

GUYAMAZON 2013

Call for Projects

Franco-Brazilian scientific and academic cooperation program, funded by the France Embassy in Brazil, the Inter-establishment Agency for Research and Development (AIRD), the French Region of Guyana, the CIRAD, and the Brazilian State level research agencies (FAP) of Amazonas (FAPEAM), Amapá (FAPEAP) and Maranhão (FAPEMA).

Closing date : July 15, 2013



The Inter-establishment Agency for Research and Development (AIRD), the France Embassy in Brazil, the Region of Guyana and, the CIRAD, and the Brazilian State level research agencies (FAPs) of Amazonas (FAPEAM), Amapá (FAPEAP) and Maranhão (FAPEMA), launch a call for proposals aimed at supporting projects coordinated by researchers and teacher-researchers from academic institutions and /or French research, especially from the Guyana region.

1. Objectives

The GUYAMAZON 2013 program objective is to support research and capacity building projects for development, including research training in the context of scientific collaboration between researchers from French research and education institutions (especially from the Guyana region) and their counterparts in the Brazilian states of Amazonas, Amapá and Maranhão.

The projects will focus primarily on topics related to biodiversity and regional development issues or features thereof. The partners aim to strengthen the regional research capacities, scientific and technological development, and attractiveness.

This call will support projects that will combine research and capacity building activities.

Proposals, in the following areas, will be eligible:

- Theme 1: Biodiversity and Amazonian environment (knowledge, environmental sustainability, space observation)
- Theme 2: Aquatic ecosystems (river, coastal and marine)
- Theme 3: Health and Environment (Environment and infectious diseases)
- Theme 4: Agro-ecology
- Theme 5: Renewable Energies
- Theme 6: Humanities and Social Sciences related to regional challenges (governance, policies and strategies for sustainable development).

Projects should be based on a scientific collaboration between researchers (and/or teachers-researchers) of higher education and research institutions located in France, preferably in Guyana, and institutions located in one or several Brazilian states of Amazonas, Amapá and Maranhão.

Each project must include two balanced parts: a Brazilian and a French part, and must be submitted by two (or more) project leaders: a French coordinator as well as a Brazilian coordinator for each state involved (at least one of the states). Each part will be funded equally by the partners of his country.

French project leaders must submit their project to the AIRD to: aird.guyamaz@ird.fr

Brazilian project leaders must submit their project through the website of the respective FAP:

- FAPEAM : <http://www.fapeam.am.gov.br>
- FAPEAP : <http://www.fapeap.ap.gov.br>
- FAPEMA : <http://www.fapema.br>

Proposals have to be submitted on the same day to the relevant structures.

French part and Brazilian part will fund equally each part of the projects.

On the French side, the project leader must belong to a laboratory under the authority of one or more members of the AIRD (CIRAD, CNRS, INSERM, Institut Pasteur, IRD, CPU).

On the Brazilian side, the FAP will fund projects from institution of their respective states.

Project evaluation will be carried out in parallel and simultaneously by Brazilian and French evaluation bodies.

Only projects approved by both scientific committees (French and Brazilian) will be funded.

2. Eligibility and restrictions

2.1 On the French side, are eligible as projects leaders researchers and teacher-researchers from academic and research institutions members of the AIRD (CIRAD, CNRS, INSERM, Institut Pasteur, IRD, CPU), and having or wishing to develop activities related to the French Region of Guyana and the Brazilian Amazon.

They should be in relation to Brazilian researchers or teachers-researchers from public institutions of higher education and research, having their headquarters in one or more of the three Brazilian states participating in the program GUYAMAZON 2013.

Within this call, researchers from the Brazilian state of Parà and from Suriname may be associated in the projects. However, these researchers cannot be designated as project leaders and must bring their own financing.

French and Brazilian private companies may be associated in projects for innovation activities. They must provide proof of their financial contribution to the development of these activities within the project.

2.2 The projects leaders must have a high-quality scientific production in the area of the proposal, especially in the last five years, and be engaged in relevant research to targeted themes in this call for proposals.

2.3 Proposals must be submitted by the project leaders, with the written consent of their institution and of their unit director.

2.4 Projects must have a maximum duration of 24 months.

2.5 A project leader, researcher or a teacher-researcher can participate in only one proposal.

2.6 A researcher or a teacher-researcher participating in a project cannot be part of the evaluation bodies that will be constituted by the AIRD for the French part, and by the FAP for the Brazilian.

3. Evaluation procedure

Objective

Scientific excellence is the key criterion to obtain the support of the AIRD.

The projects considered eligible (according to the terms of item 2) will be evaluated and selected on the basis of scientific excellence and in accordance with rigorous and transparent procedures implemented through a 3-step process.

Modalities

Step 1: External Evaluation

A first evaluation will be conducted by two external experts, renowned in their field, through an evaluation grid with the terms of reference of the call.

All experts sign the Confidentiality Agreement and must report any conflicts of interest.

Step 2: Selection and ranking by a Scientific Committee (SC)

Constitution of an ad hoc scientific committee by the AIRD.

The final list of selected projects will be determined and classified by the independent scientific committee that selects the best proposals considering the criteria of scientific excellence and the results of the external evaluations.

The Scientific Committee is composed entirely of eminent scientists who have different roles within this evaluation body: the “rapporteur” is in charge of preparing the synthesis of the external evaluations by proposal, while the “reader” complete the review presented by the “rapporteur” if required.

After discussion, the Scientific Committee provides a ranked list of selected projects.

His advice is independent, collegiate and sovereign and it follows a certified procedure.

Following this meeting, a scientific advice will be established.

Step 3: Final list by the Steering Committee

Following the evaluation procedure, the Steering Committee classifies the proposals selected by the French and Brazilian scientific committees, based on scientific criteria.

Only projects, approved on both sides, will be selected and funded.

4. Selection criteria

4.1 The proposals must be submitted to the FAP (FAPEAM, FAPEAP, and FAPEMA) and AIRD respecting the eligibility criteria described in item 2.

The GUYAMAZON 2013 projects will be evaluated simultaneously by the AIRD and the FAPs according to the following criteria:

- Scientific quality, scope and relevance of the topic, methodology, originality, interdisciplinarity,
- Relevance to the call for proposals, and adequacy to the themes of the call for proposals,
- The overall coherence of the proposal, including the adequacy of the proposed activities and expected results,
- The qualification of project managers and teams involved: experience coordinating international cooperation projects, training capacity of human resources,
- Scientific quality of researchers and teachers-researchers(publications, impacts etc.),
- The quality of partnerships: institutional complementarity, academic opportunities for collaboration (e.g. Joint masters),
- The relevance of training and capacity building activities: development of common curricula and/or shared diplomas, co-orientation and/or co-supervision initiatives,

- Development of cross-border initiatives, enhancing the number of students and researchers involved,
- The expected impacts in terms of socio-economic valorization: socio-economic impact and other mutual benefits that can be generated through international cooperation and benefits for research and higher education systems in Guyana and Brazil,
- Innovative character of the proposal,
- The adequacy between the budget and planned activities,
- The coherence between the objectives, tools and methods, expected results and timeframe of planned activities,
- Compatibility of infrastructure and support team with the project activities,

4.3 The results of the evaluation of proposals will be posted on the websites of all partners of the program and communicated to the project leaders, on the date specified in the calendar (item 6).

4.4 The activities under proposals must begin within 6 months from the date of the first payment.

4.5 Within this call, priority will be given to students enrolled in higher education institutions of the French Region of Guyana. Will be also encouraged training activities conducted in Guyana by teachers and researchers from metropolitan France who would have to deliver courses or conduct research in the Brazilian Amazon.

4.6 Preference will be given to projects that have solid and original perspectives in terms of capacity building in a Guyana-Brazil.

It is recommended that project leaders expose clearly the future development and sustainability of their training plan in the medium-long term (e.g. integration into wider partnership).

5. Financial resources

The proposals will be supported within the limits of available financial resources and **funded equally** and simultaneously by the French and the Brazilian side.

6. Eligible expenses for French teams

Eligible expenditure, on the French side, in this program:

- Airfare between Guyana, Brazil, and Metropolitan France,
- Short term missions (less than 2 months) of French participants,
- Scholarships for scientific exchanges and training stays with duration between 60 days and 12 months, in Brazil and Guyana. (Current legal rate according to AIRD grid),
- Costs of organizing training workshops or meetings aimed at preparing joint training courses, scientific conferences,
- Operating costs of research (small equipment...).

7. Calendar

- Launch of the call: May 31, 2013
- **Deadline for submissions: July 15, 2013 12 pm**
- Evaluation and selection of projects by both parts: mid July to mid September 2013
- Binational Evaluation Committee : second half of September 2013
- Disclosure of results : second half of September 2013
- Start of activities: possible from October 2013

8. Applications

Applications must contain the following part:

1. Application form and required additional documents (CV, list of publications, detailed chronogram, detailed budget, and any other relevant documents).
2. Commitment to collaboration signed by the project leaders (not scanned signatures)
3. Letter of support from the project leaders institution
4. Letter of support from the project leaders laboratories/structures

Application form is available on the website of the AIRD: www.aird.fr (section "Actualités"/ "Appels à projets").

For further information, please contact: aird.guyamaz@ird.fr

9. Submission of applications

The original application (paper) has to be sent to the AIRD, before July 15, 2013 (date of the postmark) to:

IRD - Institute of Research for Development -
Call for projects GUYAMAZON 2013
Service DPF
44, Boulevard de Dunkerque
CS 90009-13572 MARSEILLE Cedex 2
France

All documents (scanned if applicable) must also be sent in electronic form to: aird.guyamaz@ird.fr before July 15, 2013 12pm

Incomplete or out of time applications will be rejected

