

URBAN
DEVELOPMENT
RESEARCH
PROGRAMME

2001 - 2004

Call for Proposals

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TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The internationalization of economies and effects of globalization, such as deregulation, privatization and relocation, are profoundly changing urbanization mechanisms and urban and regional systems in countries of the South. Because of the increasing weight of multinationals and major service operators in the urban development field, national and local public authorities and specialized local planning bodies (technical ministries, State-run local departments, town planning offices) are having to adopt a new approach and new intervention and management principles. This comes at a time when the ascendancy of local actors (such as “civil society” or associations), aided partly by decentralizing reforms, is redefining relationships between representative democracy and participatory democracy and evolving alternative urban management solutions.

In a context of urbanistic intervention in countries of the South and changing bilateral, regional and multilateral urban development aid policies, this new urban reality calls for fresh scientific research input and has oriented this call for proposals towards the increasingly complex world of urban projects and urban management.

With this challenge in mind, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Subdirectorate for Research) has decided to launch incentive concerted action in urban development research aimed at all the countries eligible for the French Priority Solidarity Fund (FSP), which are as follows :

In Africa : Forty countries* ; in the Indian Ocean : Comoros, Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles; in South-East Asia: Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia; in the Caribbean: Cuba, Dominica, Grenada, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Saint Christopher-Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname; in the Pacific: Vanuatu; and in the Near East: Lebanon and the Self-Governing Territories of Palestine.

These countries are known as the Zone de Solidarité Prioritaire (ZSP – Priority Solidarity Zone).

(*) North Africa: Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia.

Sub-Saharan Africa : South Africa, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Congo, Ivory Coast, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda, D.R of Congo, Rwanda, Sao-Tome and Principe, Senegal, the Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Chad, Togo, Zimbabwe.

■ THE CITY, A SPECIFIC RESEARCH OBJECT. THE STATE OF PLAY

For nearly a decade, research was relegated to a minor role in the broad objectives of urban development policy although there was never any break in French development aid in this field. But it has once again become a priority for several reasons.

Politicians, researchers and operators are now converging towards the view that the city is a key driving force behind economic development and that urbanization is consequently a major challenge for development. All cooperation bodies concerned with urban development consider that globalization cannot be dissociated from urbanization and metropolization. Even though a governmental framework is maintained, today's market operating conditions expect cities to be stakeholders in their development, both economically and socially, by committing themselves to integrated development.

At the same time, major international operators are developing economic strategies in countries of the South, in which they pay special attention to cities and urban development, and to public policies being implemented on a local, infra- and supra-national scale, with a view to creating a satisfactory framework for the development of world-wide economic activities. This concern makes better field knowledge essential.

These profound and rapid structural changes are having an impact on the present and future situations of the social groups in urban society, which are more or less successful in integrating into this new

urban situation. The role of urban management as a social regulator has taken on a new relevance.

The city is more than ever an arena of complex local and global problems, in which observation and analysis of socio-economic situations, viewed from a historical and dynamic angle, are intricately related with observation and analysis of policies and public and private action logics and their impacts on social and spatial configurations. This planned action, which shapes and transforms urban and regional systems, cannot be properly observed without also analysing cultural representations and the ideal social concepts underlying actions, which characterize in the long duration the configuration of urban space.

The city, which is now recognized as a specific knowledge object, thus raises countless questions and there are countless research objects to be built to define this changing whole formed by the city. They particularly concern the urbanization mechanisms involved in globalization, the economic and social transformations sweeping the city, and the city-dwellers' demand to be involved in urban management. These research objects use a variety of approaches and disciplines, which include sociology, geography, anthropology, economics, demography, law, architecture and engineering sciences. But urban issues are closely interlinked and constantly interacting. Addressing them as aspects of a complex socio-system is consequently a multi-disciplinary exercise.

In the context of developing countries, the specific nature of the city as a research object takes on different meanings, owing to:

- the questions raised by extensive urban growth and an accelerating urbanization rate, in situations of lower economic growth or even stagnation or recession;
- the persistent presence of exogenous reference and intervention models in the economic and social transformations observable in cities in developing countries, which are giving rise to globalizing, linear interpretations of urban development;
- the wide variety of situations even though globalization appears to mean uniformity of urban development strategies;
- the implementation of urban socio-systems often under power regimes in which the link between the local good and the general good is unclear and it is difficult to draw a line between representative democracy and participatory democracy, the latter having received much media coverage from NGOs.

In this configuration specific to urbanization mechanisms in developing countries, two series of research objects can be identified. The first concerns intervention in cities and determines a field of investigation on precise objects. The second examines the logics and strategies of urban development actors, primarily in terms of approach and method. Although they are on different planes, these research objects taken together can help to renew the issues and themes of urban development research and fill the gaps recognized by the scientific and professional community in the relevant research fields.

■ **RESEARCH PROGRAMME:
PERSPECTIVES AND
METHODS OF APPROACH**

Based on these ideas, the main aim of this call for proposals is to re-activate urban development research by renewing its issues and themes.

This new thrust moves away from approaches focusing on general aspects of urbanization or on the identification of “urban problems” and turns towards two areas of concern:

- one addresses guidelines for research taken as a vehicle for development, and the benefits expected from its results;
- the other covers the implementing conditions of this research and its influence both within the scientific community and extending towards the operational sphere.

➔ **Aims and expected benefits**

In the research sphere, expectations from this programme are mainly:

- the identification of new questions raised by action logics and intervention strategies in cities of the South - more particularly in the “ZSP” countries - and the generation of scientific knowledge able to fill the great gap in this field;
- the creation of a context conducive to partnerships and exchanges between teams from the North and teams from the South. The aim is not only to mobilize the existing research poten-

tial but also to encourage the formation of research teams in France and in the ZSP, in order to facilitate the implementation of multidisciplinary and comparative approaches and the pooling of research results from a broad range of urban situations;

- the integration of young researchers, including doctoral candidates, into these teams, which is a key condition for revitalizing urban development research.

As regards transfers to the operational sphere and support for development aid, the objectives centre mainly on:

- highlighting new urban planning expectations – a key concern in development policies – and generating fresh knowledge on the “urban agenda” in countries of the South. This will enlighten political urban planning and management choices. It will consist in establishing operational contexts linked to the changing patterns of urban societies, institutions, the professional sector and the skills of urban actors;
- strengthening the integration between urban research “in general” and urban development research in particular, as a prerequisite for sharing expertise capacities between North and South.

In the context of these changes, a determination to make the research programme consistent and accomplish the above objectives has directed this incentive action towards the following two priority study areas:

- The first study area concerns **intervention in the city** and seeks to build up knowledge on urban projects, urban management systems, and how they are implemented;

- The second study area concerns **the identification and analysis of logics and strategies of actors** involved in this intervention and seeks to provide keys to understanding project situations – including the effects of project blocking or conflict to which they may be exposed.

In each of these areas, the research proposals are also expected to help to renew approaches and analysis procedures and to clarify and critically re-examine the concepts at work in the urban development field (governance and sustainable development, to give just two examples).

→ **Recommendations on approach methods**

This call for proposals covers urban projects taken in a broad sense: not only local planning projects but also any form of intervention concerned with urban management and including its legal, institutional and social aspects. Proposals should clearly use this approach, particularly through multidisciplinary, comparative methods.

- **A comparative problematized approach**

While research proposals will be based on spatially-referenced urban situations in the ZSP, they are also required to develop comparative approaches in other fields, where

these are relevant to the selected theme.

Team networks may provide a good framework within which to draw up a proposal based on this approach.

Presentations only monographic and firstly focusing on a sectoral and sub-sectoral dimension should be avoided, on the other hand, sections of this nature may be included in the empirical investigation phases of a global problem area.

To prevent a juxtaposition of case studies from taking the place of comparisons, it is advisable to state the nature of the comparison objects and the adopted criteria. As this call for proposals covers urban projects and actors' logics and strategies, it is mainly on these points that comparisons are expected.

In the comparative approach, it is advisable to take operating procedures as comparison objects and to refer to specific contexts in their physical, social, economic, historical and cultural dimensions.

- **An approach to urban dynamics**

One of the main aims of this call for proposals is to contribute to knowledge of a complex reality – the city as the scene of project development and implementation. This approach does not necessarily aim to solve “urban problems” but forms part of the overall urban dynamics in which facilities and practices, spaces and societies blend together. It brings together actors with different or even contradictory interests. The project approach to urban situations cannot therefore disregard the inter-

play of tensions and conflicts around the development, implementation and operation of such projects.

But this approach must also take account of heterogeneous situations that are to be found at the limits of the urban policy field in its broad sense. These include free trade zones, private cities, infra-legal spaces and urban areas where anarchy reigns, in which there emerge other categories of urban actors (such as religious networks, sects or criminal associations) and other powers relating to the forms of urban organization.

- **A diachronic perspective**

Although local planning decisions are often taken in response to a specific event (opportunities or constraints related to political and economic contexts), a key feature of urban projects is their long-term effect. Besides the project execution time, which materializes the divergence between project formulation and completion contexts (changes in policy and/or importance), it is also necessary to take account in their own temporality practices in the relevant areas: residential environment, public spaces and networks, infrastructure, etc.

It is also advisable to give details on time-scales and sequences covered by the investigation.

- **A critical examination of the assumptions on which project assessment is based**

Assessment can no longer be dissociated

from the development and formulation of cooperation projects. The aim is not to replace the assessment activity but, where necessary, to integrate it as an analysis object, including in a critical mode. This approach can be used to analyse the assumptions on which urban project assessments are based. It may be useful for studying urban vocabulary and its internationalization. Among “urban words” are to be found terms with theoretical connotations, which seek to build up knowledge of urban realities: public space, public interest, local aspect, citizenship, citification, democracy. Some terms are analysis categories: poverty, gender, civil society. And others are operational in nature: decentralization, urban governance, local development, local coalitions.

The development of a scientific approach able to identify and clarify questions, which goes beyond “ready-made” cliché thinking and examines the transition from a theoretical tool to an operational tool, can create conditions of renewed exchange and discussion between researchers and experts, with a view to giving consistency to shared expertise.

■ STUDY AREA 1 - INTERVENTION IN THE CITY AS A RESEARCH OBJECT

For the past few decades, the city has been a specific development aid and co-operation area, which may be sector-based or general in scope. Urban public policies and action plans are thus a renewed research object insofar as these interventions are increasingly shared between conventional State-to-State co-operation and decentralized co-operation. It is the latter that asso-

ciates the public and the private sectors more markedly, within a spatially-referenced vision, and involves relations between new actors, local authority representatives, NGOs, and small and medium-sized enterprises. The local development issue is thus defined in new terms.

The specificity of this research object in developing and emerging countries is mainly due to the fact that urban policies on housing and urban services, and their technical, financial and institutional implementation measures, are drawn up in the context of aid and are based on the operational models of the multilateral, regional and bilateral development aid bodies.

This is the case for programmes covering decentralization, aid to local authorities, urban service privatization and, more broadly, “integrated” urban development policies under economic and administrative reform programmes implemented at national level, which result in the privatization of social housing production agencies and urban service management instruments.

It is also the case for urban governance measures, which aim to use a global model for implementing structural administration and tax reforms at local level, to ensure better co-ordination between economic and social partners in urban development and to optimize the allocation and use of resources. The question posed goes beyond the city’s economic and functional unity to embrace its politico-administrative unity, its powers and its resources.

Lastly, it is the case for sector-based urban development projects, particularly for the

construction or rehabilitation of infrastructural facilities. These are all specific urban development research objects.

An analysis of these measures and their operational methods will aim to renew specific questionings on developing cities, by examining how these measures match or mismatch the implementing initiatives developed by a multiplicity of actors at national, regional and local levels. The question then arises of the relevance of these “transferred” measures which, although they have proved their operational efficiency in “developed” urban societies, may be questionable when transposed into societies that are historically, economically and culturally different.

There is a clear lack of research in this field, all the more so because the operational approach to urban matters has changed considerably. It has moved from a problem-solving approach, for which urban planning was to have provided global solutions, to a project approach intended to offer solutions to precise, time and space dependent problems, (such as neighbourhood restructuring schemes). Yet these schemes are the cause of new types of problems in the places where they are implemented, because their conception mechanism often consists in building problems around available solutions rather than meeting the beneficiaries’ needs. The questionings that structure research issues and themes were formerly less concerned with urbanistic strategies than with urban situations (which meant that for a long time, strong population growth was considered to be the main problem of cities in developing countries). Today, an analysis of the strategies and logics of many different actors is one of the key ways to change the

approach to research, which will require a concerted effort on the part of the scientific community.

Urban intervention projects, their contents, and their spatial, technical, financial and institutional implementation methods, must therefore form specific analysis objects in the field of urban development. The fact that the project-based method of intervention in cities has become the most common operational model under external aid for urban development (project-aid), also legitimizes its value for urban research in developing and emerging countries.

Lastly, the multiplication on the local development scene in these countries, of powerful private investors acting on a supra-national scale, also calls for a specific approach to urban research. This particularly concerns the analysis of deterritorialization and reterritorialization strategies of large firms, and the negotiations and competitive interplay entailed by the sites where they choose to be present.

In order to delimit the scope of the research outlined above, three themes are proposed, which particularly concern the spatial effects of intervention

Theme 1 - Metropolization-related urban projects

Metropolization, taken as a spatial expression of economic concentration in some large urban areas, does not only concern developed countries. With varying intensity, it also concerns large cities of the South, where it gives direction to network logics and land strategies. The metropolizing process redefines urban polarities and hier-

archies and determines new functional links between city centres and fringes. It is the basis of a new typology for projects (requalification and tertiarization of city centres geared towards business districts and international trade; combining industrial facilities with residential developments, etc.) and for infrastructure operations (major transport facilities, road infrastructure, urban services, etc.). This typology is characterized by the internationalization of the partners and the urban spaces.

The approach should consist in:

- identifying the characteristics specific to these metropolization-related projects and their special forms of financing, development and implementation;
- analysing project linkages and impacts on urban systems and on urban expansion dynamics (the formation of metropolized, discontinuous, heterogeneous regions, whether infra- or supra-national).

The aim is not only to identify specific management and urban organization problems resulting from the change of scale in urban spaces and in local planning operations but also to place urban planning cooperation projects in this new context.

Special attention should be given to land-related mechanisms that affect areas of intense metropolization (methods of determining land prices, forms of land use, nature of “producers” and operators) and to the constraints they impose on other urbanized or urbanizing areas.

Urban projects and infrastructure operations associated with the new forms of concentration of economic power in large cities are tending to prevail as vehicles of urban expansion and transformation.

- What are the characteristics specific to these projects and to their forms of financing, development and implementation?
- What is their impact on land-related mechanisms, particularly in the relationship between public land and private land?
- What is the status of the residential environment for city-dwellers in disadvantaged groups of society and more particularly, what are the social policies for housing and urban services in such contexts?

Theme 2 - Environment and heritage related urban projects

Urban crises used to be gauged by shortages, and the informal housing and employment sector was considered to be indicative of these crises affecting the developing world. But the conditions and criteria of a crisis are not immutable. Whereas difficulties tend to affect the “fundamentals” of the city and the way it works (problems of water, waste, pollution, daily travel, access to land and communication infrastructure), thinking on urban development and its optimization is opening up to new criteria contained in the “sustainable urban development” concept.

Two project types are of interest in this respect:

- urban projects focusing directly on, or

including a section on, environmental protection, particularly as regards the impact of industrialization;

- projects on the care and conservation of the built urban heritage (over and above buildings classified as historical monuments) and urban sites destroyed by war, natural disasters, etc.

Besides the fact that these two intervention areas tend to concern spatially-related zones, their joint importance for urban research is due firstly to their complex status as:

- means of revealing new urban values (even if they were imported to begin with);
- mobilizing (or even conflict-generating) elements of “civil society”;
- economic challenges and choices (able to attract new resources such as investments or tourist development).

Their importance is also due to the fact that environment and heritage dimensions are part of complex projects that require new professional skills, new technical qualifications and consequently tend to call on international expertise.

As regards the approach and the method, special attention should be paid to the conditions in which ad hoc interventions in the fields concerned are expressed as public policy objects.

Theme 3 - The provision of infrastructure, urban services and public facilities

Infrastructure networks, urban services and public facilities are vital for adapting regions to the internationalization requirements of economies, whether as regards national, regional and international access to large economic activity centres, the mobility of city-dwellers, goods and information, or the conditions of company operation and senior staff induction. They are a key field for urban intervention and a major challenge for development.

They are a field that exacerbates socio-economic disparities. Access facilities are factors of socio-spatial discrimination. And at local level, the state of this infrastructure – including in the field of new information technologies – differentiates the economic integration status of cities or countries by promoting or precluding internal or external transport and travel links for territorial fragments. This field forms a crossroads for confronting urban dynamics, technical logics and social systems.

Research on these issues is important for several reasons:

- Infrastructure projects characterize long-term urban and regional development. They are not only the prerogative of public authorities. They also call on the many actors involved in public/private sector partnerships, project financing and international contracts. These projects also mobilize heavy investment in high-technology operations that require aid from international donors, within a bilateral or

multilateral framework, and the technical expertise of developed countries.

- - Infrastructure and urban services are undergoing a multifaceted privatization process through various types of contracts and delegation systems for building, operating or maintenance activities (BOT, concessions, etc.). How do these procedures help to reduce socio-spatial disparities and, where relevant, what is the situation for contracts linking general urban facilities to the improvement of urban services in “irregular” neighbourhoods?

■ STUDY AREA 2 - ANALYSIS OF THE ACTORS’ LOGICS AND STRATEGIES

This second series of questions is not at the same level as for study area 1. In urban projects and urban management intervention, the actors’ logics and strategies may seem to belong to the same problem areas and themes as the previous study area. But the way they fit into complex urban spaces requiring many different types of work, goes beyond the restrictive project framework and requires a different approach.

Furthermore, in the present urban development configuration, marked by the importance of market mechanisms and by the development of urban privatization policies, there is a clear lack of research involving any analysis of strategies, logics and social practices of the key actors that shape and manage cities.

Lastly, the active presence of some urban

actors, which form powerful economic and social networks and develop strategies at, or even outside, the limits and intervention areas of urban management, makes it necessary to take the scope of urban action beyond the usual distinctions between the public and private sectors. For instance, concentrations of informal activities in city centres or at their fringes, supported by international networks that may or may not be religious, require a new approach to the informal sector or sectors. Another area to be analysed from this angle is that of residential avoidance strategies devised by private developers and by some categories of inhabitants who withdraw from the collective city and build and inhabit private cities.

But although this approach cannot fundamentally be separated from the previous one insofar as some urban policies and urban projects aim to achieve better social regulation, there is a difference insofar as it highlights representations of the city at work in the field of urban development and opens up to a series of issues that link political and social conceptions with the actual conditions in which cities are governed:

- seeking a balance between a productive city involved in global competition and an inclusive city,
- defining the ground rules between public and private actors,
- taking account of patterns of disaffiliation or urban dissent behaviour,
- developing consultation and negotiation procedures aimed at shared man-

agement and expertise and, more generally,

- building local public space.

This urban research area, which is essential for decision aid, is organized around two investigation themes open to comparative approaches on an international scale.

Theme 1 - The interplay of actors in a context of governance, decentralization and local democracy

Decentralization policies, which have gained a place on international cooperation agendas, cover a series of different activities ranging from administrative reform and skill devolution to the introduction of new regional institutions with their own powers and resources.

These policies, which often go hand in hand with delegation and privatization processes, are closely concerned with the territorial dimension:

- both at national level (regionalization, strengthening of secondary cities, creation of a hierarchical urban network system),
- and at urban level (redefinition of administrative limits and responsibilities, introduction of representative systems, changes to public urban planning structures and the drawing up of standards).

These new delimitations of management spaces and the powers entrusted to local bodies are intended to encourage local eco-

nomie development by rationalizing the allocation of resources. Whatever the case, they help to redefine the actors' system – or even to form it. Investigation in this field thus addresses issues related to “governance”, participation, negotiation and strategic planning. To this end it requires a critical re-examination of these concepts, the forms of legitimization involved (compared with “traditional” forms of legitimization), and the ambiguities they reveal between the manager's perspective and the democratization perspective.

This investigation is necessary to urban development research mainly because of:

- the creation of a new intervention framework for urban cooperation, particularly under the aspect of decentralized cooperation;
- the training requirements of urban planners and senior local staff, resulting from the implementation of these action plans.

These questions are of particular interest for countries opening up to the market economy in which bilateral and multilateral contracts and co-operation agreements are one of the ways of achieving this open approach.

Theme 2 - The role of expertise in a context of professional knowledge and urban culture

In the wake of colonial urban planning, to adapt it or break away from it, cities and countries of the South have undertaken to:

- develop urbanistic systems and knowledge in their own right,
- form professional bodies in charge of urban development and urban management in various capacities, which may include central government officers, local government staff, local elected representatives, urban planners or building sector practitioners.

These measures translate into configurations with specific characteristics that are often obscured by the colonial heritage (particularly as regards the law and town planning offices) or by the internationalization of urbanistic vocabulary, but which relate to practical methods of preparing and implementing urban intervention.

They make up the professional space with which urban development cooperation actors must dialogue and work.

The question here is concerned with the status of expertise and its actual role in planning approaches, and with skill-building methods.

For cooperation and expertise action pack-

ages to be relevant and efficient, it is necessary:

- not only to be familiar with “urban reality” and its problems,
- but also to identify the main interlocutors, their reference systems and their networks (including in the infra-institutional sphere which has a proven role in management and land regularization).
- and to determine the relations of expertise with professional knowledge and national and local cultures.

Once they have been identified, analysis should be made of:

- the impact of training paths, cooperation and co-present foreign expertise (through an appraisal of operational projects and an examination of cooperation documents)
- divergence from “imported” principles and ideas.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR APPLICATIONS

The aim of this call for proposals is to finance urban development research projects for countries of the "ZSP" (Zone de Solidarité Prioritaire / Priority Solidarity Zone), which are proposed by research teams.

■ 1. NATURE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECTS:

The proposed projects must:

- meet the scientific terms of reference defined by the call for proposals;
- concern the ZSP countries: In Africa : Forty countries^{**}; in the Indian Ocean: Comoros, Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles; in South-East Asia: Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia; in the Caribbean: Cuba, Dominica, Grenada, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Saint Christopher-Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname; in the Pacific: Vanuatu; and in the Near East: Lebanon and the Self-Governing Territories of Palestine.
- cover a period of 20 months and include a mid-term report and a final report;
- include objectives for team structuring, integration of young researchers and exploitation of research, particularly in connection with the institutional domain (technical ministries, local

authorities, administrative structures, development aid financing bodies), the occupational domain (urban planning and development, urban management) and the expertise domain.

This call for proposals is open to research teams that place emphasis on multidisciplinary and the development of a comparative approach.

Applicant teams must:

- include at least three researchers;
- preferably be multidisciplinary;
- include teacher scientists, researchers, and possibly professionals and practitioners with skills in the urban development field;
- be an individual team or a group of teams.

Applicant teams will comprise either:

- researchers from the countries concerned by the call for proposals;
- researchers from France or the

(**) North Africa: Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia.

Sub-Saharan Africa : South Africa, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Congo, Ivory Coast, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda, D.R of Congo, Rwanda, Sao-Tome and Principe, Senegal, the Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Chad, Togo, Zimbabwe.

European Union with competence for ZSP countries; they should be associated with researchers from ZSP countries;

- researchers from the ZSP associated in a comparative approach with researchers from other countries of the South;
- Non European Union researchers from the North, provided that a team from a ZSP country sponsors the research project.

Each team will aim to associate researchers from the North and researchers from the South.

■ 2. INSTITUTIONAL ATTACHMENT

Researchers in the applicant team or group of teams may come under the same body or under different bodies, whether public or private and whether they are formed at local, national or international level. However, a single body will be the project manager. This body will appoint a representative and choose a single address. The applicant team or group of teams will appoint a single scientific leader.

■ SELECTION OF APPLICATION FILES

Selection will be based on the scientific quality of the project and its innovative aspects. It will also take into account the consistency between the budget estimation and the project intentions.

The evaluators from the scientific committee will give a scientific opinion on the project and on the consistency between the budget estimate and the project intentions. ISTED will make an expert appraisal and will also give a technical opinion on the budget estimation. The selected teams will receive a letter of acceptance and will contact the executive secretariat for any changes to the contents, organization or budget. A detailed budget estimation will be made with a view to drawing up the cost estimate that will accompany the signing of the agreement. A mid-term scientific and administrative audit will be made.

■ FINANCING THE RESEARCH PROJECTS

It must be stressed that this call for proposals is intended to finance research projects. The programme will provide financial support for 25 to 35 research teams, with overall funding of 1 683 037 euros (11 040 000 French francs).

This funding will cover:

- project-related operational resources;
- remuneration of staff directly assigned to the project;
- small equipment required to execute the project, supplies, documentation, field assignments, translations;
- trips abroad for local meetings under the programme.

This funding will not cover:

- premises;
- heavy equipment;
- long-term assignments.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME ORGANIZATION

The scientific programme will be based on different forms of interactivity between the bodies involved (Scientific Committee, Executive Secretariat) and the selected teams:

- Local meetings will be organized to dynamize research;
- Support missions will be organized under the responsibility of the

Executive Secretariat;

- More generally, the Executive Secretariat will ensure a permanent flow of information through the GEMDEV and ISTED websites www.isted.com - www.gemdev.org;^{*}
- A review workshop and a summary publication will be devoted to the results of the programme.

(*) In the immediate future, two scientific newsletters concerning the terms of reference will be disseminated on the web during July 2001.

HOW TO PREPARE APPLICATION FILES

PREPARATION OF FILES

Proposals must take account of the terms and conditions for applications and their accompanying recommendations. They must conform to the enclosed application form which comprises the following documents:

- A technical and administrative information sheet;
- A summary presentation sheet on the research project;
- A detailed presentation of the research project;
- An information sheet giving the identity of the team or group of teams;
- A budget estimation presentation sheet.

EXECUTION AND SCHEDULING OF OPERATIONS

Proposals should be sent to ISTED in **five** hard copies and on diskette. They must be postmarked no later than **15 October 2001**.

Any projects sent to the Scientific Committee after this date will not be taken into account.

The Scientific Committee will meet on **22 and 23 November 2001** to select the projects. After the approval of the Scientific Committee this date, the Executive Secretariat will contact each selected team so that they can determine together the project implementing arrangements and draw up the agreement. This agreement will contain the detailed estimate and the project schedule, which will be signed by the representative of the team or group of teams and by the project sponsor.

The Scientific Committee may recommend adopting collaborative working procedures and specific scientific inter-team exchanges where work themes are closely related. This collaboration may require further funding to be made available.

The actual starting date for the research is **February 2002**, when a first instalment of at least 20% of the accepted budget will be paid. A mid-term administrative and scientific review will be made, for which the teams will be required by contract to send the following reports to the Executive Committee on specified dates:

- A financial report;
- A research progress report. This interim report will be presented in the language used to submit the research project (cf. Sheet No.3).

The research must be completed by **October 2003**. Completion will be marked by the submission of a comprehensive report by each team or group of teams. At the same time a 15-page memo will be submitted, which will highlight the innovative aspects of the method and the results. The comprehensive report will be presented in French. The 15-page memo will be presented in French with an abstract in English. The programme will bear the costs of publishing this memo. Where necessary, allow for the funding of translations in the budget estimation for both these deliverables.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will make an assessment of all the project work.

After the Scientific Committee and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have validated the research work, an international review workshop will be held in **January 2004**. It will provide an opportunity for researchers, practitioners, decision-makers and international donors to hold discussions. It will be held in one of the countries concerned by the PRUD programme and the proceedings will be published

As soon as the call for proposals is disseminated, additional information may be given, particularly by E-mail. The Executive Secretariat will also use the GEMDEV and ISTED websites to communicate information related to the themes of the call for proposals, which may to help applicants to draw up their projects: recent publications, conference themes, seminars.

www.isted.com - www.gemdev.org

CONTACTS

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