

PASTEUR JOINT INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH UNIT (PIU)

To implement their scientific strategy, create new scientific synergies and boost the existing ones, the Pasteur Network in association with the Institut Pasteur support the creation of Pasteur Joint International Research Units (PIU).

A PIU is scheduled over 5 years and aims at strengthening the relations between up to three international research institution(s) on innovative research topics. Such partnerships should improve the visibility of the research groups involved and, consequently, their possibilities to apply for substantial grants.

This PIU 2023 international call for applications will support the creation or the renewal of **PIUs**. Co-applicants, should be supported by their host institution.

WHAT IS A PIU?

A Pasteur International Joint Research Unit (PIU) is a “Virtual Unit” created for 5 years and brings together research teams belonging to up to three international research institute or university whereof at least one belongs to the [Pasteur Network](#).

The PIU candidates should pool their complementary skills and expertise to develop an innovative research programme, enabling them to work together to raise additional funds in order to strengthen the links between partner institutions and offer new opportunities of collaborations.

A PIU is co-hosted by all its partners Institutions. Each partner team remains fully affiliated to their mother-institution and will jointly assume the scientific responsibility of the PIU through a group leader identified in the team, named coordinator. Each PIU partner is financed by its own institution with annual funding of 15K€.

A standardized agreement will frame the implementation of each PIU.

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Eligibility

Any team/unit/laboratory from universities and research institutes, as well as those within the Pasteur Network are included.

It is expected that the mandate of the coordinators will cover the entire lifespan of the projected PIU.

Each application must be supported by the director or scientific director of each partner institution who will engage their institute to co-fund the PIU, in the event of selection. For the three IP affiliated institutes (IP Guyane, IP Guadeloupe and IP Nouvelle-Calédonie), additional support from their director will also be needed, in addition to the support of the director or scientific director of the Institut Pasteur.

An application between IP and the three IP affiliated institutes is not eligible, since they are part of the same legal entity. Such a proposal can only be taken into consideration if a third party is involved.

Only coordinators of a PIU in its fourth year or more can apply for the renewal of the structure. A full project must be submitted as described above in “Selection process”.

Eligible costs:

The PIU budget can be used to cover mobilities between the partners, scientific communications, consumables, technical services and small equipment (max. 2000 €). Management costs are not eligible

Selection criteria

The applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Quality and scientific impact of the project
 - *relevance for the partner institutions*
 - *scientific impact of the general objective and relevance to the regional and global health priorities*
 - *Quality of the scientific plan*
 - *Clear and reachable outcomes*
 - *Technology transfer, exchange between partners*
- Sustainability
 - Is the proposed project sustainable to attract new funds?*
 - Will the PIU promote cooperation with local, regional and international teaching and research institutions?*
- Support of the directors of the partner institutes (IP included);
 - Is the project considered as a priority for each partner institution?*
- Adequacy/Complementarity of the teams

The applications for a renewal will be also evaluated on the success already encountered to strengthen synergies between the partners and create collaborations. Moreover, the PIU coordinators will have to argue the added value of the PIU and how an additional 5 years will be beneficial.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS – APPLICATION FORM

Applications must be written in English and submitted online (<https://calls.pasteur-network.org>). Incomplete or paper applications will not be considered.

Deadline for submission: March 31st, 2023.

When deemed necessary, the Institut Pasteur reserves the right to ask candidates for additional information in order to evaluate their application.

Candidates must not submit information within their application that is confidential and/or protected by the intellectual property rights of third parties, and may contravene any rights of third parties.

SELECTION PROCESS

The Pasteur Network with the Institut Pasteur is responsible of the PIU selection process.

Each application will be reviewed by a dedicated expert panel. The final decision on selection (and financing of the IP parties) will be made by ranking of the received applications during the panel meeting and validated by the executive management of the Pasteur Network. Institut Pasteur will take part of the validation for selected proposal involving it as partner.

Candidates will be notified in due course.

FOLLOW UP PROCESS

The Pasteur Network with the Institut Pasteur is responsible of the PIU follow-up process.

Progress of the research activities conducted by the PIU-partners as well as their capacity to strengthen their collaboration and drain funds will be evaluated by the Pasteur Network and the expert panel at regular intervals:

- A short update at year 1, 2.
- A detailed full report (scientific and financial) at year 3.
- A final full report at year 5.

Thorough review on the activity of the PIU at year 3 by the expert panel will give feedback to the coordinators of the PIU and the corresponding directors of the partner institutes, on the progress. The assessment will provide recommendations on whether or not the PIU should be continued until the term.

If a coordinator changes during the lifespan of the PIU, the project should be reassessed by an ad hoc evaluation conducted by the Pasteur Network.