

Call for research projects TIERED

As part of TIERED¹, a call for scientific proposals for the year 2025, in partnership with IFREMER, INRIA and INSERM, has been launched to provide financial support for specific and innovative interdisciplinary research projects. These proposals can cover a period of two and a half years (mid-2025 to the end of 2027) and cannot exceed a total budget of 45,000 euros.

The proposals will be assessed by an international jury, the *Scientific Advisory Board (SAB)*, whose evaluations will be shared with the Scientific Boards of the [Institute for Environmental Transformations](#) and the [Open Institute for Digital Transformations](#) depending on the theme proposed, which will decide on the winning projects.

1. Aims and evaluation:

These resources are intended to fund fundamental research activities as such.

A fundamental research project is defined as a project carried out jointly by one or more members of the permanent faculty of Sciences Po and at least one member of one of the partners (IFREMER, INRIA and INSERM), focusing on an innovative research question or a new approach (known as 'breakthrough' research) between the humanities and social sciences and disciplines of other research sectors. Cooperation with external partners is possible, but they must find their own funding.

1. The scientific proposal must present the research project, the methodologies implemented to carry it out and the expected contribution to the state of knowledge.
2. Project leaders are expected to show how their research will be a major scientific innovation, an asset for the visibility of research at Sciences Po, and IFREMER and/or INRIA and/or INSERM, likely to make the institutions even more visible on an international scale and present the complementarity and added value of their collaboration.
3. The scientific proposal must clearly mention the research activities (transcriptions, missions, surveys, etc.) to be funded under this call for applications.
4. Requests for funding for the purchase of research tools (such as softwares) or for the participation in conferences will only be considered if they clearly contribute to carrying out the research.
5. The proposal may mention as an objective the preparation of a response to a larger European or national call. However, the submitted project must be self-sufficient and result in a scientific contribution (publication, etc.).

The evaluation will focus on:

- the innovative nature and scientific excellence of the proposed project, as well as its place in well-identified theoretical perspectives;
- the project's interdisciplinary nature;
- the quality of the teams involved, their complementarity and the added value of their collaboration;
- the feasibility and relevance of the planned activities and in particular the description of the methodological approaches.

Projects must be interdisciplinary and focus on environmental and/or digital transformations.

2. Project eligibility conditions

The eligibility criteria for selected projects are as follows:

- only permanent members of the faculty can be project leaders;
- projects must be led by a Sciences Po researcher or teacher-researcher and involve a team from one or several of the partners, or be co-led by researchers or teachers-researchers from Sciences Po and one or several of the partners;
- project leader(s) must use the attached form to facilitate the work of evaluators and send a CV of no more than three pages;

¹ The 'Transforming Interdisciplinary Education and Research for Evolving Democracies' (TIERED) project won the ExcellenceS call under the 4th Future Investment Programme. Along with its partners (CNRS, INRIA, INED, INSERM, IFREMER, INALCO, Université Paris Cité and IDDRI), Sciences Po has been awarded state funding under the France 2030 programme managed by the French National Research Agency (ANR-22-EXES-0014).

- the full proposal must not exceed 7 pages, including bibliography, and must be written in English: no appendices will be sent to the evaluators;
- as the proposals submitted are intended to receive funding to start up or carry out new and original research, they may not relate to projects already funded by other internal calls for proposal;
- only projects received before the application deadline indicated in the call will be taken into consideration in order to allow the evaluations to run smoothly;
- all projects must be sent to projet.tiered@sciencespo.fr, even if other people may be copied on the email; for any questions, please contact projet.tiered@sciencespo.fr;
- the budget must outline the project costs per partner. Expenditures are eligible until December 31, 2027.

3. Conditions of allocation

The evaluators meeting within the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) of Sciences Po will review all the proposals and will send a written evaluation of the proposals for which they are rapporteurs to the Scientific Boards of the Institutes, which will select the winning projects.

A written evaluation will be sent to the project leader(s) when the decision is notified.

The funds awarded will be entrusted to the management of one of Sciences Po's research units (the research unit of the main project leader). All funding must be used by 31/12/2027, with no possibility of carry-over.

Successful applicants must submit an activity report at the end of the funding, by January 2028 at the latest. They may be invited to present their work during scientific days organised within the TIERED framework.

4. Calendar

December 19, 2025	Publication of the call for proposals
February 21, 2025	Deadline for sending proposals
End of April/ May 2025	Evaluation of proposals by the SAB
End of spring 2025	Notification of assessments and resources awarded

5. List of SAB members and of Scientific Boards of the Institutes

The Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) is made up of 8 external academics who are invited to review the proposals received.

The Scientific Boards of the Institutes are made up of:

- five members of the Sciences Po permanent faculty (with a representation of Sciences Po's fundamental disciplines), including at least one CNRS member,
- three representatives of the partners of the TIERED project.

The list of members can be found on the websites of the [Institute for Environmental Transformations](#) and the [Open Institute for Digital Transformations](#).