



CESAB
CENTRE DE SYNTHÈSE ET D'ANALYSE
SUR LA BIODIVERSITÉ

Appel lancé conjointement avec



ITTECOP – FRB-CESAB Call for synthesis projects 2024 :

**"Transport infrastructures, energies,
territories, ecosystem and landscapes"**



Contact

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Calendar

3 April 2024: Opening of the call

13 June 2024 at 1 pm (CEST): Deadline for submission of the proposals

End of September 2024: Final selection

first semester 2025: virtual Kick-off of the project(s)

second semester 2025: 1st workshop at CESAB

Context, expectations and objectives of the call

Human infrastructures, road, railways and inland waterways, electricity and gas networks, renewable energy production infrastructures and territorial interfaces (river or sea ports, stations, airports), are essential to the human quality of life and to the exchanges of services and goods between regions. However, they put pressure on biodiversity through habitat loss or fragmentation. Alternatively, positive impacts on biodiversity can result from the creation or restoration of ecological continuities (spatial and temporal), which are likely to increase the connectivity of environments both along pathways and at a territorial scale, interacting with natural and agricultural, rural, suburban and even urban environments.

In partnership with the [ITTECOP](#) programme, the [FRB-CESAB](#) invites the scientific community to submit project proposals aimed at analyzing and synthesizing existing data on the topic "Impacts of human infrastructures (transport and renewable energy production) on biodiversity". Up to two synthesis projects will be funded under this call.

The project(s) will involve the analysis of sets of already acquired data which can be gathered and constructed (from dispersed data sets, data available in the literature, etc.) during the project with the following objectives, among others:

- Assessing the impacts of these infrastructures on some facets of biodiversity (genetic, specific, functional or ecosystemic), all taxonomic groups being potentially concerned;
- Determining how the design of the infrastructures can affect biodiversity based on existing biodiversity, management of natural environments and wildlife, and surrounding territories;
- Evaluating how the management of infrastructures and their "naturalized" part can influence these impacts in interaction with the surrounding natural environments;
- Identifying and analyzing the economic, socio-technical and political factors that contribute to the deployment of these infrastructures and the degree to which they take biodiversity into account.

We expect the project to be scaled at the French, European or global extents (projects at the European extent must include the French territory, projects at the global extent must include the European and French territories). Only terrestrial biomes are included in this call.

Deliverables

The outputs of funded projects are expected in the form of scientific publications and all other forms of knowledge dissemination to managers and stakeholders, open-access analytical tools, open-access

databases, the organization of international workshops and training sessions, and the presentation of results at conferences. Particular attention will also be paid to knowledge transfer.

Moreover, the working group will provide a mid-term report (after 18 months - evaluated by the CESAB to allow the continuation of the funding) and a final report (after the last meeting), based on a template provided by the CESAB.

Selection criteria

Projects will be selected according to the following criteria:

- The scientific quality and innovative nature of the project,
- The relevance of the project to the objectives of the call,
- The relevance of the working group to the proposed project,
- The feasibility of the work program,
- The potential impact of the project's (scientific data, expected results and dissemination plan)

Data management policy

The CESAB adheres to the principles of open science and reproducibility. The datasets produced/assembled by the funded projects and the associated scripts and codes used for the analyses must be made publicly accessible.

To achieve this objective, the CESAB expects that:

- the datasets synthesized during the research project at the CESAB are described in a relevant way (using international standards) and made publicly available within a reasonable amount of time (subject to confidentiality constraints for data on individuals and organizations);
- the raw data used to generate any scientific output are well documented;
- the associated scripts and codes used for the analyses must be made publicly accessible;
- the intellectual property rights of all data owners are respected when their data are used in CESAB working groups;
- Creative Commons BY 4.0 standards are applied as far as possible to all deposited data.

The CESAB offers a unique opportunity for scientists to benefit from the expertise of two data scientists (part of the CESAB staff). The CESAB does not offer any storage or hosting solutions for its groups. The hosting and deployment of databases, web services and any other product of the project is the responsibility of the PIs. In terms of numerical analyses, a computing station will be accessible (for medium performance computing only). According to this, the objectives and computing needs of the project must be described in the proposal submission.

Consortium composition

A project submitted to the call must include a thorough description of its consortium, i.e. the working group that will be hosted at the CESAB during workshops. A project's working group must:

- be led by two principal investigators (PIs)¹:
- the first PI must be a researcher with a permanent position in a French research organization or a French university;
- the second PI must have a permanent position or a contract that runs until the end of the project, within any organization worldwide. If he/she is a researcher, he/she must come from a different laboratory than the first PI ; if he/she is not a researcher, he/she must justify a scientific leadership background;
- consist of a maximum of 12 members (including the PIs, but not the post-doctoral fellow to be recruited)
- include international members; to reduce the carbon footprint, we advise the group not to have too many participants traveling from very far locations outside of Europe.
- be balanced and diverse in terms of gender, range of expertise and career stage²; multidisciplinary groups or groups including non-academic stakeholders or practitioners are welcome;
- include at least one person clearly identified as responsible for the management of data within the group. This person will be in direct interaction with the CESAB data scientists.

Successful groups consist of people with relevant expertise but also with the dedication and time to participate in the meetings and contribute to the group goals. The groups are expected to meet at the CESAB 5 times over the 3-year duration of the project. Each meeting will last 5 days. They are also expected to organize a one-week virtual meeting and regular short virtual meetings throughout the project duration.

Post-doctoral fellow

Each group will have the opportunity to recruit a postdoctoral fellow. The recruitment will be led by the two PIs and the CESAB staff after the project has been selected. The postdoctoral fellow will act as a catalyst for the working group. He or she will be fully involved in the dynamics of the project and be a driving force behind the group's research. We expect the postdoctoral fellow to be independent and willing to contribute to the CESAB activities and collaborative opportunities.

He or she may be hired by either the FRB or the French PI's institution, depending on CESAB's hosting capacity and FRB Human Resources management policy. Depending on this, he or she will be hosted either at the CESAB in Montpellier, or in one of the PI's laboratories. If relevant and/or necessary, travel and accommodation will be funded up to 30 days a year to interact directly with the PIs between the group's biannual meetings.

Budget – funded activities

The financial support of the FRB includes:

¹ There is no hierarchy between the PIs, who must share equally the scientific direction and the animation of the group throughout the project. Their names will appear in alphabetical order on the project presentation materials.

² Please note that the group must be stable in composition for at least three years (including the year of the proposal evaluation), which is incompatible with including too many non-permanent members (we recommend one or two non-permanent researchers max if justified)

- the recruitment of a postdoctoral fellow for up to 24 months, based on the FRB salary scale;
- laptop for the post-doctoral fellow (if necessary and up to 2000 euros);
- meeting costs (transportation, accommodation and food) for 5 workshops of 5 days each for 12 participants at the CESAB in Montpellier;
- publication costs up to 5000 euros;
- costs of the post-doc's participation to national or international conferences (up to 3000 euros);
- carbon offsetting of meetings up to 3000 euros.

In addition, the FRB will provide:

- Local logistical organization (transportation, accommodation and catering);
- Workspaces at the CESAB and communication tools;
- Support for data analysis;
- Support for communication and promotion of the project and its results;
- Support for financial and administrative management of the project.

The budget will be handled by the CESAB and does not need to be detailed in the pre-proposal.

Application procedure

1. Request for the proposal form on the [here](#)
2. Send your proposal in pdf before June the 13rd, 2024 by email to cesab@fondationbiodiversite.fr

Contacts

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www.fondationbiodiversite.fr