

First Step Projects - 2025

Evaluation criteria

The First step call for proposals, in line with Inserm's policy on equal opportunities and parity, will follow the ambition and recommendations of the [plan for professional equality between women and men](#) and will pay particular attention to gender balance.

Project coordinator for France:

Project acronym:

Country of the partner institution:

Thematic Institute:

| Evaluation criteria |
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| 1. Scientific quality and scientific potential of the collaborative project |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the issues addressed by the project scientifically relevant? • Is the project clearly described and convincing? • Are the scientific objectives of the project well identified? • Is it an ambitious project? Does it have innovative scientific potential? |
| Comments |
| 2. Quality and scientific expertise of the teams |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the level of scientific expertise of the teams adapted to achieve the project's objectives? • Is the profile of the young researcher promising? |
| Comments |
| 3. Feasibility of the project |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the overall project design well thought through for implementation? • Are the proposed methods and equipment adapted? • Are the roles and responsibilities of the various team members sufficiently specified? • Is the environment conducive to carrying out the proposed research? |
| Comments |

4. Complementarity of the teams and potential for collaboration

- Are the teams complementary regarding their respective scientific contributions and/or data and methodology?
- Is this collaboration new ? *nb. Projects resulting from previous work between the 2 teams will be evaluated but not considered as a priority - especially if it concerns a long-standing partnership (e.g. post-doc).*
- Is this collaboration relevant to achieving the scientific objectives of the project?
Is the added value of the emergence of this international collaboration demonstrated?

Comments

A special attention will be paid to projects with low-income or middle-income countries (LMICs)¹.

ETHICS

- Does the project raise ethical issues?
- If the answer is yes, are the ethical issues sufficiently addressed in the preparation of the project?

If the research project submitted involves the human person, biological elements of human origin or data concerning the person, contact Inserm's Pole Recherche Clinique (promoteur.inserm@inserm.fr) for assistance with the regulatory aspects.

¹ LMICs list : <https://data.worldbank.org/country/low-and-middle-income>

Source defining the notion of PRFI : <https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519-world-bank-country-and-lending-groups>