

Bordeaux International Support BIS - Euskampus



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Call for projects related to joint initiatives between the University of Bordeaux – University of the Basque Country in the context of Campus Euroregional Bordeaux / Euskampus

Context

A connection between the Basque Country and Aquitaine is being built since 1994. Deep links have been forged between the actors of higher education and research in the two regions, in a process of cross-border cooperation (including The AEN transborder network Aquitaine Euskadi Navarra).

In 2011, the two strategic projects **Euskampus**¹ and **IdEx Bordeaux**² have been labeled as Campus of Excellence respectively in the national frameworks “Campus of International Excellence” in Spain and “Initiatives d’excellence” in France. The partners of Euskampus and IdEx Bordeaux have agreed on a common plan of action in order to contribute to the objective of development of a Euro-regional campus, as a contribution to the strategic priorities of the Euroregion Aquitaine-Euskadi aiming *to develop research and innovation, and to boost training and education*.

As such, the alliance particularly focuses on the emergence of a bi-regional center of academic excellence focused on strengthening the international reputation, and is built on a joint action plan covering training, research, transfer and communication. This plan targets in particular the mobility of university actors (students, teachers, researchers) to bring synergies (including knowledge exchange) and encourage the emergence of projects with high added value.

Expected outcomes are:

- Allowing students to enhance their employability
- Establish a European leadership on the basis of synergies between areas of excellence in research
- Encourage concrete operations and add value to the mutual exchange of culture and knowledge
- Promote the image of a Euro-regional campus of excellence

¹ Euskampus is the brand-name of the Project of Campus of International Excellence led by the UPV/EHU together with Tecnalia Technology Corporation and the Donostia International Physics Center (DIPC)

² (IdEx Bordeaux is the brandname of the “Investissements d’avenir” project between Université de Bordeaux (merging Université Bordeaux 1 Sciences et Technologies (UB1), Université Bordeaux Segalen (UBS), Université Michel de Montaigne Bordeaux 3 (UB3), Université Montesquieu - Bordeaux IV (UB4)), l’Institut Polytechnique de Bordeaux (IPB), Sciences Po Bordeaux, Bordeaux Sciences Agro, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM)

Call for projects

In order to stimulate new collaborations within this framework, or to significantly develop existing ones, Euskampus and IdEx Bordeaux are running a common call for projects open on a continuous base. Proposals can be transmitted using a web based form (see below for details), which are considered on a regular basis (monthly) by a joined piloting committee. Doing so, this is intended to procure a flexible framework in order to promote joint initiatives. Different kind of support to selected projects may be offered,

- Integration of the project to existing programs driven by Euskampus or IdEx Bordeaux (For example, the IdEx campaign for international PhD, UPV/EHU doctoral grants, FidEx international, Poles of knowledge, etc.);
- Engineering support to the project, provided by the operational teams of Euskampus and IdEx Bordeaux; this may include, for example, identification of partners, sources of external funding at the European level, help in the formalization of the project, organization of events, etc.
- Financial contribution for the development of joint action that serves the goals of the collaboration, when involving the following actions:
 1. Networking activity (research, education, exchange of good practice)
 2. First steps for project building (seed money)
 3. Staff exchanges (researchers, teachers, and support staff)
 4. Student group projects aiming at strengthening their creativity and sense of initiative.
 5. Internship for students (short stays, in laboratories or companies)
 6. Any other action that fosters the cross border cooperation involving mobility of people in a limited time frame.

Priorities for 2014

In 2014, the call for projects will focus on the development of action aiming to implement:

- Common European projects
- Projects between research groups
- PhD co-tutelles
- Collaborations at the master level
- Setting up a common training offer in a specific topic
- Collaborations for knowledge transfer
- Best-practices exchange
- Participation in workshops, contests, seminars, etc.

Beneficiaries*

Beneficiaries may be researchers, administrative staff and students of the following institutions:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">- University of Bordeaux- University Bordeaux Montaigne- The Bordeaux Polytechnic Institute (IPB)- Sciences Po Bordeaux (IEP)- Bordeaux Agro Sciences- National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)- National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM)- National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control (INRIA)- Scientific Institute of Agronomic Research (INRA)- Commissioner for Atomic Energy and Alternative Energies (CEA)- Research Institute for Engineering Agriculture and the Environment (IRSTEA)- French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (IFREMER)- Optical Science Institute - Graduate School Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes (School of Higher Studies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- University of the Basque Country / Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea- Tecnalia Corporación Tecnológica- Donostia International Physics Center (DIPC)
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** Others actors of higher education and research in Aquitaine can also be involved, according to the projects, this participation is subject to previous consultation of the governing board.*

Submission of applications

Applications (preferably in English, alternatively in French, and Spanish or Basque) will be sent via an online form on the following website :

For each application, applicants should indicate the beneficiaries of the action (CV of the people involved), the objective of the action, expected results. When a request of funding is involved, a full budget must be detailed, including potential additional source of external funding.

Timeschedule

Applications may be sent continuously. They will be examined on a fixed date each month according to the following schedule:

	jan-14	feb-14	Mar-14	apr-14	may-14	june-14	juil-14
Launch of the call							
Deadline	13/01/14	13/02/14	13/03/14	13/04/14	13/05/14	13/06/14	13/07/14
Commission	20/01/14	20/02/14	20/03/14	20/04/14	20/05/14	20/06/14	20/07/14
Notification	27/01/14	27/02/14	27/03/14	28/04/14	27/05/14	27/06/14	25/07/14

Examination criteria

Examination of demands will involve the following questions:

- Are the presented actions eligible for another funding framework in IdEx and Euskampus, or in the supporting institutions If yes, applicants will be directed and accompanied to this alternative source.
- Is it a new cooperation between partners in the two regions that have never worked together?
- Is there an existing cooperation between partners from both regions on a new project?
- Does it match the Euroregional Campus priorities?
- What is the added value of the action for the beneficiaries?
- What are the considered achievements?
- How many people are involved?
- Is the budget in accordance with the objectives of the action?

These dimensions will be assessed by a technical committee composed of members or Euskampus and IdEx team, under the surveillance of their respective governing boards. When needed, any external expert may be solicited to assess the impact of the proposed project: each of them will be required to fill-in a non-disclosure agreement regarding any information they have through this examination process.

Publication

Applicants are informed that the list of projects selected for direct or indirect funding through this open call, and from a general point of view through Euskampus or IdEx Bordeaux programs, will be published on the respective websites, as well as on the common web portal EHUBAq³. These projects will also be required to mention the support in their communications, and to comply with any demand related to the follow-up of actions, including regular statement of expenses.

³ EHUBAq is the acronym for Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea / Université de Bordeaux – Aquitaine that is being used as domain for the web site of the Euroregional Campus.