

Call for proposals

**“2022 INTERNATIONAL - Research and Training”**

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Framework text

***Deadline for submission of letters of intention:***

**9 JANUARY 2023, noon (Paris)**

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# 1. Context

## 1.1. *The A\*MIDEX Initiative of Excellence*

The A\*Midex Initiative of Excellence (Idex) is composed of a consortium of 8 institutions on the higher-education and research site of Aix-Marseille, coordinated by Aix-Marseille University. It aims to **contribute to the emergence and development of a world-ranking interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary cluster of higher-education and research in the Aix-Marseille University area.**

To this end, A\*Midex is trialling new actions relying on all the Vice-presidencies and central directorates involved within the university, and the consortium's partners: CNRS, INSERM, CEA, IRD, Centrale Marseille, Sciences Po Aix, and Assistance-Publique Hôpitaux de Marseille (AP-HM).

## 1.2. *Strategic challenges related to the call for proposals*

The “**2022 INTERNATIONAL - Research and Training**” call for projects corresponds to two major missions of the Idex:

- 1) “**Training, attraction, and long-term retention of TALENTS**”. This mission, which is part of field of action 2 in A\*Midex roadmap 3.0 (2021-2024)<sup>1</sup>, aims to support the transformation of the training proposed by improving the quality of the training and the attractiveness of courses, in particular to an international audience. It will allow training and hosting of international students in a global context by deploying a greater proportion of hybrid training on the Aix-Marseille site.
- 2) “**Interaction with international STAKEHOLDERS and civil society**” This mission, which is part of field of action 3 in A\*Midex roadmap 3.0 (2021-2024), was designed to implement a strategic and targeted approach to international partnerships contributing to the growth of international visibility of the site, and to the mobilisation of its teams in a competitive international context. This approach takes into consideration the specificities of our region and aims to mobilise all partners on the site, in line with their own international strategies and the main stakeholders in the local environment, so as to position the Aix-Marseille site on common prioritised geographical areas.

## 1.3. *Development of the call for proposals:*

To comply with these missions, this call for proposals was developed in the context of a consultation between the A\*Midex Foundation, the Vice-Presidents for International Relations, Research, Training, the A\*Midex consortium's partners CNRS, INSERM, CEA, IRD, Centrale Marseille, Sciences Po Aix, Assistance-Publique Hôpitaux de Marseille, and in collaboration with the University directorates involved (in particular the Directorate for International Relations, Directorate for Research and Technology Transfer, Directorate for Studies and Student Life), and in concertation with the major structuring projects on the site (TIGER, IDEAL, CIVIS, DREAM U, CISAM+).

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<sup>1</sup>[https://www.univ-amu.fr/system/files/2021-05/Feuille%20de%20route%20strat%C3%A9gique%20AMidex%203.0%20-%202021-2024\\_0.pdf](https://www.univ-amu.fr/system/files/2021-05/Feuille%20de%20route%20strat%C3%A9gique%20AMidex%203.0%20-%202021-2024_0.pdf)

## 2. Presentation and objectives of the call for proposals

### 2.1. Objectives

The “2022 INTERNATIONAL - Research & Training” call for proposals aims to **develop and strengthen international collaborations structured around research and/or training projects.**

This call aims to **elicit projects** on the Aix-Marseille site within **all the themes and disciplines associated with international partners from any geographical area**, in particular Africa and the Mediterranean region.

#### Specific objectives of focus 1 “Structuring of international research-training projects”:

- Strengthen and develop one or more international partnerships
- Support collaborative international research projects with a high impact for the Aix-Marseille site
- Support high-quality training actions encouraging international training-research links

#### Specific objectives of focus 2 “Making training international using hybrid formats”:

- Assist course leaders wishing to create or enhance international links
- Promote international educational exchanges around pedagogical projects
- Increase physical and virtual mobility for students and teaching staff
- Create new high-quality hybrid educational content
- Promote the attractiveness of our courses through hybrid formats

**It is possible to submit to the two focus, but a single project cannot be awarded funding through both focus.**

### 2.2. Budget

The call has an overall budget of **€7 million** which is split between the two focus:

**Focus 1:** This focus will be attributed **€6.5M** and will be able to fund **around 10 projects** with budgets ranging from **€500,000 to €1,000,000**.

**Focus 2:** This focus will be attributed **€500,000** and will be able to fund **around 10 projects** with budgets ranging from **€25,000 to €75,000**.

### 2.3. Target audience / Eligible candidates

**Focus 1** targets researchers and lecturer-researchers, more specifically scientific and pedagogical project teams. The teams will designate a **Scientific and Technical Leader** who must be a **tenure lecturer-researcher or researcher** on the Aix-Marseille site, affiliated with an AMU, Science Po Aix or Centrale Marseille learning and teaching department, or with an EPST on the Aix-Marseille site (affiliated with a research unit hierarchically linked to AMU alone or in combination with another entity).

**Focus 2** targets researchers and lecturer-researchers, and more specifically **teaching teams**. The 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 researcher** affiliated with an EPST on the Aix-Marseille site (affiliated with a research unit hierarchically linked to AMU alone or in combination with another entity).

**Affiliated Aix-Marseille University Institutes** cannot host candidates in their own name, but can provide support to the research units and faculties wishing to apply.

## 2.4. Type of projects supported

### 2.4.1. Aim and type of projects supported

#### Focus 1 “Structuring of international research-training projects”

This focus supports **ambitious projects** for research and training in all fields of scientific research and in collaboration with international partners from any geographical area.

This focus will support projects presenting **collaborative research activities** involving international partners selected based on their recognition in the scientific field, specific expertise, access to equipment, etc.

The funded projects will need to strengthen **existing reciprocal partnerships** for which the added value for the Aix-Marseille site must be clearly set out in the application, or historical A\*Midex partnerships, such as the following mixed units of French research institutes abroad (UMIFRE): French Research Centre in Jerusalem (CRFJ) and Institute for research into contemporary Maghreb (IRMC), partners in the European university CIVIS and CIVIS-Africa or Ecole Centrale and the Mediterranean Network of Engineering and Management Schools (RMEIM) partners.

The project must be undertaken in collaboration with one or more international partners committed to the project, relying on the existing actions or mechanisms, such as the CNRS IRL (International Research Laboratory) mechanism or for the IRD, mixed international laboratories (LMI). In the absence of a cooperation agreement or formalised partnership at the time of submission, the STL must provide evidence of the historical and operational contexts of the partnership. In both cases, the project must consolidate the existing partnership and all of the ongoing actions, while arguing the need for their development.

Projects must include an aspect related to **making training international that is associated with research activities**. These activities must fit within existing courses (without the need to create new courses). Courses can target students from Bachelor degree to PhD level or engineers, whether they are from the Aix-Marseille site or affiliated with the international partners. The activities may include incoming or outgoing mobility for students, lecturer-researchers, or *Biatss* personnel, transformation actions and hybrid training or any innovative pedagogical project that enhances training-research links.

Projects that have a strong impact on the Aix-Marseille site in terms of scientific and pedagogical returns, strengthen or complement themes developed on the site, and enhance attractiveness and visibility of the site will be funded.

A\*Midex funding is not intended to be renewable, therefore projects must demonstrate how they integration within growing national, European and international trends, creating perspectives for funding through other sources and completion of other activities with the partner beyond the scope of the project.

For this focus, the call is open to all types of research and training activities; projects must demonstrate administrative and management feasibility.

## Focus 2 “Making training international using hybrid formats”

This focus will fund **short hybrid programmes developed as part of existing courses, with the aim of creating or strengthening links with one or more international partners.**

The projects will target cohorts of students or tutorial groups at all levels, from Bachelor degree to PhD or engineering courses, enrolled at Aix-Marseille University, Sciences Po or Ecole Centrale Marseille, open to students at Aix-Marseille University or at the international partners' university.

**Projects will be developed in a hybrid format: combining in-person and remote teaching.** They may correspond to a new teaching programme or a consolidation of an existing programme.

### Programmes in focus 2 must meet the following criteria:

- Maximum **6 ECTS** (Modules, summer schools, etc.)
- **Offer distance-learning**
- **AND some in-person training** (fieldwork, laboratory work, summer school, etc.) representing **mobility over a maximum of 5 days** (not including travel time) for students and/or teaching staff.  
The in-person part may take place abroad with outgoing mobility of students from Aix-Marseille or on the Aix-Marseille site with the participation of students from an international partner university.
- Be open to a **cohort of students** (or tutorial group)

**NB:** The plan of action for projects **must include a search for financial solutions to ensure that the action can be maintained beyond the end of the A\*Midex funding.**

The implementation of a short programme must conform to the **DEVE (Direction of Studies and Student Life) framework “Micro-credit guide”<sup>2</sup>**

While not an obligation, projects may touch on a theme linked to the **priority research directions for the 2024-2028 training strategy<sup>3</sup>**: interdisciplinarity, Socially engaged University, open to the world, creator of knowledge and innovation.

A project presented in the context of the present call for proposals may allow academic trajectories funded through the Transformation of Training through Research international support call for projects to achieve their objectives in terms of hybrid learning. The **Hybrid'AMU Accreditation (Label Hybrid'AMU)<sup>4</sup>**, developed in the context of DREAM U, can be taken as reference to define the project objectives and describe implementation of the hybrid modules.

To be trained in the use of tools and technology to allow hybrid teaching, teaching teams can contact the DEVE at the **Centre for Pedagogical Innovation and Assessment (CIPE)**. The duration of training can be recognised through service equivalence hours (EQS) at 50% of the duration of the training, up to a maximum of 9 HETD for 18 h training.

The schedule for the project must be planned 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 new plans in the corresponding tools (PACOME).

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<sup>2</sup> Micro-credit guide:

[https://daji.univ-amu.fr/sites/daji.univ-amu.fr/files/ca\\_deliberations/ca\\_2022.07.19-18\\_guide\\_micro\\_credits\\_annexe.pdf](https://daji.univ-amu.fr/sites/daji.univ-amu.fr/files/ca_deliberations/ca_2022.07.19-18_guide_micro_credits_annexe.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Hybrid'AMU accreditation: <https://www.univ-amu.fr/fr/public/dreamu-les-enseignements-hybrides-35>

Projects awarded BIP (Blended Intensive Program) funding already receive funds through the Erasmus+ fund, and cannot apply through this call unless they wish to extend their target audience beyond that funded by the European Commission.

### 2.4.2. Partnerships

**Focus 1:** The project must be undertaken in collaboration with an international partner committed to the project. Cooperation or partnership agreements need not be finalised at the time of submission, but in this case the existing cooperation must be demonstrated by presenting the history of collaborations and the implementation of multiple activities by the two partners.

**Focus 2:** No international partner is required at the time of submission. The project may include either one (or more) international partners at the time of submission, or present objectives in terms of international development of the programme.

### 2.4.3. Schedule or duration of projects

Projects selected for funding **will start in November 2023** at the earliest (date of start of the agreement). Selected projects will be allowed **four to five academic years (focus 1) and three years (focus 2)** to implement their actions and make use of the funding granted.

### 2.4.4. Co-funding by other organisations

Co-funding is not a requirement in the context of the “2022 International - Research & Training” call for proposals, for **focus 1** or **focus 2**.

### 2.4.5. Minimum and/or maximum amount of the grant awarded

**Focus 1:** The funding awarded may be between **€500,000 and €1,000,000**.

**Focus 2:** The funding awarded may be between **€25,000 and €75,000**.

### 2.4.6. Eligible costs

**Operation:** operating costs and business trips are eligible. **Beware:** For students, these are not business-trip costs, but costs related to mobility as a group for a short duration (pedagogical travel: see institutional framework text<sup>5</sup>) and grants for mobility for individual long-stays<sup>6</sup>. Internships should be included under budget heading Operation costs for the project.

**Investment:** Investment costs justified in the specific context of projects are eligible within the limit of 20% of the overall funding allocated by A\*Midex.

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<sup>5</sup> These short-duration trips will be organised in line with the “Note relating to student movement” (DAJI): [https://procedures.univ-amu.fr/system/files/procedures/daji/daji-affaires-juridiques-institutionnelles/annexes/au-daji-1052-note\\_relative\\_aux\\_deplacements\\_etudiants.pdf](https://procedures.univ-amu.fr/system/files/procedures/daji/daji-affaires-juridiques-institutionnelles/annexes/au-daji-1052-note_relative_aux_deplacements_etudiants.pdf)

Requests can be made using the DAF form “invitation of a group of external agents” <https://procedures.univ-amu.fr/daf/fo-daf-317-invitation-dun-groupe-dagents-exterieurs-prise-charge-frais-directement>

<sup>6</sup> A\*Midex mobility grants: See “A\*Midex mobility grants” offer [https://daji.univ-amu.fr/sites/daji.univ-amu.fr/files/ca\\_deliberations/delib\\_10\\_bourses\\_amidex.pdf](https://daji.univ-amu.fr/sites/daji.univ-amu.fr/files/ca_deliberations/delib_10_bourses_amidex.pdf)



Investment costs eligible for A\*Midex funding relate only to costs for specific equipment required for the project (necessary to implementation of the scientific project/training and its innovative nature), excluding any recurrent or classical costs for a research unit or learning and teaching department.

With regard to computing equipment, costs are only eligible for specific computing equipment for scientific/teaching use linked to execution of the project - for projects justifying specific need for computing equipment due to the nature of the scientific and teaching activities to be deployed. Office-based material is not eligible, and is not covered by A\*Midex funding.

**Costs relating to personnel:** Costs related to teaching personnel are eligible (additional teaching hours (ATH), contract teaching staff, EQS). The time required to **design pedagogical projects** and to **train teachers** is eligible for funding in the form of service equivalence (EQS)<sup>7</sup>.

In focus 1 and 2, expenditure on staff for educational support (fixed-term contracts for educational engineers, apprenticeship contracts, etc.) is eligible.

In addition, for **focus 1** expense for research personnel salaries (PhD, co-supervision of PhD candidates, post-doc, engineer, technician, etc.) are eligible in compliance with external recruitment rules.

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.

**Projects must demonstrate the feasibility, in particular from an administrative point of view, of the activities and the eligibility of the associated costs in the budget managed by a University as well as the research unit's or faculty's capacity to undertake the financial and administrative management of the project (see point "5. Conditions under which selected projects will be implemented").**

## 3. Project selection process

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

### 3.1. Analysis of eligibility

The eligibility of each application will be verified by the A\*Midex Foundation upon receipt of the complete 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. The eligibility conditions are as follows:

#### **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 hierarchically linked to AMU or with an AMU Faculty, Science-Po Aix or Ecole Centrale Marseille)

#### **Completeness of the application:**

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<sup>7</sup> EQS for "Conceptualisation and development of new teaching or innovative pedagogical practice" at a rate of 1.5 for the creation of hybrid teaching content and EQS for "training": training of teachers in line with the project of providing hybrid programmes will open access to service equivalence (EQS) corresponding to half the duration of the training, with up to 18h of training per teacher, i.e., a maximum of 9h EQS.



- Application form presenting the project completed according to the appropriate template
- Financial appendix
- CV for the STL
- Letter of commitment from the director of the research unit (focus 1) or the Faculty/School (focus 2)
- Letter of commitment or partnership agreement from the international partner (at least from the main partner) (mandatory for focus 1, optional for focus 2)
- Letters of support (discretionary) from the affiliated institutes, Instituts Convergence, Ecoles Universitaires de Recherche or other relevant support, as applicable

### **3.2. Administrative analysis**

The following administrative elements will be analysed by the A\*Midex Foundation for each eligible application. This analysis will be provided to the steering committee (Comité de Pilotage A\*Midex) alongside the scientific and pedagogical assessment grid.

- Start date for project between November 2023 and June 2024
- Duration of projects between 4 and 5 years for focus 1 and 3 years for focus 2
- Project complies with the framework text
- Budget and time-line comply with the regulations defined in the framework text (see point 2.4.6)
- Costs in line with the A\*Midex financial regulations
- Administrative and financial capacity of the research unit or faculty

### **3.3. Scientific/pedagogical assessment**

Each project will be the subject of two (2) independent assessments by experts external to the Aix-Marseille site, with the preoccupation of ensuring a high-quality scientific/pedagogical expertise. Each assessor will be identified by their scientific/pedagogical qualification level, the relevance of their expertise with respect to the project to be assessed, and the specific 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 scientific/pedagogical expertise and impartiality in the assessment approach.

#### **Assessment criteria and weighting factors Focus 1**

##### **1) Quality and ambition of the project, graded out of 5 (weighting factor 4)**

- Scientific ambition and relevance of the scientific approach
- Ambition in terms of training and relevance of the activities promoting the training-research link
- Quality, relevance and structuring potential of the international partnerships

##### **2) Implementation modalities, graded out of 5 (weighting factor 3)**

- Quality of the work plan proposed, coherence of activities and resources described with respect to the target objectives
- Quality of the modalities of collaboration and organisation with the international partnership(s)
- Robustness of the international partnerships and implication of the various partners

##### **3) Expected impact and returns, graded out of 5 (weighting factor 3)**

- Scientific and pedagogical returns on the themes developed at the scale of the Aix-Marseille site, scientific dissemination ambitions
- Impact on international visibility and position of the Aix-Marseille site
- Alignment with growing national, European and international trends.

## Assessment criteria and weighting factors Focus 2

### 1) Quality and ambition of the project, graded out of 5 (weighting factor 4)

- Ambition of the pedagogical programme and its objectives
- Quality of the project proposed to create hybrid teaching programmes in terms of pedagogy, innovation and expected results for students' learning
- Relevance and potential of the internationalisation strategy

### 2) Implementation modalities, graded out of 5 (weighting factor 3)

- Quality of the work plan proposed, coherence of activities and resources described with respect to the target objectives
- Quality of the modalities of collaboration and organisation with the international partner(s)
- Relevance of the plan for composition and training of the teaching team

### 3) Expected impact and returns, graded out of 5 (weighting factor 3)

- Impact for the Aix-Marseille site (teaching returns, dissemination within the site, interactions with other major projects on the site)
- Impact on international visibility and position of the Aix-Marseille site
- Perspectives for long-term renewal of the project within the institution

### Modalities for grading:

All eligible projects are subject to double grading by the experts. Grading is expressed as a numbered grade corresponding to the assessment criteria (final grade between 0 and 50) and as a recommendation for selection (A, B or C)

Each of the 3 assessment criteria is graded out of 5 according to the following scale:

Grade	Meaning of the grade
0	Criterion not treated or impossible to assess with the information provided
1	Inadequate: criterion treated superficially and not adequately
2	Mediocre: criterion treated relatively satisfactorily but weaknesses remain
3	Good: criterion well treated but improvements necessary
4	Very good: criterion well treated, some improvements still possible
5	Excellent: criterion perfectly treated, any remaining issues are minor

The experts attribute a letter to the project reflecting their overall recommendation to fund it or not:

- 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, projects to be reworked

Each project is subject to assessment by two experts, only AA or, exceptionally AB, projects will be submitted to the A\*Midex Steering Committee to guarantee an excellent level among the projects awarded funding.

### 3.4. Validation of accredited projects by the A\*Midex steering committee

The A\*Midex steering committee will award funding to the top ranking projects from the call for proposals based on the assessments returned by the experts and taking into account the administrative analysis provided by the foundation.

#### Indicative schedule

15 November 2022, noon (Paris): Launch of the call for proposals

November 29, 2023, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm (Paris): Information webinar - registration via [online form](#)<sup>8</sup>

9 January 2023, noon (Paris): Deadline for submission of letters of intention (Step 1)

28 February 2023, noon (Paris): Deadline for submission of complete proposal (Step 2)

March 2023 - July 2023: Selection of projects (eligibility & administrative analysis, scientific/pedagogical assessment)

September 2023: Validation by the A\*Midex steering committee (provisional date)

September 2023: Communication of results (provisional date)

October - November 2023: Signing of agreements and launch of projects (provisional date)

## 4. Modalities for submission of applications and contact details

### 4.1. Modalities for submission of applications

The application form for the call for proposals can be downloaded from

<https://www.univ-amu.fr/fr/public/appele-projet-international-2022-recherche-formation>

Submission of the application involves two steps on the online.

- **STEP 1: DECLARATION OF INTENTION**

Online Form : <https://formulaire.univ-amu.fr/fr/public/amidex-candidature-appel-international-recherche-formation-2022-etape-1>

The declaration of intention is an OBLIGATORY step in the process. **The main information and a very short letter of intention for the submission will be requested.** However, these elements are not used for selection.

<sup>8</sup> <https://formulaire.univ-amu.fr/fr/public/inscription-webinaire-lancement-aap-international-recherche-formation-2022-amidex>

- **STEP 2: FULL PROJECT PROPOSALS**

Online Form: <https://formulaire.univ-amu.fr/fr/public/amidex-candidature-appel-international-recherche-formation-2022-etape-2>

At this step, candidates provide a complete presentation of their project (activities and budget). This submission will be subjected to analysis and assessment. The external assessment is undertaken by two non-AMU-affiliated experts.

From the date of opening of step 2, candidates who have submitted a declaration of intention will be invited to submit their full application at the latest at the deadline for step 2 by completing the online form and transferring, as a single pdf, the completed application form, the budget for the project and the appendices. NB: some appendices are mandatory.

#### **4.2. Contact details and help with project development**

Candidates are invited to contact their faculty (Vice-Deans for training, Directorates for departments, Heads of laboratories and Administrative managers), their school (Ecole Centrale Marseille and Sciences Po Aix) and/or their laboratory or EPST, from the earliest stages of development of the project.

**Integration with the affiliated Aix-Marseille Université institutes' international strategies:** Directorate for affiliated institutes

**Links with CIVIS and assistance for research for CIVIS and CIVIS-Africa partners:** For CIVIS: [civis@univ-amu.fr](mailto:civis@univ-amu.fr) or Raphaëlle Sirven ([raphaëlle.sirven@univ-amu.fr](mailto:raphaëlle.sirven@univ-amu.fr)) and for CIVIS-Africa: [Camille.De-Garidel@univ-amu.fr](mailto:Camille.De-Garidel@univ-amu.fr)

**AMU partnerships and international agreements:** DRI Rosalind Boniface [Rosalind.Boniface@univ-amu.fr](mailto:Rosalind.Boniface@univ-amu.fr)

**AMU international research collaborations:** DRV and RIS4CIVIS

**Hybrid teaching and innovative pedagogical projects: DEVE (CIPE)** [anne-marie.catella@univ-amu.fr](mailto:anne-marie.catella@univ-amu.fr)

**For any questions relating to the training aspect:** [DEVE-formation@univ-amu.fr](mailto:DEVE-formation@univ-amu.fr)

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## 5. Conditions under which selected projects will be implemented

### **5.1. 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, who will ensure coordination and monitor implementation of the project.

**Authorising officer for expenditure:** a named individual will be morally responsible for the use of funding awarded for the project. This person will be the director of the research unit or the faculty with which the scientific and technical leader for the project is affiliated.

**Financial manager:** an administrative manager within the research unit, faculty, or school with which the scientific and technical leader is affiliated will be responsible for financial and/or administrative operations (recruitments, etc.).

**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.) within the research unit, faculty or school with which the STL is affiliated, this person could for example be the administrative manager, management accountant, financial assistant.

The scientific and technical leader of the project must demonstrate in their application the capacity of their research unit or faculty to undertake the steering and administrative management of the project.

## 5.2. *Key stages of implementation of selected projects*

The projects selected will be funded by the A\*Midex Foundation by making available financial assistance. 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 **Authorising officer for expenditure** (director of the research unit or faculty), and the President of the initiative of excellence (and by delegation of the Director of the A\*Midex Foundation).

In addition, the management assistant of the research unit or faculty designated to undertake the financial management of the project must be duly 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 their 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.

The scientific and technical leaders and their administrative support team will be bound by agreements with the A\*Midex Foundation, described in the agreement for attribution of assistance, in particular in terms of annual project reports, lists of costs, compliance with Aix-Marseille University's publication charter, acknowledgement of A\*Midex in communication supports, etc.

The project submitted will include a strategy to assess the impact of the project in terms of the objectives of the call for proposals. Indicators must be provided as part of the annual reviews of projects.

Within the Open Science strategy of the Aix-Marseille site, the A\*Midex Foundation is committed to the organisation and availability of research data. In this context, for projects awarded funding that include research activities (Focus 1), a Data Management Plan (DMP) will be requested within 6 months of starting the project. A DMP is defined by the ANR as allowing "Description of how data are produced, documented, (re)used, managed and shared during and after the project. It is a tool to help encourage thinking about the research data to make them FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable)."



## 6. Documents and useful links

- General information on A\*Midex: <https://www.univ-amu.fr/fr/public/initiative-dexcellence>
- A\*Midex procedures[3](Financial regulations, Reference documents for finance, HR and Training): <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>