

Associate Teams programme 2027 call for proposals

Associate Teams are a key component of Inria international policy. This programme constitutes one of the main tools for supporting bilateral scientific collaborations by promoting and strengthening the strategic partnerships of the Institute abroad.

An Associate Team is a new joint research project initiated by an Inria project team and a research team abroad. The two partners jointly define a scientific objective, a research plan and a bilateral exchange programme. Associate Teams (AT) receive funding for 3 years, which is non-renewable.

In order to promote and develop these collaborations by supporting high-level scientific research projects, the Inria International Relations Department (DRI) launches an annual call.

1. OBJECTIVES OF THE 2027 PROGRAMME

Each year, the DRI defines the objectives of the programme. The regional or thematic priorities reflect Inria international strategy to establish its presence in the world and develop strong partnerships with certain countries.

For the 2027 call, Associate Team proposals must meet one of the programme objectives listed below:

A. National priorities: all Inria Centres are eligible

B. Local priorities: these are only eligible for project teams attached to the Inria Centre concerned

A. National priorities

→ **Geographical Europe:** *See details in Appendix 1 (page 7)*

✚ Partnerships

- **Germany:** Inria-DFKI, Inria-CISPA, Inria-Berlin (ECDF)
- **Netherlands:** Inria-CWI
- **Norway:** Inria-Simula
- **United Kingdom:** Inria-London
- **Switzerland:** EPFL

→ **North America:** *See details in Appendix 2 (page 9)*

✚ Target country

- **Canada**

✚ Network

- **United States:** Inria@SiliconValley

→ **Latin America:** *See details in Appendix 3 (page 10)*

✚ Partnerships

- **Inria Brazil**
- **Inria Chile**

✚ Exploratory zone

- **Mexico**

→ **Asia and Oceania:** *See details in Appendix 4 (page 11)*

✚ Target countries

- **Japan**
- **South Korea**
- **India**

✚ Exploratory zones

- **Singapore**
- **Taiwan**
- **Australia**

→ **Africa and Middle East:** *See details in Appendix 5 (page 13)*

✚ Target countries

- **Africa:** all countries

✚ Exploratory zone

- **Israel**

→ **Multi-zone:** *See details in Appendix 6 (page 14)*

✚ JLESC Consortium

→ **Co-financing:** *See details in Appendix 7 (page 15)*

Collaboration with one of Inria partners who have committed to support Associate Teams, either through a joint call or by providing additional funding:

- **India:** DST-IFCPAR (CEFIPRA)
- **Brazil:** FAP São Paulo
- **Taiwan :** NSTC

B. Local priorities

Local Priorities, supplement the national priorities for each Inria Centre with the aim of supporting the local policy of each Centre.

The local priorities of the previous campaign have been renewed. These priorities were established in close connection with the international priorities and strategies of the university partners in connection with the local policy. A priority can be an institution or an alliance of institutions. These priorities sometimes coincide with national priorities, or may be different.

The local priorities indicated for a given Inria Centre are only eligible for project teams attached to that Centre.

They are shown in Appendix 8 (page 16).

2. NEW ASSOCIATE TEAM PROPOSAL

• Submission

We advise you to contact the DRI International correspondents in the Inria Centres when preparing your Associate Team project, for both the administrative and scientific aspects.

The list of International Correspondents in the Inria Centres is available at the following address: https://numin.inria.fr/portal/g/:spaces:71lwaa/base_de_connaissance/notes/1495#CCRI

The project submitted must be within the framework of the 2027 call (see paragraph 1. OBJECTIVES OF THE 2027 PROGRAMME on page 1).

The main Inria leader (PI) of an Associate Team must be a member of an Inria project team. He/she can only be PI of one single Associate Team. This scientist who coordinates the project on the French side must complete the online form on the dedicated platform (<https://drisi.inria.fr/eaEquipeAssociee/new>), and attach the document describing the scientific project on that platform.

The template for presenting the scientific project is available in:

- Word format
- LaTeX format

• Selection process for Associate Teams

The quality of the proposals is assessed in the Centres by an **ad hoc or existing scientific committee**. The committee ensures that the proposal constitutes a new research project. The manager of the Associate Teams Programme at the DRI will be invited to attend the selection committees of the Centres.

The general management, on the proposal of the DRI, then uses these assessments to select the successful projects.

The projects selected are subject to the approval of the FSD and will only be confirmed after validation by the FSD¹.

Successful projects must be covered by an agreement between Inria and the partner institution.

¹ Projects submitted in connection with this call for projects will be examined under the scheme of protection of the nation's scientific and technical potential (PPST). For more information on this scheme visit: <https://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/cid27031/protection-du-potentiel-scientifique-et-technique-et-intelligence-economique-p.p.s.t.html>

• **Funding**

Inria awards funding of up to EUR 10,000 per year per Associate Team. These amounts are subject to the total budget assigned to the DRI after general allocation and will be determined accordingly. Regarding co-financing, see [Appendix 7](#) on page 15.

The Inria Associate Team budget must be used directly for exchanges between partner teams and the progress of joint research by financing researcher mobility.

➤ **Eligible expenses:**

The budget allocated to an Associate Team can be used to finance:

- Exchanges – short and medium-length trips and stays (from a few days up to four weeks) – by researchers, engineers, postdoctoral researchers, PhD students and internship students*
 - between France and partner countries (including internships)
 - between the partner country and France (excluding internships)
- Organisation of joint workshops/work sessions (travel and accommodation expenses)

*It is important to allow the option to use part of the budget for incoming mobilities of young researchers to Inria, in order for them to discover Inria and thus reinforce its attractiveness. The most relevant and well-balanced allocation possible **throughout the 3 years** is therefore required, favouring the mobility of young researchers, particularly from Inria.*

➤ **Ineligible expenses:**

The budget cannot be used to finance:

- Registration fees and attendance at conferences*
- Scholarships, additional funding for a research visit or internship allowances
- Purchase of equipment
- Publication costs

More generally, expenses that are not specified in the "Eligible expenses" section are therefore not eligible

** Specific case of student mobilities:*

- *The Associate Team budget can be used for travels and short and medium-length stays by students (Master's students, engineering students, PhD students) at the partner's institution from an Inria team.*
- *Due to French regulations governing internship allowances, it is not possible for the Institute to cover the travel expenses of internship students (under an internship agreement) to an Inria team.*
- *The budget of an Associate Team cannot be used to pay internship students hosted in the Inria teams or for the payment of additional funding for PhD students. Associate Team leaders may, however, submit a request for support to cover allowances/additional funding for a research visit for hosting students under the "Student Mobilities–AT Support" programme of the DRI. Applications for this programme can be made throughout the year on the DRISI platform (<https://drisi.inria.fr/internshipSujet/new/1>). Although funding is not automatically allocated (it is a selective programme with a defined budget), support for student mobilities in connection with an Associate Team is identified as a priority of the programme.*

**Specific case of the conferences :*

- Joint workshops organised alongside a conference:
Reduction of carbon footprint being of general concern, if several members of various partners of the Associate Team attend a conference in one of the partner countries, the DRI encourages you to optimise your trip by holding a joint workshop. For this reason, all costs related to the conference are to be charged to the Inria project team budget, while the travel and accommodation expenses related to the joint workshop can be charged to the AT budget.
- Attending a conference as part of the AT:
If you need to attend a conference as part of the AT in order to present papers resulting from the AT's work, or if it is a conference organised by one of the two partners and at least one member from each partner is present, then travel, accommodation and conference registration costs may be charged to the AT.
We encourage the organisation of a joint workshop alongside this conference involving several members from both partners.

The 2027 budget guidelines will be available at the start of 2027 and sent to the Associate Teams for further details regarding the use and allocation of the budget. For your information, you can consult the 2026 budget guidelines [here](#).

3. TIMELINE

- Inria

July 2026	Launch of the call
15 October 2026	Deadline for submissions for the general call and submissions to Inria in connection with specific calls
From October to December 2026	Assessment of proposals
February 2027	Decision by the general management, notification of the results and of the budget decision

- **Specific calls and additional funding**

WARNING!: These calls and additional funding require two parallel submissions (one to Inria and one to the partner). The partner must check the terms and conditions and comply with the submission schedule established by its funding agency or institution.

For partners in India, refer to the specific call with the DST-IFCPAR (CEFIPRA)	Schedule and terms and conditions to follow
São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) in Brazil	Schedule and terms and conditions to follow
National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) in Taiwan	Schedule and terms and conditions to follow

Regarding specific calls and additional funding: see Appendix 7 on page 15

4. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- **Follow up**

Any change in the situation that has an impact on the organisation of the Associate Team must be notified as soon as possible to the manager of International Programmes at the DRI (change of leader at Inria or at the partner institution, and /or of the Inria Project Team to which it is attached, etc.)

A brief annual report will be requested at the end of years 1 and 2. An assessment will then be requested at the end of year 3 (final year).

- **Requests for information**

For further information or questions, please contact:

- the DRI correspondents at your Centre: [here](#)
- the manager of International Programmes at the DRI: [Natacha Régis](#)

Appendix 1: Geographical Europe

Inria-DFKI (Germany)

In May 2024, Inria and the DFKI (*Deutsches Forschungszentrum für Künstliche Intelligenz*) strengthened their partnership whereby they undertake to implement a joint research and innovation programme in the fields of AI for industry 4.0, AI for portable technologies, AI and cybersecurity, human-robot interaction, and any other topics relevant for both institutions. In June 2026, the Franco-German binational Centre for AI, carried out by Inria and the DFKI, was established.

Projects with the DFKI by Associate Teams are eligible within the 2027 call. As the partnership aims to extend the collaborations to Japan, projects submitted that also involve a Japanese partner are eligible for this call.

Inria-CISPA (Germany)

In 2023, Inria and the CISPA Helmholtz Center for Information Security signed a memorandum of understanding aimed at strengthening Franco-German scientific collaboration in the field of cybersecurity. The parties intend to offer their respective national perspectives and apply them to the European context.

All CISPA departments are eligible for the Associate Teams programme within the 2027 call.

Inria-Berlin (Germany)

Inria and ECDF (*Einstein Center Digital Future*) signed a memorandum of understanding in September 2023. This agreement favours scientific exchanges and the development of joint research projects in fields related to digital sciences in the Berlin region, extending as far as Potsdam.
<https://berlin.inria.fr/fr/>

All institutions based in Berlin and Potsdam are eligible for the programme within the 2027 call. Applications involving ECDF member institutions are particularly encouraged.

Inria-CWI (Netherlands)

The CWI (*Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica*) and Inria have a long history of cooperation and scientific dialogue, and the two institutes strengthened their collaboration and formalised their partnership by signing a new strategic agreement in 2023. Scientific cooperation has been strengthened by the creation of joint projects and research teams in areas such as quantum computing, human interaction, energy, cryptography, digital health, machine learning and software engineering.
<https://project.inria.fr/inriacwi/>

CWI research groups in these scientific fields and in Inria research fields are eligible for the Associate Teams programme within the 2027 call.

Inria-Simula (Norway)

In 2026, Inria and Simula Research Laboratory, a research organisation in Norway (<https://www.simula.no>), have strengthened their partnership by signing a strategic partnership agreement with the aim of formalising scientific collaborations, enhancing the international impact of their joint work and accelerating innovation, particularly in the following fields: artificial intelligence, cryptography, cybersecurity, research-driven defence, high-performance computing and quantum technology.

All Simula departments in Inria research fields are eligible for the Associate Teams programme within the 2027 call.

Proposals involving Naval Group are particularly encouraged in the field of defence technologies under the tripartite MOU between Inria, Simula and Naval Group signed in 2025.

Inria-London (United Kingdom)

In 2025, Inria and UCL (University College London) signed an agreement to establish the Inria-UCL Joint Centre, within the Inria-London Programme, which serves both as Inria's physical hub in London and as a scientific collaboration programme, with the aim of strengthening and structuring the impact of scientific collaborations between the institute and its London-based partners – foremost among them UCL – focusing on artificial intelligence in the broadest sense (including robotics, machine learning, computer vision and personalized medicine) and beyond to other areas such as quantum computing, cybersecurity or digital health for example.

<https://london.inria.fr/home/>

UCL departments in Inria research fields are eligible for the Associate Teams programme in the framework of Inria-London. Submissions from Associate Teams with other London partners as well as with the universities of Cambridge and Oxford are also eligible within the 2027 call.

EPFL (Switzerland)

All scientific fields of interest to Inria are eligible.

All EPFL Faculties in Inria research fields are eligible for the Associate Teams within the 2027 call.

Appendix 2: North America

Canada

Canada is a priority country in the international strategy of the institute. In April 2023, Inria signed an agreement with the University of Waterloo to strengthen existing links with Inria teams and develop new collaborations.

<https://project.inria.fr/inriacanada/>

Associate Team projects with any Canadian institution (a university or research centre such as *Fields Institute, Vector Institute, MILA, AMII, IVADO*) are eligible within the 2027 call, without thematic restrictions.

Projects with the University of Waterloo in the fields of artificial intelligence, quantum computing, digital health, cybersecurity, applied mathematics, HPC & digital continuum are particularly encouraged.

Inria@SiliconValley (United States)

The Inria@SiliconValley programme, launched in 2011, makes it possible to structure and strengthen research and innovation collaborations between Inria and California, via a network of researchers from Inria project teams and Californian universities.

<https://project.inria.fr/siliconvalley/>

All Californian research institutions are eligible for the Associate Teams programme in the framework of Inria@SiliconValley, without thematic restrictions within the 2027 call.

Appendix 3: Latin America

Projects involving the IRD and CIRAD are particularly encouraged.

Inria Brazil

Inria Brazil programme was created in 2020 based on a partnership between Inria and the LNCC (*Laboratório Nacional de Computação Científica*), the Brazilian national scientific computing laboratory based in Petrópolis, and aims to develop and strengthen collaborations between Inria, LNCC and other research and innovation institutions in the country, by coordinating a network of Brazilian partners.

<https://project.inria.fr/inriabrasil/>

Associate Teams projects with the LNCC and/or any other Brazilian research and innovation institution (university, research foundation) (with the possibility of involving a company as a 3rd partner) are eligible within the 2027 call, without thematic restrictions.

Projects in the fields of HPC, big data, artificial intelligence and scientific computing are particularly encouraged, as well as those concerning energy, digital health and agro-ecology.

Inria Chile

Inria Chile was set up in 2012 and aims to structure and strengthen scientific collaboration in digital science and technology between Inria teams and those at Chilean universities, while promoting greater collaboration with manufacturers. In 2025, a new binational Franco-Chilean Centre for artificial intelligence was created and is operated by Inria Chile.

<https://www.inria.cl/en>

All Chilean academic partners are eligible for the Associate Teams programme in the framework of Inria Chile. Following the creation of the binational Centre, artificial intelligence projects are a priority and are particularly encouraged within the 2027 call.

Mexico

Mexico is an exploratory zone in the international strategy of the institute.

Associate Teams projects with all Mexican research institutions are eligible within the 2027 call, with no thematic restrictions.

Projects in the fields of Artificial Intelligence and High-Performance Computing are particularly encouraged.

Appendix 4: Asia and Oceania

Japan

Japan is a target country in the international strategy of the institute. There are ongoing agreements with the NII (*National Institute of Informatics*), the NICT (*National Institute of Information and Communications Technology*) and the AIST (*National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology*).

All Associate Team projects with Japanese institutions are eligible. Projects with the NII in the fields of open science, the AIST in the fields of artificial intelligence and the NICT in the fields of cybersecurity, artificial intelligence and next generation networks (5G/6G) are particularly encouraged within the 2027 call.

South Korea

South Korea is a target country in the international strategy of the institute. The main academic partner is KAIST (*Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology*). In addition to the KAIST, ETRI (*Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute*) has also been a partner since the signing of an agreement in November 2021, as well as KISTI (*Korea Institute of Science and Technology Information*), with an agreement signed in June 2023.

All Associate Team projects with Korean institutions are eligible within the 2027 call. Associate team projects with the following Korean institutions are particularly encouraged, without thematic restrictions: KAIST, ETRI, KISTI

India

India is a target country in the international strategy of the institute. In June 2026, the Franco-Indian binational centre Inria – DST for digital sciences and technologies was established.

All Associate Team projects with Indian partners are eligible within the 2027 call.

Singapore

Singapore is an exploratory zone in the international strategy of the institute.

All Associate Team projects with academic or research institutions in Singapore are eligible. Projects with A*STAR (*Agency for Science, Technology and Research*) institutes in all Inria fields are particularly encouraged within the 2027 call.

Australia

Australia is an exploratory zone in the international strategy of the institute.

All Associate Team projects with Australian institutions are eligible within the 2027 call.

Taiwan

Taiwan is an exploratory zone in the international strategy of the institute.

All Associate Team projects with institutions in Taiwan are eligible. Projects in artificial intelligence and cybersecurity are particularly encouraged within the 2027 call.

Appendix 5: Africa and Middle East

Inria Africa

Africa is a target area in the international strategy of the institute, which aims to structure its activities there via collaborations with its partners in Africa and in France such as CIRAD, IRD and INRAE.

In order to support the development of new initiatives, submissions for Associate Team projects with institutions in all African countries are accepted within the 2027 call.

Projects with the following countries are particularly encouraged: South Africa, Benin, Cameroon, Kenya Morocco and Senegal.

All of Inria fields are eligible, and special attention will be paid to projects involving the IRD and CIRAD.

Israel

Israel is an exploratory zone in the international strategy of the institute.

All Israeli academic partners are eligible for the Associate Teams programme within the 2027 call.

Appendix 6: Multi-zone

JLESC (North America/Asia/Europe)

The Joint Laboratory for Extreme Scale Computing (JLESC) focuses on the development of algorithms and software for high performance computing on supercomputers and large-scale distributed computing infrastructures. The founding partners of the JLESC are Inria and the University of Illinois- Urbana-Champaign UIUC (USA). The other members are the Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) (USA), the Barcelona Supercomputing Center (BSC) (Spain), the Jülich Supercomputing Center (JSC) (Germany) and the Riken Center for Computational Science (R-CCS) (Japan). University of Tennessee-UTK (USA) is an associate member.

<https://jlesc.github.io>

Associate Team projects can be proposed with all JLESC members: UIUC (USA), ANL (USA), BSC (Spain), JSC (Germany), Riken CCS (Japan) and UTK (USA), in the scientific scope of the JLESC, within the 2027 call.

Appendix 7: Co-financing

Inria establishes specific agreements with international partners that make it possible to support Associate Teams, either through joint calls or by arranging additional funding.

WARNING! These calls and additional funding require two parallel submissions (one to Inria and one to the partner). The partner must check the terms and conditions and comply with the submission schedule established by its funding agency or institution.

For the 2027 campaign, specific calls have been launched with the DST- IFCPAR (CEFIPRA) for India, NSTC for Taiwan and the São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) in Brazil.

→ **(Timeline and procedures to be confirmed) Call with the Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research (IFCPAR / CEFIPRA), commissioned by the Department of Science and Technology (DST).**

Submissions for Associate Teams with India are open to any Indian academic or research partners. To be eligible for co-financing by the DST-IFCPAR (CEFIPRA), the Associate Teams must focus on one of the themes that will be published shortly.

Under the specific agreement with the DST-IFCPAR (CEFIPRA), the Associate Teams co-selected with India could receive total funding of at least €16,000/year for three years (funding from Inria of at least €8,000/year and the same amount from the DST-IFCPAR (CEFIPRA)).

→ **(Timeline and procedures to be confirmed) Call with the National Science and Technology Council (Taiwan)**

Associate Team submissions with Taiwan are open to any Taiwanese academic or research partner. More specific details will be published shortly.

→ **(Timeline and procedures to be confirmed) Additional funding from the São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) in Brazil**

Associate Teams proposed with researchers from the State of São Paulo could also receive financial support from the São Paulo Research Foundation (FAP). Only researchers from the State of São Paulo are eligible.

The project of Associate Team can be submitted by the Brazilian PI from Sao Paulo State who complies with FAPESP eligibility terms. FAPESP may cofund the project (scientific missions for researchers, PhD students or postdoctoral fellows) up to the limit of US\$12.500 per year, per project, and with a duration of up to 24 months.

Appendix 8: Local priorities

The local priorities indicated for a given Inria Centre are only eligible for Project Teams attached to that Centre.

If no restrictions are specified, the local priorities indicated for a given Centre are open to all Project Teams of this Centre.

If the priority indicated is an alliance of institutions, each institution in the alliance is eligible.

→ Inria Centre at the University of Bordeaux

- ✚ McGill University – Canada (<https://www.mcgill.ca/fr>)
- ✚ Laval University – Canada (<https://www.ulaval.ca/>)

→ Inria Centre at Grenoble Alpes University

- ✚ University of Tsukuba – Japan (<https://www.tsukuba.ac.jp/en/>)
- ✚ National Taiwan University (<https://www.ntu.edu.tw/english/>)

→ Inria Centre at the University of Lille

- ✚ Katholieke Universiteit Leuven – Belgium (<https://www.kuleuven.be/lang/fr>)

→ Inria Lyon Centre

- ✚ Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia - Genova - Italy (<https://www.iit.it/it/>)
- ✚ University of Copenhagen- Denmark (<https://www.ku.dk/english/>)

→ Inria Centre at the University de Lorraine

- ✚ Luxembourg Institute of Health (<https://www.lih.lu/fr/>)
- ✚ University of the Greater Region (<https://www.uni-gr.eu/>)

→ Inria Paris Centre

- ✚ 4EU+ European University Alliance (<https://4euplus.eu/4EU-1.html>)
- ✚ Circle U. European University Alliance (<https://u-paris.fr/luniversite-europeenne-circle-u/>)

→ Inria Centre at Rennes University

- ✚ EDUC European Digital UniverCity Alliance (<https://www.educalliance.eu/>)
The above priority is only open to teams based wholly or partly in Rennes
- ✚ EULIST European University Alliance (<https://eulist.university/>)
The above priority is only open to teams linked to IMT (GALLINETTE & STACK), ERMINE in Rennes, ODYSSEY in Rennes and Brest and any new joint teams with IMT

➔ **Inria Saclay Centre**

- ✚ University of Cordoba - Argentina (<https://www.unc.edu.ar/>)
- ✚ Carlos III University of Madrid - UC3M - Spain (<https://www.uc3m.es/Home>)
Collaborations with the Computer Security Lab are particularly encouraged
(<https://cosec.inf.uc3m.es/>)

➔ **Inria Centre at Université Côte d'Azur**

- ✚ Ulysseus European University (<https://ulyseus.eu/fr/member-universities/>)

➔ **Inria Branch of Inria Centre at Université Côte d'Azur at the University of Montpellier**

- ✚ - CHARM-EU European University Alliance (<https://www.charm-eu.eu/index.php/fr/alliance>)