

ExceLLR Project

# Call for project: International research collaboration

■ 2026

Guidance document

---

# Summary

<b>1. Context .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1. 1. Description of the call .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1. 2. Conditions.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1. 3. Evaluation criteria .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2. Eligibility .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3. Funding.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4. Dissemination and open science.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>5. Selection process.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6. Commitment .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>7. Application procedure .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>8. Provisional schedule.....</b>	<b>6</b>

## 1. Context

Anchored in a coastal region characterized by diverse landscapes, biodiversity, and economic activities, and exposed to natural and anthropogenic risks, La Rochelle University (LRUniv) has developed a scientific strategy tailored to this context, focused on **sustainability and resilience in coastal areas**.

Through multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary, and even transdisciplinary approaches, these different disciplines are mobilized to produce fundamental knowledge and concrete solutions to:

1. **Understand and model** the natural dynamics specific to this coastal territory;
2. **Design** modeling tools based in particular on artificial intelligence to help observe, understand, predict, and decide;
3. **Innovate** in serving sustainable development and global health objectives;
4. **Support** coastal and retro-coastal societies in their transition in the face of climate change.

This approach is supported since June 1, 2022, by the "ExcelLR" project, of which the university is a beneficiary, funded under the Future Investment Plan No. 4 (2022-2032) that will enable LRUniv to consolidate its new model over a period of 10 years.

### 1. 1. Description of the call

The "International research collaboration" call for project aims to increase LRUniv integration into global research networks by funding incoming and outgoing mobility for 2 years projects aligned with the ambitions of ExcelLR to structure international relations in research by creating or consolidating research collaborations with other research institutions abroad.

The call can support two categories of collaboration.



**"Starting": Embarking one researcher on an initial research collaboration** which aims to give researchers at the University of La Rochelle the opportunity to develop new collaborations abroad.

Funding: up to 7000€

Eligibility: for "early career researchers" from La Rochelle University research unit. An "early career researchers" is less than 6 years as Associate Professors (MCF), Research Assistant (CR) or temporary researcher (with a contract from the entire duration of the project submitted). Senior researchers (PR) and research director (DR) are not eligible.

Type of action: only individual outgoing mobilities.



**"Consolidate": Strengthening an existing research collaboration** which aims to enable researchers at La Rochelle University to stabilize and develop structural initiatives by building on existing collaborations.

Funding: up to 14 000€

Eligibility: researchers from La Rochelle University research unit.

Type of action: outgoing and incoming mobilities (at least one of each) for a researcher or a research group. Is considered as a mobility activity, each exchange between institutions whether it is carried out by one or more individuals. The project leader must participate in all

outgoing mobility activities. The involvement of young contract research staff (doctoral students, postdoctoral researchers, etc.) is a plus.

## 1. 2. Conditions

The project:

- must be developed between 2 research structure and involve researchers from a research unit in La Rochelle and researchers from one abroad.

The planning of dissemination activities will be a plus -> availability of visiting researchers to present their research activities (seminars for students, institutional events).

## 1. 3. Evaluation criteria

Applications must meet the following criteria:

- Scientific quality
- Nature and thematic in the specific field of sustainable development of coastal areas of the collaboration
- For "Starting" project: opportunities of new research collaboration
- For "Consolidate" project: profiles of the researchers involved and involvement of young researchers
- Clarity of the application (writing quality, accessibility to non-specialists)
- Adequacy of resources/project
- Contribution of the collaboration, added value of each party in building the cooperation / Mutual transfer of skills
- Dissemination activities
- Ambition and impact of the project: Plans for future collaboration (e.g., joint supervision, submission of European projects, organization of conferences, etc.)

## 2. Eligibility

The project must be led by one or more researchers (tenured or on contract at least until September 2028) from La Rochelle University research units.

The project must be approved by both research unit involved before being submitted.

## 3. Funding

Depending on the type of the project, the amount of aid requested may be up to **€7,000** and **€14,000**.

Aid will be allocated based on the detailed budget estimate provided in the application form.

For the "Consolidate" call, a co-funding from 10% will be mandatory.

Funding will be only available to **cover mobility expenses** (meals, accommodation, travel, visa, vaccines, local transportation). No investment, no operating or HR expenses will be covered. Any other funding required to implement joint projects must be provided from the laboratories' own resources or from other sources.

The funding will be available during two years and the budget lines will be opened from September 2026 to August 2028. Projects must be completed over this period, the same applies to associated expenses.

## 4. Dissemination and open science

To comply with the France 2030 requirements managed by the ANR in terms of open science, the beneficiary undertakes to implement open science practices.

If the collaboration results in the publication of an article:

- Obligation to submit peer-reviewed publications to open access: in all cases, submission to [HAL-La Rochelle](#)

If the collaboration results in the production of data:

- Obligation of open access for research data under the condition: "as open as possible, as closed as necessary."

If the collaboration results in the production of specific visuals (posters, conferences, etc.):

- Display on various media the reference of the project funding this action "ANR-21-EXES-0010"
  - The mention of France 2030
  - The France 2030 logo

The ANR recommend also open access for all productions other than publications and data (software, models, applications, etc.)

## 5. Selection process

The ExcellR Governing Board composed by the scientific partners of the project, the president of the university and its vice president for Research, will evaluate and select the projects to be funded.

## 6. Commitment

The beneficiary agrees:

- For all incoming mobility to provide a letter from the partner's employer (specifying that agents will be employed during the incoming mobility period)
- To provide a detailed report on the project which template will be sent with the notification of project approval
- To be available to present the project and results

## 7. Application procedure

The application consists of the project submission form and its appendices.

All projects submitted must have been approved by both research units' directors.

Applications must be sent by **May, 24 2026**, at the latest, to: [excellr.recherche@univ-lr.fr](mailto:excellr.recherche@univ-lr.fr)

## 8. Provisional schedule

Application period opens: **April, 8 2026**

Application period closes: **May, 24 2026**

Project review and evaluation: **June 2026**

Results announced: **July 2026**

For further information, please contact

**Virginia Kolb**, Scientific Coordinator

[virginia.kolb@univ-lr.fr](mailto:virginia.kolb@univ-lr.fr)

05 16 49 65 72



**La Rochelle Université**

Service accompagnement et coordination scientifique

**[univ-larochelle.fr](http://univ-larochelle.fr)**