

Expression of interest for an International Research Network (IRN) or International Research Project (IRP) creation

Campaign 2026 for 2027-2031 (five years)

IRN/IRP are part of the international strategy of CNRS. As such, project leaders are invited to discuss their projects with the management of their laboratory and with the Deputy scientific director (DAS) Europe and International of CNRS Informatix (ins2i-international@cnrs.fr).

What is an IRN?

This international cooperation tool is designed to **consolidate a network of French and foreign partners** around a theme on which they are already conducting **collaborative research**.

An IRN federates a network that could participate in European and international calls for projects.

[IRN-Sheet.pdf](#)

What is an IRP?

This international cooperation tool is designed to **support a collaborative research project between French and foreign partners who have already demonstrated their ability to work together**.

An IRP makes it possible to federate teams that could participate in European and international calls for projects.

[IRP-Sheet.pdf](#)

I. ALLOCATED RESOURCES

Funding, generally ranging from €10,000 to €15,000 per year, is allocated each year for 5 years. It is used for the mobility of the teams involved and the organization of scientific meetings in France and in the partner countries (workshops, scientific seminars or thematic schools).

- Part of the funding (20% maximum per year) may be used for other expenses.
- No salary can be paid out of CNRS funding.
- This budget should be used as leverage, with French and foreign partners potentially providing additional resources.

II. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The Coordination

The IRN or IRP must be supported by a CNRS unit (UMR, UPR, UAR or IRL).
The coordinator must be an academic who is a permanent member of this unit.

The Consortium

The consortium must include foreign partners (IRL are considered as French partners).

Criteria for the consortium composition:

IRN

- 1 foreign country **minimum**
- 5 teams **minimum**

IRP

- 3 foreign countries **maximum**
- 6 teams **maximum**

History: partners must have worked together in the past.

III. CALENDAR

- Submission deadline : **Monday, February 23rd, 2026**
- Results : **by the week of April 6th, 2026**

Selected applicants will be contacted to submit a complete file by **may 15th, 2026**. We plan to make a final decision during summer 2026, with a view to starting the project at the beginning of 2027. Selection will be based on the quality of the applications, the strategy of the institute and laboratories, thematic, and geographic balance in mind.

IV. HOW TO SUBMIT AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST?

Instructions and forms are available on our website <https://www.ins2i.cnrs.fr/en/international-cooperation> , along with updates.

A **webinar** will be held on **Friday, January 30th**, from 11:00 to 12:00 CET, with a link on the same page.

V. LINK WITH THE NATIONAL CNRS IRP/IRN CALL

In 2026, the CNRS launches a synchronized call for IRN and IRP. The applications will be evaluated by the CNRS institutes. The campaign for CNRS Informatics Institute will conclude within this framework, and **the Institute will only consider applications whose preliminary Expression of Interest (EOI/AMI) has been accepted.**