

Call for research projects (Seed funding) for year 2023

Context

The Interdisciplinary Centre for Mountain Research (CIRM) is a pilot project of the University of Lausanne for a period of 8 years (2018-2026). It aims to reinforce knowledge on the specific issues of mountain regions (climate change, economic vulnerability, regional planning, for example) by addressing them through different methodological approaches supported by both the natural sciences or the human and social sciences, as well as health sciences. It achieves these objectives by supporting interdisciplinary research projects, conducting thematic syntheses and organizing scientific events.

The CIRM focuses on [nine main research](#) topics and the activities are carried primarily on the Vaud Alps and Valais Alps, as well as the Jura Mountains, including the plain regions linked to them (Rhône River plain).

Call for Research Proposals

To encourage the start-up of new interdisciplinary projects, the CIRM is offering funds (*seed-funding*). Limited to max. CHF 15 000.- to 20,000.- per project, these funds must be used as a priority for the start-up of *interdisciplinary* projects (networking in particular), carried out as a priority in the two study regions. Projects funded should, as far as possible, lead to a more ambitious research project, funded externally. The funds requested may be supplemented by other sources of funding. Three types of projects are funded:

- 1) fundamental research projects,
- 2) applied research projects,
- 3) projects that promote research results.

This year, preference will be given to projects that include researchers from the human and social sciences and natural sciences or health sciences ("strong" interdisciplinarity), that integrate scientists and actors from the territories, in particular Jura Range (transdisciplinarity) or that are proposed in collaboration with international partners.

Projects will be evaluated by the CIRM Board, based on the following criteria:

- 1) scientific interest (in relation to the Centre's priority themes);
- 2) interest for the study regions;
- 3) interdisciplinary nature.

Rules

- 1) Projects are open to [CIRM members](#) (according to the list at the time of the call). The project is submitted by a respondent, who is one of the UNIL members of CIRM. Other UNIL researchers or other institutions, as well as [partners of CIRM](#) can be part of the research group.
- 2) Proposals (written in French or English) must be submitted as **a single pdf file** to Christelle Monnet, secretary of CIRM (christelle.monnet@unil.ch) **until 31st January 2023**. The file will include:
 - the attached administrative form duly completed;
 - a description of the project (**max. 6 pages**, according to the attached form) including the title, scientific objectives, organisation of the research, expected results and a paragraph describing the modalities of the interdisciplinary research (explaining why the project can be considered as interdisciplinary);
 - the composition of the research team;
 - a curriculum vitae of the project leader (max. 2 pages);
 - any supporting documents.
- 3) The funds can be committed from 1st March 2023 and should be used in 2023. They can concern both salaries and research costs (equipment, travel, seminars, etc.). A scientific report must be submitted no later than 3 months after the end of the project.
- 4) Funding recipients commit to participate in deux half-day interdisciplinary workshops, bringing together members of the different projects. These workshops aim at an exchange on the practice of interdisciplinary research.

More information:

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