



Grand Programme Fédérateur Vaccinologie

**A SECOND CALL FOR PROJECTS
FOCUSED ON:**

**ACCELERATING PRECLINICAL DEVELOPMENT
OF VACCINE CANDIDATES**

GUIDELINES

INTRODUCTION/ REMINDER

The Vaccinology program is one of the three large-scale, horizontal GPF programs that are implemented by the Institut Pasteur. Basically, the GPFs support the development of relevant collaborative projects, the organization of internal and international symposia, and contribute to recruitment strategies based on inter-departmental interactions.

The Grand Projet Fédérateur (GPF) Vaccinologie aims to organize, develop and support research in vaccinology at Institut Pasteur, a strong research tradition and a strategic topic for our institute. Last year, a first call was launched for innovative projects in vaccinology. This year, the GPF Vaccinologie aims at identifying on-going preclinical projects in vaccinology in the Institut Pasteur, including the International Network. The objective is to help these projects to move forward into clinical phases. Some projects will receive a financial support from the Institute, other projects might be proposed for industrial partnerships. Thus, the GPF vaccinology will ensure to all PIs involved in vaccinology programs the best possible environment for the development of their projects.

AIMS OF THE 2015 CALL

The main objective is to promote the emergence of new vaccine candidates at Institut Pasteur by supporting the preclinical phase of their development. By “preclinical phase ” it is meant 1) studies necessary to make the proof of concept *in vitro* and/or *in vivo* of the immunogenicity and efficacy of a candidate vaccine and 2) initiation of further regulatory development required to move forward vaccine projects into clinical phase.



Besides financial support, the call aims at providing the selected projects with expertise and advices about the main key steps of preclinical studies. Thus, access to technology platforms (antigen production, delivery systems, adjuvants, animal models, immunomonitoring, process development) will be facilitated in collaboration with various partners (such as EVI, PIRC, CRT, BIOASTER, ...) to ensure the success of further development of the selected vaccine candidates. Indeed, by promoting the achievement of preclinical proof-of-concept and by identifying industrial-biotech partner(s) and funding agencies, the ultimate goal is to accelerate the transfer of a few selected vaccine candidates to phase I clinical trials. Note that financial support for clinical trials is out of the scope of the present call.

The GPF Vaccinologie will support projects either by bringing financial support (up to 250 k€ in total costs over two years, including salaries, consumables and/or equipment), by contributing to the identification of specific funding bodies (in France or abroad) or by providing industrial expertise (counseling and/or partnership).

A dedicated committee whose members will be named jointly by the GPF managing committee and the PI of the project will follow every three months the progress of the selected projects.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

The projects may be coordinated by permanent and non-permanent members of the Institut Pasteur Paris, or by members of the International Pasteur Network. Projects can include collaborators (academic or industrial) outside of the Institut Pasteur Paris or the IP International Network but the budget will not cover their expenses.

CONTENT AND FORM OF SUBMISSION

Applications should include:

- Title and acronym of project
- Name, unit and phone number of the coordinator
- Summary (less than 200 words)
- Name of participating teams and institutions
- Major publications in the field
- Project (max 10 pages)

The project description should include:

- Short introduction/ Targeted disease, targeted population, scientific rationale
- Presentation of the proposed vaccine candidate and its justification in comparison to what is currently developed (national and international competition)
- Previous results with references and/or patents
- Development plan of the vaccine candidate
- Detailed project description organized in work packages, with the contribution of each team described, if applicable, and a timeline with GO/NO GO decision points and deliverables.
- Ongoing academic and industry collaborations
- Requested expertise (academic and /or industrial)



- Detailed budget (by work package)
- Bibliography

SUBMISSION DATES AND TIMES

- Posted date: **July 1, 2015**
- Submission deadline: **September 30, 2015**
- Results of evaluation: **November 30, 2015**
- Start of funding/expert support: **January 1, 2016**
- Applications must be sent to gpf-vaccino@pasteur.fr

The project will be evaluated for the interest and relevance of the proposed vaccine candidate and for scientific and technical excellence through peer review. Novelty as compared to existing and potential for patenting will also be evaluated.

Each project will be evaluated by at least **two experts in the field**. The selection committee, which will include the GPF Vaccinology Steering Committee and *ad hoc* experts, will make the final recommendation and take the final decision regarding the type of support needed.

REPORTING

Meetings will be organized every three months to monitor the progress of the project.

After one year, a progress report will be sent (gpf-vaccino@pasteur.fr). The Steering Committee will decide on the continuation of the support, being financial or through expert counseling. At the end of the two years, any extension of the support will depend on the evaluation of achievements based on the final report.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Grant management contact: Christiane Gerke, Head of Vaccine programs and Mallory Perrin-Wolf, Head of Incentive programs and partnerships (mallory.perrin-wolff@pasteur.fr)
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