

CALL FOR PROJECTS 2023-2024

INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY FOR PHD STUDENTS AND SUPERVISORS FROM SOUTHERN COUNTRIES

1. OBJECTIVE OF THE CALL AND SCOPE OF THE PROPOSALS

This call for projects aims to encourage the mobility of PhD students from universities in "Southern countries¹», for which few funding mechanisms exist through other programmes (Erasmus, bilateral agreements between institutions, etc.), in order to finance research visits of 3 to 6 months in Labex CeMEB partner laboratories. These visits must be devoted to research activities as part of their PhD thesis project and be carried-out under the joint supervision of the Labex researcher and the PhD thesis director in the country of origin (foreign supervisor).

In order to favour the reality of joint supervision on the proposed subject on one hand, and to develop/perpetuate future Labex's international collaborations with researchers from the "South" on the other, this call for projects also makes it possible to finance stays (8 days) by the foreign researcher (during the PhD student's stay). Labex funding includes the funding of travel expenses, including a round trip from the country of origin to the host laboratory, as well as an allowance to cover the subsistence costs in France (accommodation, food).

The PhD subjects must correspond to the research themes of the CeMEB perimeter (www.labex-cemeb.org). It is therefore requested that the PhD student is registered as a PhD candidate at his/her university in the country of origin and that he/she receives a salary, fellowship, PhD grant or stipendium for completing his/her doctorate.

This call for proposals will allow the funding of 5 stays of doctoral students (duration: minimum 3 months, maximum 6 months) and for each doctoral student one stay of his/her supervisor (maximum 8 days). The stays must end in October 2024 at the latest.

	Opening of the Call	Application date	Results	Stays
Dates	March 2023	Ongoing	One month after application	Stays can start 3 months after application date

Please note that this call for proposals is not intended to cover research or field costs related to the thesis or additional travel in France or elsewhere. These costs and associated administrative responsibilities are the responsibility of the research laboratories.

¹ This includes countries in the South as defined by IRD, as well as other low-GDP countries. However, EU countries, North America, Australia, New Zealand, Russia, the Gulf States, Japan and China are excluded. If in doubt about the scope, contact the Labex CeMEB.

2. FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

2.1. Funding and organisation of PhD students' research visits

The support will cover the following items:

Item	Maximum amount	
Round trip from the country of origin to CeMEB laboratory	800 euros	Tickets booked by Labex CeMEB
Maintenance allowance to cover accommodation and food costs	1100 euros per month (on a 30 days basis)	Paid via Campus France
Social protection, health and civil liability		Affiliation via Campus France

The maintenance allowance will be paid to the PhD student by Campus France from the day of his/her arrival in the laboratory, either by bank transfer or by Western Union, then at the beginning of the month for the following months. The purpose of this payment is to cover the costs of accommodation, meals and living expenses for the PhD student during his/her stay. The PhD student books and pays his/her own accommodation. No additional expenses will be covered by Labex CeMEB, with the possible exception of one-off expenses requested beforehand and accepted by the management of Labex CeMEB.

2.2. Funding and organisation of the foreign supervisor

The support will cover the following items:

Item	Maximum amount	
Round trip from the country of origin to CeMEB laboratory	800 euros	Tickets booked by Labex CeMEB
Maintenance allowance to cover accommodation and food costs	130 euros per day (8 days maximum)	Paid via Campus France
Social protection, health and civil liability		Affiliation via Campus France

The maintenance allowance will be paid to the researcher by Campus France from the day of his/her arrival in the laboratory, either by bank transfer or by Western Union. The purpose of this allowance is to cover the researcher's accommodation, meals and living expenses during his/her stay. The researcher books and pays for his/her own accommodation. No additional expenses will be covered by Labex CeMEB, with the possible exception of one-off expenses investigated and validated beforehand by the management of Labex CeMEB.

Stays by supervisors are not compulsory but are strongly encouraged. They must take place during the PhD students' stays and must not exceed 8 days (including travel days).

3. REQUIREMENTS AND COMMITMENTS OF THE PHD STUDENT AND ITS SUPERVISORS

For the realization of the stay

PhD student:

- As a reminder, this call is not intended to supplement the PhD student's salary, but only covers travel and subsistence in France during the research visit. The PhD student must therefore be registered in a foreign university located in a Southern country and his/her salary must be entirely financed by a foreign source. He/she must attach to the application a certificate of enrolment in the foreign university and a certificate of funding for the thesis (salary, grant, fellowship or stipendium) and the associated research costs, and the stay must be authorized by the foreign University.
- The PhD student must not benefit from any other public funding for his/her stay in France (cumulating not accepted). He/she must attach to the application a declaration on honour indicating that he/she is not receiving any other funding for this stay.
- A CeMEB researcher will be the scientific referent of the PhD-student during his/her stay in France. A co-supervision agreement for the whole thesis project (co-tutelle) between the foreign PhD supervisor and the scientific referent is possible before the beginning of the thesis, but also during its first year. This solution is encouraged if allowed by the universities concerned.

Supervisors:

- The supervisors' research visit will take place during the PhD students' research visit.
- Whenever possible, foreign supervisors are encouraged to give an internal seminar in the host laboratory or during the SEEMs (Seminars in Evolutionary Ecology in Montpellier).

Visas: the CeMEB research laboratory hosting the PhD student is responsible for obtaining any visas and will cover the associated costs. Under no circumstances will Campus France or CeMEB be able to pay for visas.

Research costs: this call for proposals is not intended to finance research costs, but only transport costs (from the country of origin) and accommodation costs. The hosting research units undertake to finance all necessary additional costs, including transportation during the stay.

Hosting agreement: The University of Montpellier (UM) currently sets up a model agreement for PhD students from the South. The host laboratory is responsible for requesting the PhD student to sign this hosting agreement, as well as requesting a signed agreement by the organisation hosting the laboratory, and to send it to Labex CeMEB at least one month before the start of the stay. If it is not received within this period, the funding of the PhD student's research visit will be cancelled (and consequently that of the supervisor).

Following the stay

- If the thesis defence takes place abroad, organise a public presentation also in Montpellier, with publicity through CeMEB
- Provide the activity reports requested by CeMEB (especially for its periodic evaluation and communication).
- Report to CeMEB the publications and communications related to the project, as well as any remarkable fact (obtaining a prize or a distinction for example).
- Mention the University of Montpellier in any publication,
- Mention CeMEB funding in any communication about the project:

Français : « Ce travail a bénéficié de l'appui d'une aide de l'État gérée par l'Agence Nationale de la Recherche au titre du programme "Investissements d'avenir" portant la référence ANR-10-LABX-04-01 ». Anglais : "With the support of LabEx CeMEB, an ANR "Investissements d'avenir" program (ANR-10-LABX-04-01)."

4. APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURES FOR PROJECTS

4.1. Applications

Proposals written in French or English (see submission form) must be sent to cemeb-soumission@umontpellier.fr in two identical documents, one in Word format, the other in PDF format, signed by the director of the CeMEB research unit involved. Any questions can be sent to the same address. Any application that does not meet the required documents and conditions will not be examined.

4.2. Selection criteria

- C1- Scientific quality of the PhD thesis project (which must correspond to the thematic outlines of CeMEB). A brief state of the art of the thesis subject and how it contributes to the research themes of both teams (CeMEB and team abroad) must be clearly explained.
- C2- Scientific quality and interest of the proposed project in the framework of the mobility. Relevance of the programme of activities planned during the mobility stay in relation with the thesis. Reality of the co-construction of the collaboration by the candidate, the foreign supervisor and the scientific referent in the host laboratory at CeMEB. The interest of the candidate's and his/her supervisor's mobility abroad for the collaboration must be explained.
- C3- Quality of the PhD student (a detailed curriculum vitae must be presented for the PhD student).
- C 4 - Scientific quality of the supervisor from the foreign institution. Expertise of the foreign supervisor and complementarity of the scientific referent by the CeMEB researcher; Interest of the mobility of the foreign supervisor, potentiality of the implementation of new collaborations and their scientific interest;
- C 5 - Financial feasibility of the collaboration. Feasibility of the thesis project and the mobility project, under the conditions described in the PAA. The feasibility of defending the thesis in the applicant's home country within a reasonable time is a selection criterion

Score out of 4 (1<4) for each criterion.

Please note: thesis projects for which there is no funding mechanism for stays in France will be given priority.

REMINDER OF THE DOCUMENTS TO BE ATTACHED TO THE APPLICATION FILE

PhD student:

- Curriculum vitae
- Certificate of registration at the foreign university
- Attestation of funding of the thesis (covering the maintenance grant and research expenses) by an institution located in a Southern country, and authorization from the foreign University for this mobility project to take place within the thesis
- Declaration on honour indicating that he/she does not benefit from any other funding for this stay in France.

PhD thesis Supervisor:

- Curriculum vitae

ELIGIBLE RESEARCH UNITS

LabEx CeMEB - <http://www.labex-cemeb.org/>

Contact LabEx CeMEB : cemeb-direction@umontpellier.fr

- **AMAP - Botanique et modélisation de l'architecture des plantes et des végétations**
<http://amap.cirad.fr/fr/index.php>
- **CBGP - Centre de biologie pour la gestion des populations**
<http://www6.montpellier.inra.fr/cbcp>
- **CEE-M- Centre d'économie de l'environnement**
<http://www.cee-m.fr/>
- **CEFE - Centre d'écologie fonctionnelle et évolutive**
<http://www.cefe.cnrs.fr/fr>
- **ECO & SOLS - Ecologie fonctionnelle et biogéochimie des sols et des agrosystèmes**
<http://www.umr-ecosols.fr/index.php/fr>
- **ECOTRON**
<http://www.ecotron.cnrs.fr>
- **IHPE - Interactions hôtes-pathogènes-environnements**
<http://ihpe.univ-perp.fr>
- **ISEM - Institut des sciences de l'évolution de Montpellier**
<https://isem-evolution.fr/>
- **MARBEC - Marine biodiversity, exploitation et conservation**
<http://www.umr-marbec.fr/fr/>
- **MIVEGEC Maladies infectieuses et vecteurs : écologie, génétique, évolution et contrôle**
<http://mivegec.ird.fr/fr/>