



Call for proposals

INCENTIVE ACTION in Rare Diseases – 2026

To promote new collaborative projects within Marseille rare disease community, the MarMaRa institute offers a call entitled **“Incentive Action grant in Rare Diseases”**. The aim of this call is to support new innovative and high-quality projects based on the collaboration of researchers included:

- at least **two teams from different research units of the institute. Or,**
- at least **one team of the institute and an external team** (at national, European or international level), then **only half of the grant will be attributed to the MarMaRa affiliated team.**

The research project must be innovative and not be a continuation of an ongoing collaborative project. Preliminary data will be a plus, but not compulsory. Priority will be given to projects relying on complementary expertise.

Each project will be granted up to **30,000 € and for a maximum duration of 12 months**. Please note that the partner in charge of the financial management must belong to a laboratory which has a financial manager certified for AMU funding administration. If the project includes an external team, the AMU's team must be project leader and in charge of the financial management.

General eligibility criteria and evaluation rules:

- A team can apply a **maximum of two times to the same call** and the team leader will be asked to rank the applications.
- For TAGC members (laboratory not operating in teams) only four applications for the whole laboratory are accepted for each call session.
- In case of two applications from the same team for the same call, the applications ranked second will be evaluated by the scientific committee according to the budget available.
- Masters' internships and PhD students must only be funded by the dedicated calls (“Master”; “End of thesis”).

Specific eligibility criteria:

- **All researchers from MarMaRa are eligible:** researchers (CR, MCU, DR, PU) and engineers (AI, IE, IR). Applications from junior researchers are highly encouraged. International collaborations, particularly with Mediterranean partners are recommended.
- **A team cannot apply for more than two research projects** and is limited to once as project leader and once as project partner.

- To be eligible a significant proportion of the team members (students, non-permanent, permanent staff) must have been involved in the institute's activities¹ during the last and current academic year. If not, you commit to participate for the current and next academic year.

Evaluation:

The Scientific committee of MarMaRa will evaluate and select the projects. The evaluation criteria will be the scientific quality and implementation/feasibility (equipment, collaborations, staff involved, ...), of the project and of the participating teams.

Documents required:

- Application form (document to download [on the website](#))
- CV and a list of publications of the project leader
- Detailed budget: eligible expenses include operating costs and small equipment for the running of the project. Please specify the budget balance between the partners and note that the funding must follow the AMIDEX financial rules.

Application must be submitted as a single PDF file ("MarMaRa_AO_Incentive Action_[Name]_[Laboratory – team]_OCT26") in this [AMUBOX folder](#).

Terms of engagement:

All scientific publications and communications which have benefited of the financial support of MarMaRa must mention the following sentence:

*This work received support from the French government under the France 2030 investment plan, as part of the Initiative d'Excellence d'Aix-Marseille Université - A*MIDEX (AMX-19-IET-007) through the Marseille Maladies Rares Institute (MarMaRa)*

Publications must be deposited in the A*Midex HAL amU collection, the University's open archive.

Deadline: 19/10/2026

¹ Annual symposium, seminars, PhD program, WG CIVIS, WG 3M...