

Academy of Excellence programme 2021-2024

CFP 1: Call for proposals "Multilingualism: courses delivered in a foreign language"

Framework text

Deadline for submission of proposals:

17 DECEMBER 2021, 12-noon (Paris)

Publication address:

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1. Context

1.1 Presentation of the A*Midex initiative of excellence

The A*Midex university foundation is responsible for the Initiative of Excellence (Idex) at Aix-Marseille, holder of the French national accreditation in the context of the Investments for the Future Programme (IFP). The Idex project presented by Aix-Marseille University and its partners (CNRS, Inserm, IRD, CEA, AP-HM, Sciences-Po Aix, Centrale Marseille) was selected in February 2012 by the International committee and confirmed in April 2016. It's objective is to promote and develop the exceptional potential of the Aix-Marseille site, by equipping it with world-ranking research and higher education. To this end, A*Midex is trialling new actions, and functions as a strategic lever for growth of the geographical area.

1.2 Presentation of the strategic challenges related to the call for proposals

The Academy of excellence programme is part of field of action 2 listed on A*Midex roadmap 3.0 (2021-2024), titled "Training, attraction and mentoring of TALENTS". This field of action pursues two main objectives:

- Transformation and innovation in teaching
- Training, attraction, long-term retention of talents

In the context of this field of action, the A*Midex Foundation must make it possible to undertake experimental actions in support of the transformation of the training proposed by acting on the quality of the training and its attractiveness, in particular to an international audience.

This call for proposals also aligns with field of action 4 in roadmap 3.0 (2021-2024) titled "Project incubation to respond to major priority scientific and social challenges". The Academy of excellence call for proposals is launched to contribute to this objective in complement to the major projects undertaken on the site (CIVIS, TIGER, IDEAL, DREAM U, PANORAMA, etc.). This is the fourth iteration of the call, following the calls in 2013, 2014, 2017. Success in the selection procedure has become an indicator of quality for the scientific and teaching communities. Like all the mechanisms launched by the A*Midex Foundation, at each iteration the CFP is the subject of an evaluation and a consultation phase during which its objectives are refined. Today, the CFP is being restructured in the form of a program for the 2021-2024 period, developed in the context of a consultation between the governance, the Idex partners, and departments at Aix-Marseille University.

This program, developed for a duration of three years (2021-2024) is allocated a budget of €3 million. It is interlinked with three main calls for proposals (CFP) to which an action on mobility and hybridation may be added:

CFP 1: "Multilingualism: courses delivered in a foreign language"	Launch	Selection	Starting
	Oct. 2021	June 2022	Sept. 2022
CFP 3: Accounting for the SDO (Sustainable Development Objectives) in training	Launch	Selection	Starting
	Sept 2022	June 2023	Sept. 2023
CFP 4: Promote re-direction of students through the creation of gateways	Launch	Selection	Starting
	Sept 2023	June 2024	Sept. 2024

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2. Presentation and objectives of the call for proposals

2.1 Presentation of the call for proposals and its objectives

The call for proposals "Multilingualism: courses delivered in a foreign language" aims to increase the number of courses delivered through a foreign language on the site. To do so, it projects to support the teaching teams who wish to transform their courses by developing teaching through a foreign language.

This call for proposals meets the objective of making training international in order to:

- Promote **mastery of languages** by students with a view to facilitating their study-to-work transition (quality of training objective)
- Facilitate and increase the potential for hosting of foreign students on the site (attractiveness of training objective)
- **Favour international collaborations** with universities partnering AMU in terms of teaching and training

This call for proposals was developed in the context of a consultation between the A*Midex Foundation, the Vice-Presidents for Training, International Relations and CIPE at Aix-Marseille University, the Language Plan and language skills project manager at AMU, the partner schools Centrale Marseille and Science Po Aix, and in collaboration with the University departments involved (in particular the Directorate for Studies and Student Life, the CIPE - Centre for Pedagogical Innovation and Assessment, the Directorate for International Relations).

This call for proposals has been allocated a **total budget of 600,000 euro** and aims to support **approximately 10 projects** through the award of amounts between **25,000 and 100,000 euro per project.**

A new edition of this call may be launched annually depending on the funds available.

2.2 Target audience / Eligible candidates

This call for proposals targets **teaching teams**. These teams will designate a **Scientific and Technical Leader** who must be a **tenure lecturer-researcher** on the Aix-Marseille site, affiliated with an AMU, Science Po Aix or Centrale Marseille learning and teaching department or a **tenure scientist** affiliated with an EPST on the Aix-Marseille site.

The AMU learning and teaching departments must have been informed of the submission of the project and will assist its implementation.



















2.3 Type of projects supported

2.3.1 Aim and type of projects supported

The projects supported in the context of this CFP must propose the transformation of an existing course, and not the creation of a new course in a foreign language. It will be a question of transforming an academic trajectory and not of duplicating the version delivered in French for delivery through a foreign language. The call is aimed at teaching teams who wish to transform their courses for delivery in a foreign language so as to improve the level of language of their students and to make their courses more attractive, in particular to international students or French students wishing to prepare an international career.

The following conditions must be met for the project to be supported in the context of this call for proposals:

- The training cycle is a **national degree** (Bachelor, Vocational Bachelor, Master, university diploma in technology (BUT), engineering diploma, etc.).
- The minimum duration of the cycle taught through a foreign language is one year.
- Master's courses that already offer a semester in a foreign language may apply to transform
 the second semester for teaching through a foreign language and thus propose a full year
 taught through a foreign language.
- Over a year of training, the disciplines taught through a foreign language must represent at least 48 ECTS of the 60 ECTS proposed.
 - M2 internships may be associated with a dissertation and/or internship report and/or oral presentation in a foreign language so that they can be counted in the calculation of the 48 ECTS.
- Study of the foreign language is not the disciplinary core of the training provided.
- The potential student capacity must be at least one tutorial (TD) group.

The response to the call for proposals may include **active teaching practices** related to teaching through a foreign language.

The schedule for the project must plan to comply with the dates for the campaign for the modification of the training proposed in the context of national diplomas at AMU (contact the vice deans for training of the learning and teaching departments) and the modalities for inclusion of the plans in the tools (PACOME).

The project submitted will include a **strategy for assessment of the impact of the project** in terms of the objectives of the call for proposals (linguistic fluency, attractiveness of the training, international teaching collaborations). Indicators must be provided as part of the annual reviews of projects.



















2.3.2 Types of action and eligible costs

The A*Midex funding will allow the teaching teams to pay for various types of actions selected from among the needs identified. The project may thus include costs linked to: transformation of lessons for delivery through a foreign language, valorisation of the lecturer-researchers involved, training of teachers and students, or communication related to the course delivered through a foreign language.

This call is mainly destined to fund payroll and operations costs.

• Transformation of courses for delivery through a foreign language:

AMU lecturer-researchers¹: The hours devoted to course development will be valorised, rather than the hours of delivery of the courses. The lecturer-researchers will be able to valorise the hours devoted to design and development of their courses delivered through a foreign language in the form of EQS within the limits proposed by the institution, which is a maximum of 128 HETD per year for a lecturer-researcher (see EQS reference frame²). Newly-created teaching delivered through a foreign language in the context of this call for proposals must be budgeted for according to the standard proposed by Aix-Marseille University for the design and development of innovative teaching projects: a 1-hour course delivered to students represents 1.5 hours of creation time. These EQS will be funded by the A*Midex budget and must be accounted for in the request for payroll funds in the project submitted.

External national or international speakers may be invited to participate in a foreign language, in line with the institution's regulations. For AMU³: at least 50% of the hours must be delivered by AMU teachers. External speakers can be paid as invited professors, contracts teaching staff, or speakers in the framework defined by the institution (see HR reference document⁴). PhD students enrolled at AMU may also be called upon, however the related payments will not be eligible for Idex funding. However, international PhD students may participate as contract teaching staff, and these costs will be eligible for funding through A*Midex. Costs pertaining to travel of external teaching staff will be eligible for funding as business trips. At the end of the period of Amidex funding, the payment and costs linked to the intervention of external participants will be reimbursed to the learning and teaching departments.

Fees related to **translation**, **reviewing**, **transformation of course materials** including in the form of services (drawn on the operating budget for the project) will be eligible. In this case, the lecturer-researcher cannot apply for valorisation of the hours devoted to creation of the teaching materials.

For candidates external to AMU, please contact the A*Midex foundation

















¹ For projects undertaken by teams at Science Po Aix and Centrale Marseille, please contact the institution to find out about the corresponding payment modalities.

²Reference frame: https://drh.univ-amu.fr/sites/drh.univ-amu.fr/files/deliberation_car_160719 - principes_generaux.pdf

³ For projects undertaken by teams at Science Po Aix and Centrale Marseille, please contact the institution to find out about the corresponding payment modalities.

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⁴ HR reference document in the guide to AMU procedures > AMidex> Guides: https://procedures.univ-amu.fr/amidex



• Valorisation of lecturer-researchers (bonuses):

The pedagogical responsibility bonus (**PRP**) may be requested by the project leader for this pedagogical mission⁵. This bonus will be funded from the Academy of Excellence budget and must be included in the provisional payroll budget for the project.

The commitment of teachers to teach through a foreign language may be taken into account among all the criteria studied for attribution of the **bonus for teaching commitment (PEP)**⁶.

• Teacher training

Teacher training may be funded in the context of this call for proposals to facilitate the transition to teaching through a foreign language. Depending on the level targeted and the need identified, several possibilities exist:

- **Language training**, with a preference for training delivered at Aix-Marseille University or by partners (IEP, Centrale), as applicable.
 - **Training for teaching through a foreign language** (adaptation of teaching methods, anticipation of intercultural questions, communication, construction of discourse)
 - For AMU, training modules may be proposed by the Centre for pedagogical innovation and assessment (CIPE). Training programs may also be proposed by the human resources department (DRH) at AMU on request from the teaching teams at the time of submission of the application so as to develop a training trajectory adapted to the needs of the project (content, costs, schedule)⁷.
 - **Provision made for training hours in the teacher's service**: training in teaching through a foreign language, up to 18h per teacher in the pedagogical team, may be requested. It will give rise to service equivalence hours (EQS) corresponding to half the duration of the training, i.e., a maximum of 9h EQS. These EQS will be funded by the A*Midex budget and must be accounted for in the request for funds relating to payroll in the project submitted.
- Pedagogical mentoring (by a service provider or teaching engineer) for the transformation of a course for delivery through a foreign language or in the form of coaching to improve oral expression and self-confidence. Recruitment of a teaching engineer should be shared across several funded projects. A fixed part of the salary, corresponding to 30,000 euro, should be set aside in the provisional payroll budget for projects wishing to avail of the services of a teaching engineer.
- Residential exchanges with foreign teachers to learn about the pedagogical practices and tools that could be used to facilitate teaching through a foreign language; or to organise a pedagogical project. Exchanges with international partners of AMU, and in particular CIVIS should be favoured.

















⁵ PRP deliberation https://daji.univ-amu.fr/sites/daji.univ-amu.fr/files/ca_deliberations/9_pca_prp.pdf

⁶ PEP framework notice: <a href="https://drh.univ-amu.fr/sites/d

⁷ Contact Joyce Rousseau, director of the Office for Training and Skill Development: joyce.ROUSSEAU@univamu.fr



- **Immersion period abroad** to improve the language level of teachers and overcome resistance (e.g. hosting in a foreign partner university to deliver courses through a foreign language).

This list of possibilities is not exhaustive: **other exploratory training approaches to teaching through a foreign language may be proposed in the submission.** Their realisation will be subject to the institution's constraints in terms of administrative feasibility.

Training of students

- Additional teaching through a foreign language (language courses) in the context of **levelling-up for students**, if necessary, is an eligible cost.
- The **costs related to enrolment for tests to assess proficiency** in a foreign language (e.g. TOEIC, TOEFL) are eligible.
- **Student mobility** is eligible⁸ in the context of the project

• Communication

- The **costs linked to communication** to promote the existence of the course through a foreign language will be eligible (production of communication supports, leaflets, video, etc.)
- Costs linked to the creation of networks between teaching teams involved in teaching through a foreign language with a view to sharing experience and good practices will be eligible within the possibilities allowed by the A*Midex financial regulations (see A*Midex Financial regulations⁹)

2.3.3 Schedule and duration of projects

The selected projects will start from September 2022 (date of start of the agreement), date of initiation of preparation of the courses to be delivered through a foreign language. The courses delivered through a foreign language themselves will start from the beginning of the following academic year (September 2023).

Selected projects will be allowed **three academic years** to implement their actions and make use of the funding granted.

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For candidates external to AMU, please contact the A*Midex foundation

















⁸ See "A*Midex mobility grants" offer https://daji.univ-amu.fr/sites/daji.univ-amu.fr/sites/daji.univ-amu.fr/files/ca deliberations/delib 10 bourses amidex.pdf

⁹ Financial regulations in the guide to AMU procedures > AMidex> procedures: https://procedures.univ-amu.fr/amidex



2.3.4 Minimum and/or maximum amount of the grant awarded

The funding awarded may be between **25,000 euro and 100,000 euro.**

2.3.5 Ineligible costs

The hours devoted to course design and development will be valorised, rather than the hours of delivery of the courses (with the exception of levelling-up courses for students).

Investment costs are not eligible for funding.

These terms apply in complement to the **A*Midex financial regulations**, available online for AMU personnel (https://procedures.univ-amu.fr/amidex), or by return email for personnel outside AMU.

2.4 Key roles in successful projects

- Scientific and technical leader (STL): each project must be coordinated by a tenure researcher, or lecturer-researcher from the Aix-Marseille site associated with a teaching team, who will ensure coordination and monitor implementation of the project.
- **Organiser**: a named individual will be morally responsible for the use of funding awarded for the project. This person will be the director of the learning and teaching department with which the scientific and technical leader for the project is affiliated.
- **Financial manager**: an administrative manager within the learning and teaching department with which the scientific and technical leader is affiliated will be responsible for financial and/or administrative operations.
- Administrative manager: it is highly recommended to designate a person who will undertake
 a supporting role alongside the STL for the administrative management of the project
 (recruitments, drawing up agreements, etc.). This person should be present within the learning
 and teaching department with which the scientific and technical leader is affiliated, they could
 for example be the administrative manager, management accountant, financial assistant.
- Partners (IEP, Centrale): The mode of functioning in the case of projects carried by IEP or Centrale Marseille is different, and involves a reimbursement agreement; it will be necessary for IEP and Centrale to identify an administrative and financial manager who will deal with the A*Midex Foundation at the start of the project.

The scientific and technical leader of the project must demonstrate in their application the capacity of their learning and teaching department to undertake the steering and administrative management of the project and to constitute a teaching team capable of taking on the challenges of teaching a discipline through a foreign language.



















3. Modalities for submission of applications and contact details

3.1 Modalities for submission of applications

The application form for the CFP can be downloaded from https://www.univ-amu.fr/fr/public/appel-projet-academie-dexcellence

As projects are reviewed by two experts, one of whom is an international expert, the elements of the application should be filled out in English.

Submission of the application involves two steps on the submission platform https://amidex-aap.univ-amu.fr/:

STEP 1: DECLARATION OF INTENTION

The declaration of intention is an OBLIGATORY step in the process. However, it is not used for selection.

Candidates are invited to click on the "SUBMIT A PROJECT" button on the submission platform. They sign in, using their ENT login and password, to their submission area. At the latest at the deadline for step 1, they must complete the fields indicated on the form.

STEP 2: FULL PROJECT PROPOSALS

At this step, candidates provide a full application presenting their project (activities and budget). This application will be subjected to analysis and assessment.

From the date of opening of step two, candidates who have submitted a declaration of intention will then be invited to submit their full application at the latest at the deadline for step 2 by clicking on "STATUS OF MY PROJECTS" and transferring the following to their project space:

- The completed application form
- The budget for the project
- The appendices. NB: some appendices are required

To submit the application, it is necessary to click on the "submit" button at the bottom right of the submission form. The status of the application will change from "open" to "submitted" when the application has been submitted. No addition will be possible once the submission platform has been closed after the indicated deadline.



















3.2 Contact details

Until the closing date for the CFP, candidates can contact the following people:

- Candidates are invited to contact their learning and teaching department <u>from the earliest</u> stages of development of the project:
 - Vice-Deans for training, Head of department, and Administrative managers
- AMU candidates can contact the **project support cell (CAP)** at Aix-Marseille University for support in the operational development of their project: cap-contact@univ-amu.fr
- For any questions addressed to the A*Midex Foundation relating to the framework text for the CFP:

Hélène Colombié, Project manager for training and scientific mediation A*Midex Foundation helene.COLOMBIE@univ-amu.fr
Tel: 04.13.94.94.67

4. Project selection process

The selection process described below meets the A*Midex Foundation's firm commitment to guarantee that the projects it supports combine pedagogical excellence, operational quality and a high potential for impact.

4.1 Analysis of eligibility

The eligibility of each application will be verified by the A*Midex Foundation upon receipt of the full application submission (step 2). Projects not meeting these criteria will be declared ineligible and, consequently, will neither be assessed nor presented to the A*Midex steering committee.

Criteria for eligibility of the CFP:

- 1. Nature of the scientific and technical leader for the project: Tenure researchers and lecturer-researchers from the Aix-Marseille site (affiliated with a research unit linked to AMU or an AMU learning and teaching department, or IEP or ECM)
- Letter of commitment from the director of the learning and teaching department or the
 partner school stating their agreement with the proposed project offering a course
 delivered through a foreign language, and the capacity of the learning and teaching
 department or partner school to undertake the administrative management of the project
 if it is awarded funding.



















4.2 Administrative analysis

The following administrative elements will be analysed for each eligible application by an administrative analysis committee. This analysis will be provided to the steering committee alongside the scientific/pedagogical assessment grid.

- 1. The project must be undertaken by a teaching team composed of lecturer-researchers or disciplinary researchers affiliated with the training
- 2. The project must relate to the transformation of an existing course, and not the creation of a new course or its duplication
- 3. The training cycle is a national diploma/degree (Primary degree, Occupational qualification, Master's, technical university qualification (BUT), engineering diploma, etc.)
- 4. The minimum duration of the cycle taught through a foreign language is one year
- 5. Over a year of training, the disciplines taught through a foreign language must represent at least 48 ECTS of the 60 ECTS proposed
- 6. Study of the foreign language is not the disciplinary core of the training in question
- 7. The potential student capacity must be at least one tutorial (TD) group
- 8. Launch of the course delivered through a foreign language is planned for the 2022/2023 or 2023/2024 academic year
- 9. The funding requested is between 25,000 and 100,000 euro
- 10. Valorisation of the course hours relates to its creation and not its delivery (with the exception of levelling-up courses for students).
- 11. The administrative, financial and HR capacities of the learning and teaching department are demonstrated in the application
- 12. Costs related to equipment/investments are not eligible for funding.

4.3 Pedagogical assessment

Each project will be the subject of two independent assessments, the preliminary preoccupation of which is to ensure a high quality pedagogical expertise. Each assessor will be identified by their teaching qualification level, their relevance with respect to the project to be assessed, and the challenges of the call for proposals. A declaration of confidentiality and absence of conflict of interest will be signed by each expert before any communication of the proposal in full. These procedures aim to guarantee a high level of pedagogical expertise and impartiality in this assessment approach.

The two experts are selected for their complementary expertise in the transformation of courses for delivery through a foreign language in their disciplines, and their expertise in international strategies adopted by universities in terms of training.



















4.3.1 Application evaluation table

Selection criterion	Comments	Grade			
1) Quality and ambition of the project					
 Sub-criterion 1: Quality of the project proposed for teaching through a foreign language (teaching methods, tools, assessment of skills acquired, etc.) 	at least 40, at most 150 words				
Sub-criterion 2: Relevance of the strategy proposed with regard to the objective of making the training international (international development of the training, attractiveness of the training, study-to-work transition, planned international cooperation)	at least 40, at most 150 words	/5 (Weighting factor 4)			
2) Implementation modalities					
 Sub-criterion 1: Coherence and efficacy of the action plan to transform the course for delivery through a foreign language 	at least 40, at most 150 words	/5			
 Sub-criterion 2: Relevance of the plan for composition and coordination of the teaching team 	at least 40, at most 150 words	(Weighting factor 3)			
 Sub-criterion 3: Coherence of the self-assessment method applied to the project by the teaching team 					
3) Expected impact and returns					
Sub-criterion 1: Impact of the project (expected returns with regard to the objectives of the call for proposals)	at least 20, at most 100 words	/5 (Weighting factor 3)			
Sub-criterion 2: Entrainment effect, perspectives for adoption of the project within the learning and teaching department and/or the site (in particular dissemination actions, sharing of good practices, perspectives of the project)	at least 20, at most 100 words				
Total		/50			

















1. Grade scale 1-5

Note	Signification des notes		
0	Critère non traité ou ne pouvant être évalué avec les informations fournies		
1	Insuffisant : critère traité de manière superficielle et non satisfaisante		
2	Médiocre : critère traité de façon relativement satisfaisante mais il y a de sérieuses faibles		
3	Bien : critère bien traité mais il y a des améliorations nécessaires		
4	Très bien : critère très bien traité, quelques améliorations sont encore possibles		
5	Excellent : critère parfaitement traité, les lacunes éventuelles sont mineures		
Grade	What the grade means		
0	Criterion not treated or impossible to assess with the information provided		
1	Inadequate: criterion treated superficially and not adequately		

Mediocre: criterion treated relatively satisfactorily but serious weaknesses remain

Good: criterion well treated but improvements necessary

Very good: criterion well treated, some improvements still possible

Excellent: criterion perfectly treated, any remaining issues are minor

2. General recommendation

	Comments	Grade (1 answer only)
Project's main strong points: Directions for development / weaknesses:	at least 50, at most 70 words	A B C

Recommendation scale:

3

4

5

- A: project to be shortlisted as a priority
- B: good project, but with reservations; projects graded B have a low probability of being shortlisted
- C: inadequate project, do not shortlist

The recommendation plays a central role in the grading system as it is used for the initial selection (before the numbered grade) when shortlisting projects at the end of the selection process.

Only AA or AB projects in case of double expertise will be submitted to the A*Midex Steering Committee (STEERING COMMITTEE) to guarantee an excellent level among the projects awarded funding:

Projects with an overall AA recommendation are submitted to the A*Midex steering committee for accreditation taking the budgetary constraints for the call for proposals into account.



















Projects with an AB recommendation can exceptionally be submitted to the steering committee for accreditation.

Projects with an AC, BB, BC or CC recommendation cannot be accredited by the steering committee.

4.5 Validation of accredited projects by the A*Midex steering committee

The A*Midex steering committee will accredit the top ranking projects from the CFP on the base of the assessments returned by the experts and also taking into account the administrative analysis provided by the foundation.

5. Indicative schedule

18 OCTOBER 2021, 12-noon (Paris): Opening of the CFP

17 DECEMBER 2021, 12-noon (Paris): Deadline for submission of intention (Step 1)

28 FEBRUARY 2022, 12-noon (Paris): Deadline for submission of project proposal (Step 2)

MARCH-MAY 2022: Selection of projects (eligibility & administrative analysis, pedagogical evaluation)

JUNE 2022: Validation by the A*Midex steering committee

JUNE 2022: Communication of results (provisional date)

SEPTEMBER 2022: Start of projects, provided agreements have been signed (provisional date)

6. Conditions under which selected projects will be implementated

The projects selected will be funded by the A*Midex Foundation in the form of a grant. They will be the subject of an agreement for attribution of financial assistance before any funding can be used. This agreement will be signed by the scientific and technical leader of the project, the project organiser (manager/director of the learning and teaching department), and the President of the initiative of excellence (and by delegation of the management of the A*Midex Foundation).

In addition, the designated management assistant within the learning and teaching department, who will undertake the financial management of the project, must be accredited.

A launch meeting for the successful projects will be organised after their selection by the steering committee and will provide all the necessary information relating to project implementation (agreements, reviews, financial and HR procedures, etc.).



















It is important to note that, for any recruitments to be made in the context of the project, the profiles recruited must be external to the Aix-Marseille site and there last university degree/diploma must have been awarded by a university other than AMU (or A*Midex partners). Any recruitment must be the subject of an international advertisement of the offer of employment. For further information on the financial and HR implementation modalities relating to the projects, please consult the documents listed in chapter 7.

7. Documents and useful links

- General information on A*Midex: https://www.univ-amu.fr/en/public/excellence-initiative
- A*Midex procedures¹⁰ (financial regulations, Reference document for training, Reference document for finance, and Reference document for HR): https://procedures.univ-amu.fr/amidex (or by return email for personnel outside AMU)
- Open A*Midex calls for proposals: https://www.univ-amu.fr/en/public/calls-projects-progress-amidex

















¹⁰ We invite you to subscribe to the procedures in order to be informed of any future updates