the proposed thesis supervisors; (2) the number of funded theses supervised by the proposed thesis supervisor(s), begun but not finalized after more than four years. This inventory will be carried out over a period of 10 years or since the proposed thesis supervisor(s) was recruited.
- Each potential thesis supervisor must confirm with the Doctoral School with which they are affiliated that the applicable rules relating to student/teacher ratios are complied with in the context of the Doctoral School regulations.
- Postdoc students will be required to prove that they have had experience in research outside the laboratories of UGA's research departments either during their thesis or their postdoctoral work.

## Webinar schedule

- **Date:**
  - Thursday 16 January at 4 p.m.
  - Tuesday 11 February at 9.00 a.m.
  - Thursday 13 February at 1.30 p.m.
- **Link to register:** <https://evento.renater.fr/survey/webinaires-aap-idex-...-vglf17jq>
- **Zoom link:**
  - <https://univ-grenoble-alpes-fr.zoom.us/j/96023120474?pwd=jG3R8Flu4th68JjrRV9CEoDsLRCkuk.1>
  - ID de réunion: 960 2312 0474
  - Code secret: IDEX\_RI

## Contact

If you have any questions, please contact **Amélie Douçot** at the International Development Directorate (DGD-DI)

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