

**REGARDING THE FUNDING CRITERIA, IS IT POSSIBLE TO APPLY EVEN IF THE PROJECT HAS NOT YET RECEIVED ANY OTHER FUNDING?**

**YES**

The funding scale indicated in the documents concerning the proportion of philanthropy funding should be understood as follows: the BNP Paribas Foundation aims to contribute significantly to the project's funding, but does not wish to be the exclusive funder. This is why the target scale is provided. However, projects that do not yet have any other committed funders are not excluded. It is therefore permitted for a candidate to apply, even if some other funding requests have not yet been finalised (for example other calls for projects)

**CAN THE FUNDING BE USED TO PAY FOR SOME OF THE PROJECT PARTNERS' EXPENSES?**

**YES**

For legal reasons, funding granted to a successful project can be transferred only to a non-profit entity based in the EU, Norway or Iceland, which was created at least 3 years ago. The detailed allocation of funds between the project members must be described. These funds may naturally be used to cover the expenses of the partners involved. The way in which that happens is a matter for the partners involved, depending on the financial engineering of the research project.

**WHAT ABOUT THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS SUBMITTED TO THIS CALL FOR PROJECTS?**

The BNP Paribas Foundation guarantees that information about every research project candidate will be treated in strict confidence. Only the relevant people involved in the selection process will have access to the information provided through forms submitted via the website. At the end of each stage, all information concerning non-selected projects will be deleted entirely from the databases.

**IS IT POSSIBLE TO SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE PROJECT TO THIS CALL FOR PROJECTS?**

**YES**

Different projects led by the same institution may be submitted. It is also permitted for one scientist to be involved in various submitted research projects.

**ARE THERE ANY SPENDING CONSTRAINTS WITH A GRANT?**

**NO**

The grant may be used to cover all types of expenses, including wages, equipment, consumables, travel expenses, event costs etc. However, it is not

the intention of the BNP Paribas Foundation to help finance a major proportion of permanent staff costs or management/administrative fees.

**CAN WE SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION RELATING TO RESEARCH THAT FALLS OUTSIDE THE LIMITED SCOPE OF THE EXPERTISE OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE?**

**YES**

A deliberate decision was taken not to restrict the eligible research themes. However, the research project must be scientific and related to climate change issues. If, at the end of the first stage, some of the projects pre-selected by the BNP Paribas Foundation deal with scientific issues that are not within the scope of the Scientific Committee members' expertise, specific experts will be appointed to help the Foundation assess these projects.

**CAN IN-KIND RESOURCES, SUCH AS SALARY COSTS, BE REGARDED AS CO-FUNDING FOR A PROJECT?**

**YES**

In-kind resources, such as the salary cost of permanent staff, etc., may be included in the project budget and those costs treated as co-funding. The Foundation does however require that the breakdown of the various costs attributed to the project should be balanced and consistent.

**IS THERE ANY PRECISE EXPECTATION REGARDING THE MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARTNERS INVOLVED?**

**NO**

There is no precise expectation regarding the minimum or maximum number of partners involved. The number of partners will naturally depend on the type of scientific research undertaken and the range of expertise required to run the project. A grant-approved project will receive the funding directly via the administrative supporting entity (which must meet the eligibility criteria: see the information document and the question above). It is entirely a matter for the partners to decide how the grant is distributed. However, in the event that the project is short-listed following the first stage of the assessment process, you will need to provide full details of this in the full selection pack.

**CAN A YOUNG RESEARCHER WITH NO PERMANENT POSITION APPLY UNDER THIS CALL FOR PROJECTS AS PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR?**

**YES**

Yes, young researchers with no permanent position (junior scientist, postdocs, etc.) may respond to this call on the behalf of their university or laboratory. As explained in the information document, young researchers are welcome and

diversity in age and/or experience will be regarded as a positive asset during the assessment process.

#### **WHAT WAS THE SUCCESS RATE FOR PREVIOUS CALLS?**

Since 2010, two calls for projects have been issued as part of the Climate Initiative. For the previous call, issued in 2013, a total of 65 projects were put forward for the first stage, 19 projects were selected to go forward to the second stage and 5 projects finally received a Foundation grant.

#### **HOW LONG IS THE CONCEPT NOTE?**

We recommend that all researchers interested in this call for projects should create an account on the web portal as soon as possible. Once your account has been created, you will be able to obtain access to the Concept Note that has to be filled in. The Concept Note has been designed to correspond to a document four A4 pages in length. A limit on the number of permissible characters (including spaces), which must not be exceeded, is indicated for each section of the Concept Note.