

# National Research Program for Environmental and Occupational Health

## “Radiofrequencies and Health”

### 2015 Call for Research Proposal

**Deadline for submission of the letters of intent: January 20, 2015**  
**Deadline for submission of the complete proposals: April 21, 2015**

**Note that in case of difference between English and French version, the latter is the correct one**

## I. OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM

The French National Research Program for Environmental and Occupational Health (PNR EST) is funded by Anses with funds from the ministries of environment and labor, and associates several co-funders: ADEME, ITMO Cancer of AVIESAN alliance under the “Cancer Plan”, the Ministry in charge of agriculture under the “Ecophyto Plan” (in relation with ONEMA) and under the “Ecoantibio 2017 Plan”. In addition, funding from a tax on radio transmitters is to be added to other funds for projects on health effects of radio frequencies. The French National Research Program for Environmental and Occupational Health (PNR EST) promotes the production of knowledge in support to public policies for environmental and occupational health and safety and disseminates this knowledge to stakeholders. This gives the program a leading role to promote interactions within the scientific community, which helps Anses to mobilise researchers for the collective expert assessment of health risks.

This program results in the launch of calls for research proposals. In this context, two calls are launched in late 2014: the present call, dedicated to the theme "radiofrequency and health" and a second one a wide area (excluding radiofrequencies), dedicated to the theme "radiofrequency and health".

## II. OVERVIEW OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

This call for Research Projects (APR) on "Radiofrequency and Health" was launched following the Anses report on the same subject, published in October 2013<sup>1</sup>. The CPR is aiming at creating new knowledge, especially to fill gaps or remove the doubts that have been highlighted in the report. In addition, it aims to expand the size of the research community involved in the field of radio frequencies and health. During the selection process, a strong emphasis will be placed on the quality of the project methodology<sup>2</sup>, insofar as they are intended to be used in future assessments.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.anses.fr/fr/documents/AP2011sa0150Ra.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> In the October 2013 report, it is mentioned on page 341 "ensure the methodological quality of the experimental protocols and the rigor of the analysis and interpretation of data from in vitro and in vivo studies by research teams both on the part of RF exposure (exposure characterization, signal shape, justification for the choice of the type of exposure, etc..) that on the part relating to biological experimentation (blind experiment, appropriate positive and negative controls, allowing the interpretation of amplitude of changes related to RF exposure, identification of false positives, repeating experiments, sufficient statistical power, etc.)...."

### III. SCOPE OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

**The call for proposals deals mainly with the assessment and analysis of risks related to radiofrequencies, to human health, in the general population and in the workplace.** The themes covered by the 2013 CRP are listed in Annex 1 as a list of research items that have been identified as high-priority for potential users of this research.

### IV. PROPOSAL CHARACTERISTICS

Proposals will be designed as research projects with a clearly identified goal. This excludes projects that look like contributions to larger projects.

These research projects will be conducted by a single team or a consortium involving several partners. Each team will have a well identified scientific leader. The project will be presented as a single proposal, the carrier being the scientist in charge of one of the teams. Funding is requested to complete the study or project. The rules are set out in Annex 3.

Two types of research proposals are expected in 2015:

#### **Feasibility studies:**

Their purpose is to explore an innovative approach whose feasibility has not been established.

- Funding shall not exceed € 50,000
- The maximum implementation period shall be 2 years.

#### **Complete projects:**

These are research projects which rely on an established methodological approach so that there is a good level of assurance that the objectives will be achieved.

- Financial support will lie between € 40,000 and € 200,000. It can exceed € 200,000 if this is required by the project's nature and provided the request is strongly defended. This should be justified for instance for projects on radiofrequencies involving large consortia able to tackle all issues from engineering to biology. In any cases the budget request will be lower than a ceiling of € 400 000).
- The implementation period shall be 3 years maximum for a complete project.

### V. SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection procedure relies on two committees:

- The research program's scientific committee (RPSC). It is made up of renowned researchers. The RPSC will assess the scientific value of the submitted proposals and of the progress reports from the funded projects.

- The program's steering committee (SC). It is made up of sponsors and ministries involved in the scope covered by the call for proposals<sup>3</sup>. The SC chooses the projects to be funded from the proposals selected by the RPSC.

The selection process will be divided into two stages as defined below:

- an initial selection on the basis of letters of intent,
- a second selection based on complete applications, subsequent to shortlisted letters of intent.

The submission timetable and procedures are set forth in Section IX

### **Stage 1: Letter of intent shortlisting**

Letters of intent that do not meet the eligibility criteria defined in Section VI will not be evaluated. The evaluation of the letters of intent will be made by the RPSC. This committee will take into account the selection criteria defined in Section VII. This is why special attention should be granted to the quality of the letters of intent, which need to contain enough information, in a small amount of space, to allow the RPSC to evaluate the relevance of the proposal. Only proposals whose letters of intent are shortlisted will be eligible to submit a complete application.

### **Stage 2: Complete application selection**

To be eligible, complete proposals must meet all of the eligibility criteria described in Section VI. Applications that do not meet all of these criteria will not be evaluated. The proposals will then go through the following selection processes:

1. Collective scientific assessment of the proposals by the RPSC: Each proposal will be evaluated by two independent experts according to the criteria described in Section VII, and their conclusions submitted to the RPSC.
2. Collective opinion of the SC on projects selected by the RPSC, according to the criteria described in Section VII. This collective opinion takes also into account the available funds and priorities for involved funders. The SC can also give advice on appropriateness of requested funds with regards to planned tasks. Exceptionally it may recommend project modifications or even projects gathering to incorporate several approaches or disciplines likely to improve the project's overall quality and relevance in relation to the programme's objectives.
3. The final decision to support a proposal falls upon the funding entities. The list of selected proposals and the sponsor identity is published at the end of the selection process on the sponsors' websites.

## **VI. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

A proposal's eligibility will be examined at both selection stages, first through a letter of intent and second through a complete application, on the basis of the information that is available at each stage. Research proposals must meet the same conditions at both stages:

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<sup>3</sup> As defined in annex II.

### **Proposal characteristics**

1. The projects must lie within the research domain covered by the call for proposal as defined in section III.
2. The proposals' characteristics must be compatible with those listed in Section III.
3. The project must not contain actions that have already been funded under another call for projects. If there is any ambiguity, holders should describe the interactions of the project with other sources of funding.

### **Conditions regarding the participating teams .**

1. This call for proposals is open to all research teams, irrespective of the institution they belong to (higher education and research establishments, research organisations, other public establishments with a research mission, technical centres and private establishments with R&D activity, etc.). Due to the particularities of the research domain addressed by the present call, partners other than research teams are welcome insofar as their added value in the project has clearly been established.
2. The proposal must associate at least one academic research team (higher education and research establishments, research organisations, other public establishments with a research mission).
3. The call for research proposals is open to foreign teams. To facilitate foreign partnerships and project review, the CRP's text is available in English on the Anses website (same address as the French version).
  - a. Any proposal submitted by a French team can include a partnership with one or more foreign teams.
  - b. Any proposal submitted by a foreign team – or a team that belongs to an international organisation (even if it is based in France) – must include a French academic partner.
4. A RPSC member cannot be the scientific leader of any team involved in the research proposal.

### **Administrative conditions**

1. Letters of intent and complete applications **must** be submitted in accordance with the procedures listed in Section IX. They must contain all of the requested information and be submitted by the deadline.
2. The proposal shall be authorised by the institutional leader of the coordinating research team and signed by the manager of each partner team.

## **VII. CRITERIA FOR THE SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSALS**

A proposal will be examined at both selection stages, through a letter of intent and then a complete application, on the basis of the information that is available at each stage. The selection criteria are as follows:

### **Letter of intent stage**

Letters of intent are examined based on Criteria 1 to 4 on the list under the 'Complete application stage' heading.

### **Complete application stage**

Proposals are assessed based on the following criteria:

- 1) The subject's scientific significance for the research area in environmental health and/or occupational health,
- 2) Scientific novelty: proposals shall be justified with regard to research undertaken at French, European and international levels. When the aim of the project is to repeat a study, originality will be assessed on the method used to maximize the quality of the results of this second study,
- 3) Connection to research items. The considerations mentioned in the "Research items" Annex I will play an important role in the prioritisation of proposals, particularly by the steering committee,
- 4) Methodological quality and scientific feasibility,
- 5) Organisational and partnership excellence (the proposal must include a provisional project timetable),
- 6) Consortium excellence. Scientific output of the requesting parties, distribution of activities among teams.
- 7) Appropriateness of the project length and allocated resources (financial request, human investments). Quality of the supervision of non-permanent staff.
- 8) Confidence with respect to project results. For projects that may be the subject of controversy, any measures taken to ensure confidence in the quality of results<sup>5</sup>. When the aim of the project is to reproduce the result of a precedent study, the authors of the first study can join the consortium but may not be the project leader.

## **VIII. AGREEMENTS**

The funding terms for the selected proposals shall be specified in the agreement between the sponsor and the coordinator's establishment. The main rules are listed in annex 3. For all funders, in exchange for financial support, the research teams shall:

- Commit themselves to participate in actions to promote the results obtained during and/or at the end of the project (publications in peer-reviewed journals, presentations in conferences organised by the sponsor, contribution to summary reports, etc.),
- Supply, at the end of the project, a complete final report and a popular scientific report which can be used by Anses and the sponsor in its missions,
- Mention the National Research Program for Environmental and Occupational Health implemented by Anses, in particular in publications.

Considerable importance is granted to the rigour with which the scientific project manager leads the project, which means that the contractual commitments for the timing of deliverables should be fully respected, as these determine the grant's staged payments which in turn affect the sponsors' budgetary management.

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<sup>5</sup> For example, any information that could be used to reproduce experiments or reanalyse data, inter-partner trials, multiple points of view held by partners, etc.

## IX. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION TERMS

Letters of intent must be submitted online by the scientific project managers no later than Tuesday, the **20<sup>th</sup> of January 2015, midday**, French time. They shall be submitted using the **Research and Intelligence (“Recherche et Veille”) platform** (in French), available via the websites of Anses and the co-sponsors of the call for proposals. The platform will be operational around at the **end of November 2014**.

**The project coordinator should carefully read eligibility rules listed in the present call for letter of intent or project stages.**

The letters of intent will then be evaluated and the result (“authorized to submit a full project or not”) will be transmitted to the project manager. For projects submitted to the present call it is desirable that the text is written in English to allow evaluation on a broader scale. For those whose letters of intent are shortlisted, complete applications must be submitted by the scientific project managers:

- 1) online, on the same platform, no later than **April 21 2015 midday**, French time. Following electronic applications, an acknowledgment of receipt will be automatically sent to the scientific project managers.
- 2) by sending Anses a certificate which is published by the platform after the application is submitted. One printed copy of this certificate, with all required signatures, must be sent by post to the following address no later than **May 29, 2015, midnight**:

Anses-DRV  
 APR RF EST 2015  
 14 rue Pierre et Marie Curie  
 F-94701 MAISONS-ALFORT Cedex  
 France

### Key dates

Mid November 2014	Opening of the call
End of November 2014	Opening of the platform for electronic submission
20 January 2015, midday	Deadline for submission of letters of intent
19 March 2015	The initial selection results sent to the scientific project managers.
21 April 2015	Deadline for submission of full projects
29 May 2015 midnight	Deadline for submission of certificate
End of 2015	Publication of the final selection results

## X. CONFIDENTIALITY

Members of the Scientific Committee of the research program, as well as experts called in the scientific evaluation of projects are subject to strict confidentiality on the content of the projects submitted to the call.

Funders and state agencies serving the program steering committee are bound to strict confidentiality on the content of submitted projects. For cartography purposes, or to manage multiple funding requests however, they may share information on the laboratories or bodies, active in research topics covered by this call for proposals

For projects not selected for funding, the records will be kept confidential. For projects selected for funding, the research content will be kept confidential. However, Anses publish the summary of the project as submitted to the present call. On the other hand, each funder may use this work for its internal needs in the terms he will define in agreement with the carrier. Finally, scientific reports issued at the end of the work will be submitted to the reviewers who therefore have access to their content.

For all administrative or scientific information requests or questions, please contact the CRP unit :

Scientific issues	Laetitia Dubois	<a href="mailto:recherche@anses.fr">recherche@anses.fr</a>
Administrative issues	Aur�lie Pajon	<a href="mailto:recherche@anses.fr">recherche@anses.fr</a> 01 56 29 52 86
	Delphine Lascar	<a href="mailto:recherche@anses.fr">recherche@anses.fr</a> 01 56 29 18 88

# ANNEX 1: Research Items

These questions focused on the effects of radio frequencies, defined in the present project as frequencies in the range from 8.3 kHz to 300 GHz. Their effects can be studied alone or in combination with a cofactor. In addition to the signals corresponding to the current exposures, project leaders are invited to address new signals (4G, OFDM, etc) and to possible effects of modulations (pulses vs amplitude or frequency modulation). The issues outlined in *red italics* (thematic or specific question) are of particular importance for the steering committee or correspond to the priorities of co-funders of the call for projects.

## ***Research for action mechanisms of radiofrequencies at the cell level***

1. In vitro, in vivo and clinical studies on the mechanisms of action of radiofrequency at the cell level, in particular:
  - repair of DNA using deficient models for key factors of repair systems
  - oxidation of nuclear and mitochondrial DNA
  - the expression of genes, in particular the adaptive response
  - carcinogenesis, from induction to the development of various types of cancer
  - pathologies associated with cell degeneration
  - female fertility
  - *Studies revisiting previous works on biological effects (see list in the "RF and Health" report (Anses, October 2013), pages 342 and following.)*

## ***Research for physiological responses or health effects of radiofrequencies***

1. In vivo or clinical studies on physiological responses to radiofrequencies, in particular :
  - sleep, on circadian rhythms
  - metabolism and cerebral blood flow, cognitive functions
  - reproduction and development on several generations of animals
  - heart rate, etc.
  - *To check previous studies suggesting physiological or health effects (see list in the "RF and Health" report (Anses, October 2013), pages 342 and following.)*
2. Clinical or epidemiological studies on possible effects of RF energy on health, including:
  - cancer, fertility disorders, neurodegenerative diseases, etc. ;
  - a possible nocebo effect of radio frequencies
  - long-term effects of sleep physiological changes related to radio frequencies.

In particular:

  - on possibly more sensitive populations (epileptic patients, children, etc.) or less well documented (women, elderly) or especially vulnerable (workers);
  - with a characterization of the exposure of the most accurate target populations (data operators, for example);
3. Research on the effect of animal populations including bees.



### ***Electromagnetic hypersensitivity***

1. Search for links between some radio frequencies characteristics and symptoms experienced by "EHS" people (provocation experiments, continuous exposure measurements and collection of symptoms, etc.).
2. Investigation of mechanisms which could explain electromagnetic hypersensitivity
3. Investigation of vulnerabilities factors (comparative studies using control populations and populations with medically unexplained syndromes, for example);
4. Research diagnostic tools and specific markers;
5. Research on the effectiveness of therapeutic measures.

### ***Effets of uses of new technologies***

1. Impact of organizational change and working conditions related to new wireless technologies on stress, sleep, fatigue, mental symptoms, addiction, etc. (in general and occupational population).

### ***Exposure characterization***

1. Characterize public exposure to various sources of electromagnetic fields, especially for temporal monitoring of evolution in the outdoor or indoor environment.
2. Undertake work to correlate the spatial description of the levels of electromagnetic fields with the geographical distribution of the population, to provide an initial characterization of residential exposure.

## ANNEX 2: Sponsors

Anses and its co-sponsors for the call for proposals are seeking to implement their research priorities in a common framework, thereby improving this program's visibility and transparency to the relevant scientific communities. Appendix 2 presents sponsors of the PNR EST calls. For this call for proposals, the selected files will be funded by a tax on radiofrequency transmitters.

### I. ANSES

The French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (Anses) is a public administrative establishment under the authority of the Ministries of Health, Agriculture, the Environment, Labour and Consumer Affairs.

Its principal mission is **to contribute to the protection of human health with respect to the environment, the workplace and food**. It also contributes to:

- the protection of animal health and welfare;
- the protection of plant health;
- the assessment of the nutritional and functional properties of food.

Furthermore, it fulfils missions related to veterinary medicinal products.

Anses undertakes **independent and pluralistic scientific expert appraisals**. In its area of expertise, the agency defines, implements and funds scientific and technical **research programs**, particularly through the National Research Program for Environmental and Occupational Health.

Since 2011, the agency receives funds from a tax on radio transmitters. These funds are used to finance research projects on the topic radiofrequency and health.

### II. THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The Ministry of the Environment allocates part of its research budget to the research program managed by Anses. The PNR EST is the descendant of the Environment & Health program that was launched by the Ministry of the Environment and delegated to AFSSE when it was created in 2002. This budget combined with other funding, gives the program a broad spectrum in the fields of environmental and occupational health. In addition to fulfilling Anses's missions, the Ministry of the Environment also aims to address emerging issues in the field of research, to anticipate and act in support of the ministry's public policies. The PNSE (National Health and Environment Plan) and contributions to the *Grenelle* Environment Round Table are two major factors for granting support through the research budget. Anses program and activities for the coordination and application of the research it undertakes contribute to this objective.

Furthermore, this ministry manages other programs that are subject to regular calls for projects in the environment on more targeted themes, to densify work on these issues and allow structuring the scientific community health field.

- The **PRIMEQUAL**<sup>6</sup> program on air quality, implemented by the Ministry of the Environment (Research Division of the Sustainable Development Commission) and ADEME. It aims to provide decision-makers and environmental managers with the necessary scientific background and tools to monitor and improve interior and exterior air quality in order to reduce health and environmental risks. In October 2011, a call for proposals was launched on interior environments and innovative approaches. It dealt more specifically with exposure to 'cocktails' of pollutants, the examination of semi-volatile pollutants and with investigations on the development of new buildings and materials, placing a special focus on human and social sciences. These projects were funded in 2012.
- The **PNRPE**, the National Research Program on Endocrine Disruptors, implemented by the Research Division of the Ministry of the Environment's Sustainable Development Commission. This program aims to support fundamental and finalis multi-disciplinary research on screening methodologies, mechanisms of action, the detection of biomarkers of exposure and effects, fate in the body and the environment (water, soil, air and food), the health effects of endocrine disruptors, hazard identification, risk assessment and biological monitoring. A call was launched at the end of 2010.
- The **Pesticides** 'Assessment and reduction of risks related to pesticide use' program, implemented by the Research Division of the Ministry of the Environment's Sustainable Development Commission. Its aim is to understand the routes by which pesticides disseminate, transform and accumulate in the environment, to assess risks related to pesticide use, to take measures to limit unintentional effects, and design tools and methods to reduce pesticide levels in various environments. In the framework of the *Grenelle* Environment Round Table, the programme is intended to contribute to the implementation of the Ecophyto 2018 plan. In 2011, a new call for projects was launched in conjunction with the work of the Group of Research Experts for the Ecophyto 2018 plan. The 2011 call therefore included two parts, one devoted to assessing the impacts of pesticides on ecosystems, and the other to changing practices with the goal of proposing governance tools that foster an accelerated transition to less pesticide-dependent practices. The projects will be funded in 2012.

### III. THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR

In 2005, this ministry commissioned AFSSET with the scientific coordination of a call for proposals in the area of occupational health, with the goal of improving the public authorities' decision-support bases and tools related to the prevention of occupational risks. Now co-sponsor of the Anses research programme for environmental and occupational health, the Ministry of Labour addresses research issues related to the assessment of occupational health risks. Research into occupational health is one of the main themes of the 2010-2014 Occupational Health Plan (PST2), whose goal is to mobilise the scientific community to deepen and broaden fundamental knowledge and thereby improve the prevention of occupational health risks.

This ministry is in charge of three programmes.

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<sup>6</sup> French acronym for *Inter-organisational research program for better local air quality*

## IV. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND FORESTRY.

The Directorate General of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry (DGAL) manages two national plans which are related to the present call.

- The Ecophyto Plan: This plan aims to gradually reduce the use of plant protection products while maintaining a high level of agricultural production, both in quantity and quality. It involves the Ministries of Environment, overseas, health, consumer and research. The Ecophyto plan is funded in part by ONEMA, from the fraction of diffuse pollution tax perceived by the water agencies on the sale of plant protection products. The financial support from ONEMA to some projects selected in this call will be done within the resources allocated in 2015 for the 3 axis (axis dedicated to research), led by the Directorate-General for Education and research. "Innovation in the design and development of innovative cropping systems efficient pesticides / Component" Research on the health and environmental impacts of pesticide use. "
- The Ecoantibio 2017 plan on risk reduction of antimicrobial resistance in veterinary medicine. The national plan is twofold: i) reduction of the contribution to antimicrobial resistance of antibiotics used in veterinary medicine ii) sustainable preservation of the therapeutic arsenal for veterinary medicine, the prospect of new drug development being limited. The plan encompasses 40 actions, including one dedicated to research (<http://agriculture.gouv.fr/Les-40-mesures-du-plan> )

The DGAL will fund projects in the line of the Ecoantibio2017 plan, especially the ones related to 1) mechanisms for antimicrobial resistance, 2) transmission factors to environment and from animal to man.

## V. ADEME

ADEME (the French Environment and Energy Management Agency) is a public establishment under the joint authority of the Ministries of Ecology, Higher Education and Research. It implements public policies related to the environment, energy and sustainable development. ADEME makes its expert assessment and consulting capacities available to businesses, local authorities, state authorities and the general public and helps them fund projects in various areas (waste management, soil conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energies and air quality) and progress with regard to sustainable development. ADEME's activities aim to offer prioritised responses to offset the impact of environmental nuisances. They promote new practices and new economically and socially feasible processes. The social acceptance of projects largely depends on the safety to health and the environment of the solutions that are recommended or implemented.

ADEME's mission therefore includes assessing the environmental and health risks related to new technologies and development projects in its areas of expertise. For this year's call for research proposals, knowledge requirements concern health issues related to new energy technologies and electricity production from renewable resources (photovoltaics and biomass).

In addition, the Agency is launching calls for proposals in relation to the health and environmental impacts of human activities. It manages research programs including CORTEA (knowledge, source reduction and treatment of emissions to air), CIDE (knowledge of the impacts of waste management), Modeval-Urba (modeling for players of tomorrow's cities). ADEME also co-pilot with the "service de la recherche" of the "Commissariat general

du développement durable” the Primequal program (inter-agency Programme Research for Better Air Quality at the Local level).

## VI. ITMO CANCER

The thematic Multi-organisation Cancer Institute (TMOI) is one of the institutes created within the Alliance for health, which brings together nine major players in the field of life sciences and health. It helps to broaden knowledge on the pathophysiology of cancer and to drive the translational and clinical research in oncology, bringing together all the players in cancer research with the aim of achieving some of the actions listed in the 2014-2019 cancer plan.

In order to strengthen the competitiveness and visibility of the research teams in the field of cancer, ITMO, its director, deputy director and executive director are mandated to working with various organizations, to define a common scientific strategy in the field of cancer. This collaboration allows adapting research programming to the needs of society in accordance with the scientific forces in the field and enhancing the visibility of research actions.

From these broad guidelines and research priorities, ten short and medium-term actions were identified including:

- Development of a partnership policy with other agencies in charge of programming of research to support upstream research and promote the development of multidisciplinary integrated teams including mathematics, physics, chemistry, computer to progress in modeling complex systems biology or process.
- Support for major platforms of life sciences
- Coordination of French research teams to promote their active participation in European and international programs.
- Ensure the creativity and competitiveness of basic research to increase our knowledge of the determinants of cancer; Including better understanding of the links between cancer and environmental behavior by developing epidemiology, behavioral sciences and epigenetics (Action 12.4: Support epidemiological surveillance and research to improve knowledge on occupational cancers; Action 12.5: Developing the observation and monitoring and improving knowledge about cancers linked to environmental exposures in the general population).

# ANNEX 3: Chargeable expenses

## ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Chargeable expenses should correspond to actual expenditure and should be strictly linked to the project's execution, exclusive of any profit margin. In particular, only expenses made between the start and the end of the project, as stipulated in the agreement, will be taken into account. It should be possible to prove the genuine nature of expenses incurred at any time. The recipients shall keep for four years all documents that justify the expenditure incurred under the project and shall submit them if requested by Anses.

### Personnel expenses

The only expenses accepted are: wages of fixed-term contract personnel, and professional fees, including social contributions and taxes on wages.

With the exception of public industrial and commercial entities, the personnel expenses taken into account in the amount of the financial contribution made by Anses cannot, under any circumstances, involve the permanent personnel of public entities.

### Overhead expenses and small-equipment expenses

The following expenses are accepted, including non-recoverable VAT:

- laboratory costs (procurement of products or consumables),
- office supplies,
- purchasing of patents or licenses,
- publication costs,
- travel expenses of permanent or temporary personnel assigned to the project, particularly for participation in Anses communication and dissemination events,
- conference registration fees related to the project,
- outsourced work (photos, etc.),
- maintenance of equipment purchased for the project,
- procurement of small equipment whose unit cost is less than €1,600 excl. tax

### Equipment expenses

Equipment expenses are expenses incurred for equipment whose unit value is greater than €1,600 excl. tax. Anses will take into account:

- All or part of the cost of this equipment, if it is not reusable after the project's completion, (non reusability should generally be the case).
- The share of depreciation calculated pro rata to the period of use if the equipment is reusable after the project's completion, unless an exception is made by Anses.

### General management fees

Part of the general administrative fees linked to the project can count as expenses. These fees are limited to 4% of total expenses, unless an exception is made by Anses on the express request of the recipient with justification.

### **Service delivery**

Regardless of their legal status, recipients can contract work to or lease equipment from entities outside of the project. The cost of this work shall remain marginal in relation to the programme's total cost (less than 30% of this total cost), unless an exception is made by Anses on the express request of the recipient with justification). The costs of these services appear individually as overhead expenses.

Anses does not enter into commitments with service providers who therefore have no grounds upon which to make any claim on it if the recipient of a grant fails to respect its obligations. Services are provided exclusively for and under the supervision of the grant's recipient. In accordance with the rules in force, the recipient must pay for services as they are delivered irrespective of the date of the payment expected from Anses.

## **NON-ELIGIBLE EXPENSES**

The following expenses cannot be covered by Anses:

- Financial fixed assets and routine expenses to replace equipment;
- Expenses related to marketing, sales and distribution fees;
- Expenses related to land and buildings.