



CESAB
CENTRE DE SYNTHÈSE ET D'ANALYSE
SUR LA BIODIVERSITÉ



France-Brazil Joint synthesis call

BIODIVERSITY IN THE NEOTROPICAL REALM

Contacts

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CENTRO DE SÍNTESE EM
BIODIVERSIDADE E
SERVIÇOS ECOSISTÊMICOS



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FAPESP

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CESAB and **SinBioSE** are instruments of the French FRB (Foundation for Research on Biodiversity) and Brazilian CNPq (Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico). These two centers support groups of researchers for a better use of existing data, information and knowledge to promote synthetic thinking in biodiversity research.

In 2021, in association with the **FAPESP** (Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo) and **Labex CEBA** (Center for the study of biodiversity in Amazonia), they propose a **joint call to fund two synthesis groups** to work over three years on synthesis science on the biodiversity in the Neotropical realm. The groups will share their meetings between Brazil and France.

Objective of the call

The present call for projects is designed to support research synthesis projects relating to **biodiversity topics in the Neotropical realm** in the fields of natural sciences and/or human and social sciences. It will be restricted to terrestrial biomes only (i.e., excluding marine biology) and to tropical South America, Central America and/or Caribbean Islands.

Funding will be provided to two innovative projects aiming to develop synthesis of ideas and concepts and/or the analysis of existing data. Collaborative working groups are expected to bring together members who will share scientific expertise, available data and modelling tools to approach a wide range of biodiversity questions at different spatial and temporal levels.

Examples of research topics include:

- the state and dynamics of biodiversity,
- the relationship between biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and services,
- the relationship between biodiversity and anthropogenic pressures,
- the role of evolutionary processes in biodiversity dynamics,
- socio-ecosystems and access to biological resources, law and governance of biodiversity uses, biodiversity conservation,
- the relationship between biodiversity and human health, etc...

Examples of synthesis groups funded by the CESAB and SinBioSE can be found here:

<https://www.fondationbiodiversite.fr/en/the-frb-in-action/programs-and-projects/le-cesab/>

<http://www.sinbiose.cnpq.br/web/sinbiose/projetos-e-resultados>

Working group composition

Successful groups consist of people with excellent expertise but also with dedication and time to participate in the meetings and contribute to the group goals. Early results during the limited timeframe of a meeting typically boosts the intellectual progress.

The working groups must be largely international, well-balanced in terms of gender, career stage, expertise diversity, and country of origin (including some Brazilian and French members as well as researchers from other countries).

Each working group must:

- be led by **two principal investigators (PIs)**: one associated with a French research institute and another one with a laboratory within the state of Sao Paulo, Brazil.
- be made of **10 members**¹ (including the PIs and the postdoc² to be recruited – see below).
- **include at least one member**, not necessarily the PIs, **from a laboratory affiliated with the Labex CEBA** (list of CEBA research units can be found here <http://www.labex-ceba.fr/en/teams/>; list of CEBA researchers can be found here <http://www.labex-ceba.fr/en/directory/>).

Each group will have the opportunity to recruit a **24-month postdoctoral fellow**, funded by the CNPq. The recruitment will be made by the PIs after the project has been selected. The postdoctoral fellow will act as a catalyst for the working group. He or she will be fully involved in the dynamics of the project and be a driving force behind the group's research. He or she will be hosted in a Brazilian research organization.

Working group outcome

Outcomes are expected to be multi-author high-quality and ideally high-impact scientific publications and outreach products. Existing and new concepts, approaches to data exploration, modelling and synthesis (including conceptual synthesis) can be discussed and developed with a strong and direct link to existing approaches and fostering biodiversity science.

Particular attention will be paid to dissemination. In particular, the following are expected: scientific publications as well as other forms of knowledge dissemination to scientists, managers and users, construction of public databases, development of open access analysis and modelling tools, websites, organization of international workshops, training courses and presentations at major international conferences or official events.

Data management policy

The funded groups will adhere to the principles of open science. The datasets produced/assembled by the projects funded must be made public and accessible to the widest possible scientific community. To achieve this objective, we expect that:

- the datasets synthesized during the research project are described in a relevant way (using international standards), are made publicly available within a reasonable amount of time (subject to confidentiality constraints for data on individuals and organizations)
- the raw data used to generate any scientific output are well documented;
- the intellectual property rights of all data owners are respected when their data are used in the working group;
- Creative Commons BY 4.0 standards are applied as far as possible to all deposited data.

¹ The group composition can possibly change during the course of the project and additional members can join during meetings on their own fundings.

² The postdoctoral fellow do not need to be mentioned in the working group composition section when the proposal will be submitted.

Financial support

The financial support includes for each group:

- **Meeting costs of four (4) workshops of five (5) days each** (two at CESAB in Montpellier in France and two in the state of São Paulo in Brazil) for a **maximum of ten (10) members** (including the postdoc to be recruited), in accordance with FAPESP, LabEX CEBA and FRB-CESAB respective financing terms and conditions.
The groups are also expected to organize at least **one-week virtual meeting** and regular short virtual meetings all along the project.
- **The recruitment of a postdoctoral fellow for 24 months**, located in the laboratory of one the Brazilian members;
- **Publication costs** up to € 5000;
- Technical and administrative support;
- Zoom channel and admin support for the organization of the one-week virtual meeting.

Direct financial support for the operation of the project cannot exceed three (3) years.

Any change in the list of participants, calendar, etc. must be approved by CESAB and SinBioSe.

Selection criteria

Projects will be selected by the call selection board according to the following criteria:

- (i) scientific excellence and innovative nature
- (ii) relevance to the objective of the call
- (iii) composition and quality of the working group (i.e., the level of expertise in relation to the topic addressed)
- (iv) feasibility of the work program
- (v) dissemination of knowledge and data

Applicants will be able to submit a full proposal only if they are invited to, after a positively reviewed pre-proposal. Decisions will be made within two months following the pre-proposal submission.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring will be done by CESAB and SinBioSe on a regular basis during the project.

CESAB and SinBioSe will be responsible for analysis of the mid (18 month) and final-term (36 months) reports from the selected groups. Approval of mid-term report is necessary for continuity of funding. CESAB and SinBioSe will also analyze eventual changes in the work program (list of participants, calendar, etc.).



Schedule

30 July, 2021 at 12:00 CEST: Deadline for submission of pre-proposals

The pre-proposal form, provided upon registration on [the webpage of the call](#), must be written in English and submitted by e-mail to cesab@fondationbiodiversite.fr in a single pdf document.

30 September, 2021: Pre-selection

The final proposal form will be provided only to the PIs whose project has been pre-selected.

10 December, 2021 at 18:00 CET: Deadline for submission of full-proposals.

The final selection will be announced **mid-March 2022**; beginning of the projects in **autumn 2022**.

Contacts

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Contact SinBiose:

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Contact FAPESP:

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Contact CEBA:

<http://www.labex-ceba.fr/en/>