

THAILAND Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation	FRANCE Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation
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CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Franco-Thai Cooperation Programme in Higher Education and Research (Franco-Thai Mobility Programme / PHC SIAM) 2025 - 2026

To encourage connectivity and sustainable research cooperation between France and Thailand, the Joint Franco-Thai Committee would like to invite French and Thai higher education institutions and research agencies to submit a project proposal. The details are as follow:

1. Objectives

The objectives of the proposal are:

- 1.1 To promote mobility between Thai and French researchers,
- 1.2 To develop joint projects in research and/or research training,
- 1.3 To establish and maintain strong collaborative networks between Thai and French higher education institutions and research agencies.

2. Areas of Cooperation

The proposal must be in one of the following 10 areas of cooperation:

- 2.1 Mathematics,
- 2.2 Physics,
- 2.3 Marine, Earth, Planet Sciences,
- 2.4 Chemistry,
- 2.5 Biology and Health Sciences,
- 2.6 Humanities,
- 2.7 Social Sciences,
- 2.8 Engineering Sciences,
- 2.9 Information and Communication, Science and Technology,
- 2.10 Agriculture, Food Science, Environment, Biodiversity.

Details appear in Annex A.

3. Project Implementation

The implementation must cover conducting or carrying out joint research activities. In addition, the project must include the development of junior researchers, including master's, doctoral and post-doctoral students. The focuses are on:

- 3.1 a promising Franco-Thai partnership,
- 3.2 scientific and technological research in the 10 areas of cooperation,
- 3.3 research capacity building, and
- 3.4 valorisation and knowledge transfer.

Hence, the project proposal needs to clarify two main activities: 1) the senior and junior researchers exchange activities, and 2) the training activities and periods, particularly in laboratories, seminars, scientific meetings, workshops, and etc.

4. Requirements

- 4.1 A complete joint project proposal must be submitted by both Thai and French partnering universities/agencies within the given deadline. Otherwise, the proposal will be disqualified.
- 4.2 Each partnering agency is to appoint the principal investigator (PI) or head of project. The Thai PI has to be a researcher working regularly in the higher education institution or research agency under the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation (MHESI) or faculty member who has experience in conducting research.
- 4.3 The submission procedure are:
 - 4.3.1 Thai PI must submit the proposal in English to MHESI.
 - 4.3.2 The French partnering agency has to submit the similar version in English or French at www.campusfrance.org/fr/siam

It is imperative that both versions have no and the least amount of differences.
- 4.4 Both Thai and French partnering universities/agencies are urged to form/ expand a network. It may include higher education institutions and research centres/agencies under the supervision of MHESI or other ministries, as well as the private sector.
- 4.5 The project supported by the Franco-Thai Mobility Programme is not eligible.
- 4.6 The PIs could submit new project proposals with new research topics only after they have completed their previously funded projects.

5. Project Proposal Evaluation

- 5.1 The evaluation criteria are:
 - 5.1.1 scientific methodology and technical quality,
 - 5.1.2 researcher credentials,
 - 5.1.3 cooperation and complementarity between Thai and French partners,
 - 5.1.4 junior researchers participation,
 - 5.1.5 necessity of Thai researchers to conduct research in France,
 - 5.1.6 tangible outputs, benefits and contribution to the countries' development.
- 5.2 The project documents should include:
 - 5.2.1 a clear identification of the partners,
 - 5.2.2 objectives within the general framework of human resource development and the establishment of Franco-Thai thematic network,

- 5.2.3 a precise description of activities and the number of people involved,
- 5.2.4 an implementation timetable,
- 5.2.5 a detailed budget,
- 5.2.6 an official approval from a relevant agency authorising commitment of an institution of each partner.

Details appear in Annex B: Project Proposal Form.

6. Project Duration and Assessment

- 6.1 Each project will take **two years** for implementation.
- 6.2 The project PIs are to complete an annual progress report form.
- 6.3 A final report signed by both Thai and French PIs must be submitted to the Joint Franco-Thai Committee. The report must focus on scientific publications and communication or events achieved within the project.

7. Budget

- 7.1 The project should be co-financed by partnering universities/agencies. The principle of project co-financing excluding salary is a condition for complementary support from the Thai and French governments.
- 7.2 The budget must demonstrate, as realistically as possible, the share of financial contributions expected from each partner (researchers, home institutions, host institutions, companies, communities, French and Thai ministries).
- 7.3 The budget details must be broken down based on the type of expenditures, namely travel costs between the two countries, transport costs in the host country, living allowance, educational and laboratory fees (of the institution excluding costs covered by government subsidy), tutoring, language learning and support, documents, etc.
- 7.4 **Work sheet provided in Annex C** with the project proposal form should be filled in and submitted to MHESI through the principal investigator's university.
- 7.5 Rates given in Euro for the French side, in Baht for the Thai side, are to be used as a guideline and could be subject to adjustment.

8. Financial Support from the French and Thai Governments

8.1 The French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

The French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs will provide support in the maximum amount of **12,000 Euro/Year/Project**. Details of financial support from the French side are as follows:

8.1.1 International transportation for French professors/lecturers/researchers from France to Thailand, including, if necessary, domestic transportation in France and Thailand. The maximum rate of a round trip air ticket is 1,500 Euro.

8.1.2 Living allowances of Thai professors/lecturers/senior or junior researchers in France:

- 125 Euro/Day for a short visit (less than 10 days)
- 55 Euro/Day for a long stay (more than 10 days)

8.1.3 Health insurance

The financial support in 8.1.1 - 8.1.3 is managed by Campus France. This financial contribution is based on a yearly budget. It must be used between the 1st of January and the 31st of December of the fiscal year and cannot be postponed in any case.

8.2 The Thai Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation (MHESI)

8.2.1 The MHESI will provide financial with a maximum amount of **150,000 Baht/Year/Project**.

8.2.2 The expenses cover international transportation between Thailand and France (economy class air ticket, domestic transportation, quarantine). Please note that there should be at least three Thai participants under the approved projects.

8.2.3 Should there be budget left from the mobility in 8.2.2, the PI is allowed to convert money to other expenses under the project, for instance research materials, publication fees or others as deemed appropriate.

Note: **Junior researchers** are master's, doctoral and post-doctoral students as well as young researchers. **Senior researchers** are research directors, heads, and should bear some higher responsibility in their position.

9. Financial Contribution of Institutions

The host institutions are required to provide appropriate facilities and equipments and to meet associated research costs.

9.1 French institutions

The French institutions are to provide appropriate facilities to conduct research activities for the Thai guest professors, lecturers, senior or junior researchers.

9.2 Thai institutions

The Thai institutions are to provide expenses incurred on Thailand for the French guest professors, lecturers, senior or junior researchers as follows:

9.2.1 Accommodation costs

9.2.2 Living allowances

- 1) Short stay (less than 1 month)
 - Senior researcher : 1,800 Baht/Day
 - Junior researcher : 1,050 Baht/Day
- 2) Long stay (1 - 3 months)
 - Senior researcher : 54,000 Baht/Month
 - Junior researcher : 31,500 Baht/Month

9.2.3 Laboratory fees/documentation/bench fees

9.3 Contribution from Other Thai Research Agencies

Additional research funding can be sought from other Thai research agencies such as the Thailand Science, Research and Innovation (TSRI) and the National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)

10 Intellectual property

The PIs are responsible for their projects' intellectual property. They must take all necessary measures to protect it. The attached document on good practices including the rules of intellectual property must be read carefully. The project deposit includes, de facto, the adhesion, by all parties, to those rules.

11 Credit for Funding Agencies

To be approved as scientific production, publications (articles in specialised review or journals and communication at conferences or seminars), as well as reports, the researchers must explicitly mention the support provided by the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE), the French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation (MESRI) and the MHESI.

12 Time Frame and Selection Process

12.2 The proposals are to be submitted from **27th May to 19th August.**

12.3 The proposals will be evaluated by the French and Thai committees. The aforementioned committees consist of experts in their respective countries.

12.4 Both French and Thai Committees will rank the proposal.

12.5 The Joint Franco-Thai Committee will compare the results of their evaluations and make necessary adjustments to reach agreement on the final list of approved projects.

12.6 The Franco-Thai Selection Committee will announce the list of successful proposals by **December 2024.**

12.7 The implementation of selected projects will start in **January 2025**.

13 Visa for Thai Researchers Going to France

Convention d'accueil (an official document signed by the host institution) is a crucial document for researchers from non-European Union countries, as it is imperative for obtaining a “scientist” visa to allow the researchers to enter France. It also allows them to obtain a “scientist” residence permit once they are in France. The signed and stamped convention d'accueil is part of the visa application. Master's students travelling to France must apply for a **“training” visa** instead of a scientist visa mentioned above.

14. Focal Points

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