

2018 call by Action Fédératrice Etoiles (AFE)

January 8, 2018

1. Call by the Action Fédératrice Etoiles (AFE)

The Action Fédératrice Etoiles (AFE) calls for proposals for scientific actions. The goal is to promote collaborations between several laboratories of the Paris Observatory on the theme “Stars”.

Eligibility criteria are the following :

- the action must be a collaboration between several laboratories or services (and/or several poles for LESIA) of the Paris Observatory. This includes the laboratories for which the Paris Observatory is a secondary administrative supervisor (APC, LPP, OSUC) but at least one of the participant must be primarily affiliated to the Paris Observatory (GEPI, IMCCE, LERMA, LESIA, LUTH, SYRTE, USN, UFE).
- the action must concern the theme “Stars”.

The AFE office will select ~6 scientific actions, either new actions or ongoing actions started in previous years. We note that several previous actions stopped in 2017 and, therefore, there is ample room for new projects to start in 2018. The yearly budget of AFE is of the order of 20000 euros.

Projects that concern more than one “Actions Fédératives” (AFs) can be submitted simultaneously to these AF as an answer to their respective call to request co-funding. In this case, the proposal must specify the synergies and the proposed sharing of the costs between the AFs.

The proposal consists in one **pdf document of maximum 1 page**, with a free format but which must include at least:

- a title
- the name of the PI of the scientific action and its affiliation (laboratory / possibly pole)
- the list of the members of the project with their affiliations (laboratory / possibly pole)
- the expected duration of the project (if it is a multi-year project)
- a description of the scientific project
- the synergies with one or more other “Actions Fédératives”, if the proposal is submitted for co-funding to several AFs
- a justification of the requested budget for 2018.

The AFE money can only cover costs related to travels of Observatory members (to collaborate in another French or foreign institute, or to present the results in a conference), **short-term invitations** of scientists from other French or foreign institutes who collaborate on the project, **work meetings** of the collaboration at the Observatory, and **material** necessary for the project (e.g. parts for an experiment, dedicated software, observing nights,...). In particular, the AFE money can support travel or work expenses of a PhD student or postdoc working on an AFE project, especially if he/she is co-supervised by directors in 2 laboratories of the Paris Observatory. The AFE cannot fund salaries.

Proposals of scientific actions should be submitted by email to Coralie.Neiner@obspm.fr before January 31, 2018, at midnight CET.

The AFE will send a reply to the PIs of AFE proposals in the second half of February. For proposals which are positively evaluated but for which no funding can be granted by AFE, the AFE will provide a letter of support to the PIs so that they can resubmit the proposal to the Observatory Scientific Council (see below) if they wish.

2. Call by the Scientific Council (SC) of the Paris Observatory

The Observatory SC published its yearly call for non-thematic programmes and colloquia.

- A small part of the money available for **non-thematic programmes** at SC can be affected to projects related to themes from “Actions Fédératives”. Projects regarding the theme “Stars”, but that do not fulfil the first eligibility criteria of the AFE call (i.e. inter-laboratory collaborations, see above) or that require a too large budget to be funded by AFE, can apply to the Observatory SC call. To answer this call, the PI must first **submit its proposal to AFE to obtain a letter of support**. This letter must be included in the proposal and the whole proposal then submitted to the SC.
- Proposals for **colloquia** fitting in the theme “Stars” should be submitted to the Observatory SC call. To submit the proposal, the PI must first **submit its proposal to AFE to obtain a letter of support**. This letter must be included in the proposal and the whole proposal then submitted to the SC.

The proposals for the Observatory SC call must be submitted to AFE by email to Coralie.Neiner@obspm.fr before January 31, 2018, at midnight CET.

The AFE will provide a letter of support to the PIs of projects before the submission deadline to the SC of February 27, 2018. A copy of the support letter will also be sent directly to the SC.

The AFE will also provide a letter of support to the PIs of projects submitted to AFE in the frame of the AFE call (see above) which have been positively evaluated by the AFE but cannot be funded directly by AFE, so that PIs of those projects can resubmit them to the SC call if they wish.