

MINI-GUIDE FRFS-WISD CALL FOR PROJECTS 2016

French version: [click here](#)

1. SCHEDULE

Opening of the call on the web-based application of the F.R.S.-FNRS '[SEMAPHORE](#)' for online submission: **FRIDAY 27TH MAY 2016**.

Deadlines are detailed in the table below.

INSTRUMENT		FRFS-WISD CALL FOR PROJECTS 2016			
		DEADLINE TO ACCESS THE ELECTRONIC FORM	DEADLINE FOR THE ELECTRONIC VALIDATION ¹		
			MAIN PROMOTER	CO-PROMOTER(S)	RECTOR
Research Project - WISD	PDR-WISD	Wednesday July 6 th At 2 p.m. (GMT + 1)	Thursday July 7 th At 2 p.m. (GMT + 1)	Thursday July 14 th At 2 p.m. (GMT + 1)	Monday July 25 th At 2 p.m. (GMT + 1)

Funding decisions will be taken by the Board of Trustees of the FRFS at the end of the calendar year. Starting date is set for 1st January 2017.

2. SCOPE OF THE FRFS-WISD CALL FOR PROJECTS

The Fund for Strategic Fundamental Research (FRFS) is an Associated Fund of the F.R.S.-FNRS which funds the fundamental research of excellence in strategic axis, within the framework of a mission assigned from the Walloon region.

The axis of the FRFS dedicated to sustainable development is called FRFS-WISD, which stands for *Walloon Institute for Sustainable Development*.

Pursuant to decrees Sustainable Development² is "development which aims to achieve sustained improvement of the quality of life and human well-being, both locally and globally, and that ensures the ability to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Efforts to achieve this goal require that

¹ Any application is subject to a procedure which entails 2 or 3 successive electronic validations on the dates mentioned in the above table:

- The validation by the main promoter and responsible proponent accountable to the F.R.S.-FNRS administration: It ensures that the application file is complete.
- The validation by co-promoters (if any): It accounts as an electronic signature.
- The validation by the research unit (Board of Education) of each institution involved in the project: each institution will be required to validate the application form following the validation by the promoters.

² Definition excerpted from Article 2, 1 ° of the decree on the Walloon sustainable development strategy and the decree on the Walloon sustainable development strategy for the matters covered under Article 138 of the Constitution approved on final reading by the Walloon Government on 28 March 2013.

rate of regeneration of natural resources and biodiversity conservation are taken into account. This implies to stay within a process of change which mobilises societal actors and social, economic and cultural roles so as to ensure an optimal use of all kind of immaterial, human, natural and financial resources along with a continuing reduction of the use of non-renewable resources."

University interfaces joined in the LIEU³ network are entrusted with the mission of the animation and valorisation platform (PAVA) to support the strategic axis of the FRFS-WISD.

3. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CALL

- Based on the Research Project instrument (PDR-Projet de recherche) of the F.R.S.-FNRS
- Duration of the project: 2 or 4 years
- Funding Envelope: max k€ 125- on an annual average for the duration of the project
- Types of expenses (Personnel, Operating, Equipment): no limitation provided within the funding envelope

Categories of personnel are detailed in the table below:

Categories ⁴	Activity	
	Part time	Full time
Non-postdoctoral Researcher (salary scheme)	x	x
Postdoctoral Researcher (salary scheme)	x	x
Technician (salary scheme)	x	x

Operating eligible expenses are the following:

- Consumables
- Small scientific and technical equipment
- Equipment maintenance and insurance
- Internal services
- Training
- Missions⁵
- Overhead costs (15% of the eligible expenses for personnel and operating costs, subcontracting excepted)
- Subcontracting
- Softwares

Equipment eligible expenses are the following:

- Acquisition cost of cutting edge scientific equipment indispensable for carrying out

³ Interfaces and valorisation departments of Universities and Hautes Écoles from the Communauté Wallonie-Bruxelles are working together within the LIEU Network (Liaison Entreprises-Universités).

⁴ Postdoctoral and non-postdoctoral researchers may only be recruited along with a wage package. No doctoral grants or Short-term Postdoctoral fellowships may be accepted as part of the FRFS-WISD Call for projects.

⁵ Missions carried out for research purposes by research personnel, whose remuneration may fully or partially, or may not be included in eligible expenses.

- research
 - Amortisation costs of scientific and technical equipment necessary to carry out research
- Single or Cross-university joint projects: a single and complete funding envelope covering both main promoter-applicant and potential co-promoter applicants
- Eligibility: At the latest by 15th November of the year when submitting the application main promoter and co-promoter applicants (if any)⁶ must be:
 - Either a Research Associate, a Senior Research Associate or a Research Director of the F.R.S.-FNRS and assuming the function and duties of such position,
 - Or a researcher permanently appointed or on probation, but holding a position equivalent to a permanent appointment in a university of the French-speaking community of Belgium (CFB).
- Cumulation rule: researchers may submit only one PDR-WISD funding application as a main promoter-applicant and/or as a co-promoter applicant. No other cumulation rule applicable.

4. THEMES COVERED UNDER CALL FOR PROJECTS

FRFS-WISD Call for Projects covers two categories of projects:

1. Projects dealing with sustainable development and process of change, which aim to better define the nature, criteria, conditions of existence, the dynamics and transition paths towards sustainable development;
2. Projects supporting sustainable development and demonstrating the contribution they can make to achieve sustainable development within a specific human community.

Regarding the latter category, priority is given to the following themes included in this non-exhaustive list, provided that submitted projects demonstrate a certain level of scientific quality:

1. Energy, Economic, Demographic Transition etc., sustainable development and capacities to innovate in a context of strong sustainability
2. Sustainable Production and Consumption
3. Sustainable Agriculture (including organic farming) and Food, Wood and Forest Sciences
4. Sustainable Energy and Mobility
5. Sustainable Land-use Planning, Heritage and Housing
6. Biodiversity
7. Climate change and Adaption to Global warming
8. Solidarity within and between generations

⁶ *If the main promoter or co-promoter applicant who is appointed permanently and accesses pension / becomes professor emeritus after the validation deadline fixed for the academic authorities (rectors) and before the end of the funding scheme in case of granting, the submission of the application shall be subject to the prior approval of the Head of institution where the research will be carried out. The main promoter or co-promoter applicant permanently appointed who will access pension / become professor emeritus by the validation deadline fixed for the academic authorities (rectors) is not eligible.*

5. CONTENT OF A PROPOSAL

Applicants will have the choice to write their proposal either in French or in English. For some fields, using English can broaden the number of experts likely to take part in the evaluations.

The F.R.S.-FNRS insists on **strict compliance of the number of pages** allowed for documents that shall be enclosed with the application form and stresses again the sovereign consideration of the Scientific Commissions in case the file would exceed the applicable page limit.

The application file contains the main sections described in the table below.

PRE-FORM		1. (For administrative use only)
FULL FORM	PART 1 : PROJECT AND PROMOTERS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application reference 2. Descriptors of the proposal 3. Bibliometric indicators + Curriculum vitae and Publications List⁷ (PDF files) 4. Scientific proposal & Ethical aspects⁸ (PDF files) 5. Statement of the promoter and co-promoters (if any)
	PART 2 : BUDGET	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Justification of the resources requested 2. Requested budget: Personnel 3. Requested budget: Operating costs, Subcontracting fees, Overhead costs 4. Requested budget: Equipment 5. Statement of the promoter and co-promoters (if any)
	PART 3 : PREVIOUS FUNDING	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Previous funding (requested or granted)

⁷ The promoters who have been working *for 2 years at least* in institutions that have set up an institutional repository (IR) must absolutely submit their publications list in a PDF format, directly created from this repository, and choose the appropriate F.R.S.-FNRS format (F.R.S.-FNRS-BOT decision of 16th December 2011, confirmed in December 2012).

⁸ **Documents regarding “Aspects éthiques/Ethical aspects” must be sent to the F.R.S.-FNRS by 31st October 2016 at the latest:**

- [Code éthique/Ethics code](#) for scientific research in Belgium, other texts regarding the medical ethics
- Questionnaire [Ethique médicale/Medical ethics](#)
- Questionnaire [Animaux d'expérience/Experimental animals](#)

SCIENTIFIC SECTION

PLEASE USE THE TEMPLATE PROVIDED FOR THAT PURPOSE

[PDR-WISD template](#)

1. Brief report on previous works (2 p. max.)
2. Description of the project (4 p. max. + 2 extra pages including graphs and tables)
3. Publications and environment of the main promoter
4. Publications of the co-promoters (if any)
5. Interactions and distribution of the tasks among the main promoter and co-promoters (if any) (1 p. max.)
6. Description and justification of the valorisation potential and/or hypothetical societal impact (1 p. max.)

6. PROCEDURE AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals are submitted to a two-step evaluation procedure: the first step consists in remote evaluations performed by international experts, followed by a second-step consolidation occurring during Scientific Commissions sessions.

There are 2 evaluation criteria:

1. Scientific excellence of the promoter and co-promoters (if any)
2. Scientific excellence of the project (including valorisation potential and/or societal impact from a sustainable development perspective)

Scientific excellence shall be taken into account, along with adequacy with regard to the objectives of the strategic axis. The Scientific Commission shall rank proposals by order of priority after collecting the opinion of at least two frontline experts. Priority ranking shall be submitted to the Board of Trustees of the FRFS and the Management Body of the PAVA. The Board of Trustees of the FRFS shall endorse funding allocation decisions.

7. OPEN ACCESS POLICY

The Board of Trustees of the F.R.S.-FNRS has decided to endorse the principle of Open access to scientific publications financed wholly or partly from the public funding. This support has led to the implementation of an institutional mandate providing Open access to publications from F.R.S.-FNRS funded research projects and researchers under the "Open Access Green Road" business model.

This [mandate](#) specifies the conditions under which the F.R.S.-FNRS grant recipients shall store, when possible, all the funded research results of which they are authors or co-authors in their institution's repository.

Reminder to the research community:

Any scientific publication resulting partially or fully from the funding of the "FRFS WISD" Instrument under Call for projects shall mention the source of the funding as follows: "This work was supported by the Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS under Grant(s) n° [agreement number]". The same procedure applies to open access publications.

DOCUMENTS, GUIDES, AND RULES AND REGULATIONS AVAILABLE AT

<http://www.fnrs.be/index.php/appels-reglements>