Faced with the health crisis linked to Covid-19, of an unprecedented scale, the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region quickly mobilized to support all the actors of the regional players affected by the crisis. However, as this is a global crisis, it also requires solutions at the international level. Thus, the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region wished to encourage cooperation with its main international partners in order to set up common responses to the crisis, at cross-border, European or Mediterranean level.

To this end, the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region has dedicated the 4th edition of the "Mediterranean of the Future" event to the theme of health and the fight against pandemics, under the title "1720-2020: From the plague to Covid-19, 300 years of resistance to pandemics in the Mediterranean". This 4th edition, held on December 1, 2020 in Marseille and organized in partnership with the Institut Hospitalo-Universitaire Méditerranée Infection, was a great success and gathered, mainly in virtual format, more than 10,000 participants.

It brought together high-level personalities from the world of politics, academia and civil society who exchanged ideas on the Mediterranean region's experience of resistance to major pandemics. Due to the importance of trade and the movement of people and goods throughout its history, the Mediterranean area has always been particularly exposed to major epidemics and has therefore been a privileged place for reflection and experimentation on the actions to be implemented to face them.

After this time of reflection and exchange, the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region wishes to promote the concrete implementation of the proposals and avenues of work raised during this meeting.
Thus, after the success of the calls for projects organized at the end of the previous editions of The Mediterranean of the Future (calls for projects CLIMAAT, PRIJIM and 3E in 2018, 2019 and 2020), the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur Region is launching a new call for projects in order to support international cooperation projects providing answers to the challenges raised by the current health crisis.

This call for projects aims to bring out projects on the resilience of healthcare systems and the protection of populations in order to deal with health crises, such as covid-19. In addition, to the extent that the current health crisis must lead to a more global reflection on our development models, it will also support projects aimed at improving health in the face of environmental and climate challenges, in line with the regional strategy for Euro-Mediterranean cooperation which places the fight against climate change at the heart of its action, and more generally with the Climate Plan of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur Region "Une Cop d’avance", adopted in 2017, whose axis 5 focuses on well-being and health. The current health crisis teaches us that we must act on all of our ecosystems and take better account of the health impact of environmental factors.

The projects must be carried out in the cooperation territories of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur Region and be led by regional operators.

**Objective**

The projects must meet one or more of the following specific objectives:

1. **Strengthen technical and scientific cooperation to improve the resilience of healthcare systems to the Covid-19 crisis and future risks**
   
   1.1. Develop a network for health monitoring and epidemiological surveillance (constitution of multi-partner networks bringing together research and care centres, setting up epidemiological surveillance observatories, etc.).

   1.2. Strengthen cooperation in epidemiological research (knowledge sharing, exchange and sequencing of strains, etc.)

   1.3. Strengthen the diagnostic and prevention capacities of health systems in the face of health crises (transfer of skills, strengthening of screening strategies, etc.)

   1.4. Improving the management and quality of care systems (provision of expertise on the care path and management, structuring of a network of care centers, etc.)
1.5. To better preserve the heritage of biological resources and data (prefiguration of biobank, collection of strains...)

2. **Protect human health from climate and environmental risks**

   2.1. Strengthen the knowledge and awareness of local populations and actors on the impact of environmental factors on human health (air, water, waste, emerging risks and climate change, food, housing, urban planning, etc.)

   2.2. Develop technical and scientific cooperation in the field of environmental health (analysis of environmental risks, health impact of environmental and climate factors, new infectious risks, etc.)

   2.3. Contribute to the improvement of air quality and the prevention of health risks related to air pollution (reduction of pollutant emissions, information and awareness-raising on population exposures)

   2.4. Develop cooperation on health issues related to food quality (balanced diet, production and storage conditions...).

**Eligible countries**

The call for projects is not intended to support projects whose dimension is solely regional. Projects must necessarily include an international dimension with one or more of the following countries, with which the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur Region maintains decentralized cooperation relations or plans to develop them: Algeria, Armenia, China, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Egypt, Germany, Spain, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Morocco, Slovakia, Palestinian Territories, Tunisia.

At equivalent quality, **preference will be given to projects involving within the above-mentioned countries the territories with which the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur Region cooperates or wishes to cooperate.** These are: Governorate of Alexandria (Egypt), Governorate of Hebron (Palestinian Territories), Governorate of Tunis and Governorate of Kasserine (Tunisia), Haifa City Hall and Tel Aviv City Hall (Israel), Province of Guang Dong (China), Prefecture of Kanagawa (Japan), Tuscany Region (Italy), Region Of Catalonia (Spain), State of Bavaria (Germany), Lori Region (Armenia), Region of Prešov (Slovakia), Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima Region (Morocco), Republic of Costa Rica, Republic of Djibouti, Union of Municipalities of Tyre and Union of Municipalities of Jezzine (Lebanon), Wilaya of Algiers and Wilaya of Oran (Algeria).
The projects submitted may concern both bilateral (between two territories) and multilateral (between several territories) actions.

**Eligible project leaders**

This call for projects is intended for:

- Local authorities
- Associations/NGOs
- Public or semi-public establishments/organisations
- Universities, research centres
- Health facilities, care centres
- Educational/training institutions
- Companies

*(Non-exhaustive list)*

**Project leaders must have their head office and/or administrative offices in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region.** Project leaders whose head office and/or administrative offices are not located in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region will have to prove that they regularly develop part of their activity on the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur regional territory, through representation at regional level.

**Dedicated budget envelope**

The total amount of the envelope dedicated to this call for projects is €250,000.

**Modalities of participation**

The regional grants scheme for specific operating actions applies to this call for projects. It is set out in the financial regulation of the Regional Council adopted on December 17, 2020, annex to deliberation No. 20-728, available online:

The amount of the regional grant voted may not have the effect of increasing the total public aid to more than 80% of the the subsidisable amount. If the public subsidies exceed this 80% threshold, the beneficiary will have to reimburse the overpayment.

The final amount of the grant will be calculated in proportion to the amount of justified and retained expenses, in relation to the amount eligible for subsidy and within the limit of the voted grant.

For private law bodies, if the threshold of €23,000 for regional subsidies is reached within one year, the community will have to sign an agreement with the private law body that benefits from it.

In the case of recourse to external partners by the beneficiary/project leader (see Article L. 1611-4 of the CGCT), the Region authorizes the beneficiary/project leader to transfer part of the grant allocated to external partners to carry out the mission and for a given estimated amount. To this end, an agreement signed by the beneficiary/project leader and the partners concerned must be provided when submitting the application file for the call for projects. This agreement must specify the nature of the action concerned by the repayment and the precise amount of the sum to be repaid.

The following expenses are not eligible and will therefore not be taken into account in the calculation of the grantable amount:

- financial charges (account 66),
- exceptional charges (account 67),
- depreciation and provisions (account 68),
- the use of voluntary contributions inkind,
- capital expenditure.

In the field of mobility and volunteering, allowances and expenses already financed by the State and/or institutional mobility bodies will be excluded.

The project leader benefiting from a grant for a specific operating action has two years from the date of the grant to carry out the subsidized action and submit the supporting documents, the postmark or the deposit receipt issued by the regional services as proof.

The grant, when awarded, is paid to the beneficiary in accordance with the Financial Regulation of the Region, i.e. an advance of 50% at the start of the project, any advances at the request of the beneficiary and the balance on presentation of the balance sheet of the action (technical and financial).
Expenses are eligible on the date of submission of the application file to the Region.

**Duration of projects**

Projects may be implemented over a maximum period of two years from the vote on the regional grant.

**Procedures for submission, documents to be attached and presentation of application files**

The submission of application files is done in a dematerialized way from the website of the Region: [https://subventionsenligne.maregionsud.fr](https://subventionsenligne.maregionsud.fr)

No paper applications will be accepted.

From the digital platform for submitting applications, project leaders will be required to submit the administrative documents requested by the institution for any grant application. The list of documents is annexed to the Financial Regulation of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region SUD ([https://www.maregionsud.fr/fileadmin/user_upload/Annuaires/Aides/Subventions-page/Reglement_financier_vote_17-12-2020.pdf](https://www.maregionsud.fr/fileadmin/user_upload/Annuaires/Aides/Subventions-page/Reglement_financier_vote_17-12-2020.pdf)).

Each project leader must attach to the application file an additional technical document describing the project by developing the following 10 points, in a minimum of 4 pages:

1. Consistency of the project with the general objective and with one or two of the sub-objectives mentioned in the rules of the call for projects
2. Geographical areas concerned
3. Detailed presentation of the project and each of the activities
4. Partnership
5. Target audience(s)
6. Evaluation criteria, indicators, expected results
7. Project implementation schedule
8. Impact on the regional territory
9. Sustainability of the project and actions

10. Communication strategy, visibility

The project leader is invited to clearly explain the points of the call for projects to which his proposal aims to respond. The presentation of a logical framework within this technical piece will be appreciated.

Each project leader is asked to the title of the project for which the application is submitted with the mention "Resilient and sustainable health in the face of crises - CopSanté".

Incomplete applications will be declared inadmissible. The inadmissibility will be notified in writing to the applicant.

This regulation will be posted on the website of the region https://www.maregionsud.fr/ and may be transmitted on request on the date of entry into force of the regional deliberation.

Project leaders must reference themselves in the mapping of Territoires Solidaires, the network of actors of cooperation and international solidarity in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur: www.territoires-solidaires.com under the heading "Annuaire du réseau" (Network Directory).

Calendar

Opening date of the call for projects: 17 May 2021.

Closing date of the call for projects: 30 July 2021 at midnight.

Any file filed after the deadline will be rejected.

The Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region reserves the right to extend the application period. In case of extension of the call for projects, we invite you to refer to the website of the Region at the address: www.maregionsud.fr.

The selection of the winning projects will be the subject of a vote by the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Regional Council in the second half of 2021.

Evaluation and adoption procedure
Applications will be examined and evaluated by the Decentralized Cooperation Service.

The final adoption and subsidies will be voted by the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Regional Council.

Evaluation criteria

In particular, projects will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- Consistency with the general objective of the call for projects and one or more of its sub-objectives (20%)
- Eligibility of shares (20%)
- Operationality of the actions carried out (impact on cooperation territories) (20%)
- Quality of the regional and Mediterranean partnership (20%)
- Implementation of an evaluation of expected results (10%)
- Visibility, communication and media dissemination (10%)

Communication and monitoring of projects

In case of dissemination of information and communication documents intended for the public concerning the project subsidised by the Region, the beneficiary must state the regional aid by any means authorised by the Institution, such as the affixing of the regional logo.

Each project selected must result in a communication involving the Region.

A restitution of the results of the projects can be programmed with the Region.

The winners of the call will have to regularly inform the Region of the progress of their projects. As far as possible, the Region will be involved in the steering committees of the various selected projects.

Contact

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