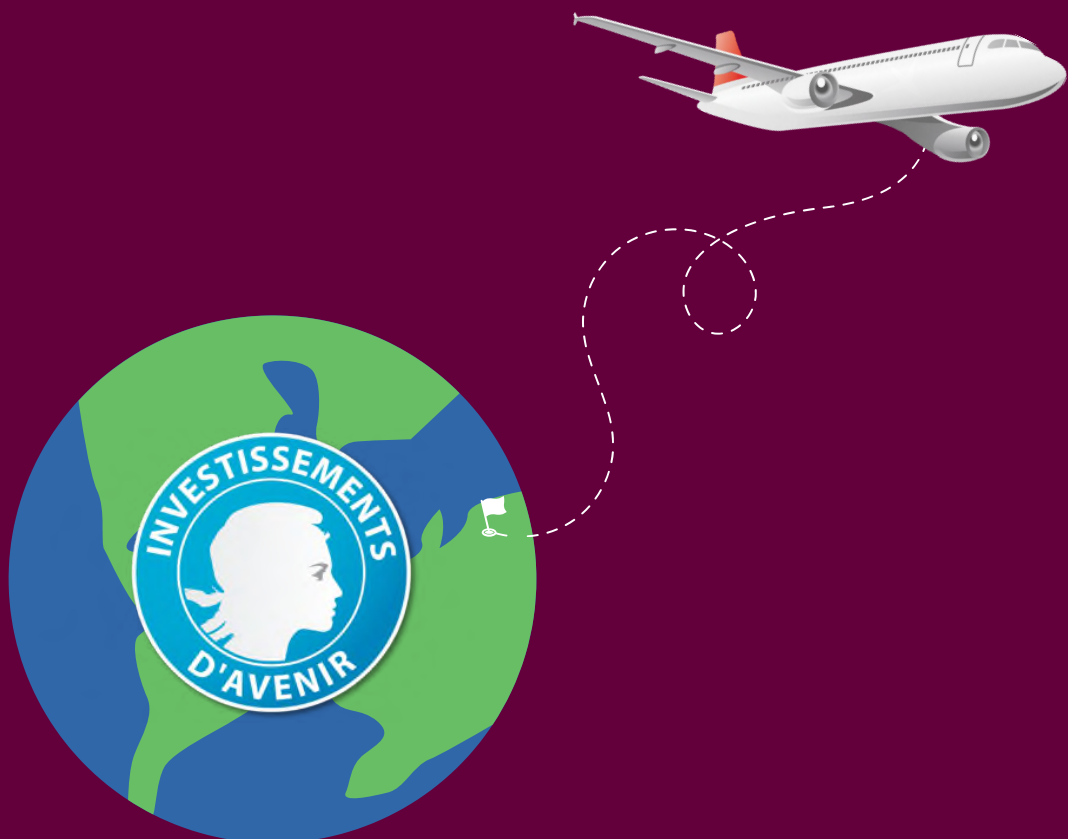


université
PARIS-SACLAY

LA MAISON
DU DOCTORAT

International cotutelle funding programme



INTERNATIONAL COTUTELLE OF DOCTORATE 2024 FUNDING PROGRAMME (ADI)

Table of Content

Preamble	2
Nature of the funding	2
Eligibility criteria	3
Submission of projects	4
Committee's decision.....	8
Funding.....	8
Publications.....	9
Contacts	10

Preamble

[The Doctoral Charter](#) specifies that Université Paris-Saclay “encourages originality and scientific risk-taking, as well as the international and interdisciplinary openness the doctoral projects undertaken”.

Université Paris-Saclay is pursuing a policy of promoting doctoral studies internationally by financing a programme of support for international cotutelle of doctorate, “Action Doctorale Internationale (ADI)”.

The main objectives of the programme are:

- Initiating ambitious doctoral projects, within the framework of the international cotutelle of doctorate and to promote the international mobility of doctoral students.
- Contributing to the internationalization of Graduate Schools, doctoral schools and research units.
- Developing partnerships and increase the visibility and international attractiveness of Université Paris-Saclay.

Nature of the funding

IDEX Paris-Saclay provides financial support to the laureates who will be:

- **Either recruited on a fixed-term contract** by Université Paris-Saclay. The duration of the contract will be equal to the number of months of support granted, according to the periods of the research stay in France within the framework of this call.
- **Or, they will receive a complementary grant** to a foreign funding which already covers the whole duration of the thesis in order to reach the minimum required threshold. This grant will be awarded as a complement to another funding provided by another foreign organization and whose amount initially planned is below the required threshold (see below). The grant is awarded over the period of the doctoral student's research stay in France. This support is exclusively intended for the doctoral student in the context of an international cotutelle. The expenses related to taking out a workplace accident insurance during their stay in France will also be covered by the grant supplement.

NB: The allocated funding cannot finance an extension of the thesis (4th year).

In accordance with the decree of **December 26th, 2022**, modifying the decree of **August 29th, 2016**, fixing the amount of the remuneration of the contractual doctoral student, the co-financing provided for in the ADI framework will be up to the amount of the remuneration of the contractual doctoral student.

Substantial co-financing is essential for a minimum duration of **12 months** by the foreign partner institution, a foreign government or by a foreign company, organization or institution, in particular **to participate in the remuneration of the doctoral student**.

Eligibility criteria



1. The project must be part of **an international cotutelle of doctorate** with a double enrolment in a PhD programme, at Universit  Paris-Saclay and at a partner institution in a foreign country.
 - The request for a cotutelle must be made before applying. The candidate must not have been enrolled in a thesis for more than 8 months at the date of receipt of the application ([See the conditions of the international cotutelle](#) of doctorate before applying).
 2. **The foreign partner institution must be accredited to award the double doctoral degree** and have given an explicit agreement in principle to the establishment of the **international cotutelle of doctorate**.
 3. The thesis supervisor at the foreign partner institution undertakes to co-supervise the thesis and supports the application and the project.
 4. **The doctoral student's host research unit** in France must be part of Universit  Paris-Saclay ([see the list of units](#)) and the doctoral student **must be admissible by one of the doctoral schools** of Universit  Paris-Saclay, subject to obtaining funding from both institutions.
 5. **The partner institution/country certifies its commitment to finance the doctorate under a cotutelle**, for a minimum duration of 12 months and in all cases, for the complementary duration to the number of months requested in the framework of this programme.
- ➔ **The minimum duration of stay is 12 months at Universit  Paris-Saclay and 12 months the partner institution.**

Submission of projects

Submission of thesis projects/subjects:

Thesis supervisors submit the thesis subjects on the **ADUM** platform from **January 15th, 2024 to February 23rd, 2024**.

Validated subjects will be available to students on **February 28th, 2024**.

Submission of the application:

→ Students start applying from **February 28th, 2024, to March 31st, 2024**, via [the ADUM platform on the subject of their choice](#).

Students must create their **candidate space** and submit **the documents required** for their application to be examined by the thesis supervisor.

And,

→ The thesis supervisors select one candidate per subject and submit an application for an international cotutelle of doctorate, [via the cotutelle interface](#) no later than **April 4th, 2024**.

Content of the file:

Within the **framework of the ADI program**, candidate's file, submitted by the thesis supervisor via the interface, should contain the following supporting documents:

1. A letter of motivation from the applicant for the cotutelle project

A letter is expected to explain what the candidate expects from the thesis in the framework of an international cotutelle. It is not necessary to go back over the candidate's motivations for the doctoral project, as these have already been evaluated by the doctoral school. The purpose of the letter is to present the candidate's motivations for carrying out the thesis in the context of an international partnership.

2. A letter of commitment to the thesis supervision by the thesis supervisor affiliated with the partner foreign institution.

The letter should state that the foreign thesis supervisor commits to supervising the cotutelle doctoral thesis.

3. One or more letters of support and commitment from the foreign partner institution

The commitments below may be made in several letters and signed by the Dean of Faculty, a University Rector or **by any person competent to make the corresponding commitment** and must unambiguously attest to the following

- i. that the foreign partner institution, if applicable, subject to success in this call for applications or other conditions to be explained, undertakes to establish an international cotutelle of doctorate agreement (double degree) with the Université Paris-Saclay for this thesis. **Co-supervision is not sufficient.** This letter must be signed by the president of the foreign partner institution or one of its delegates authorised to commit the institution to the establishment of double degrees.
- ii. that the thesis supervisor abroad undertakes to direct the thesis of the co-supervised doctoral student.
- iii. at least one letter of support and commitment from a co-funder in the partner country committing to supplement the ADI funding, at least for the duration of the planned stay (minimum 12 months). This letter should specify the type of funding (scholarship, salary), duration, and monthly net amount.

The co-funder will make sure that it is possible to finance the doctoral student, through a contract or a grant directly or in agreement with the doctoral student's institution in the partner country.

NB: It is the responsibility of the thesis supervisor and the research unit supervisor to ensure the seriousness of this commitment, subject to losing the funding that may be granted under this call.

A mandatory information meeting will be held on April 8th, 2024, with the presence of the thesis supervisors who have proposed a candidate under this program in attendance.

Following the audition by the doctoral school before May 15th, 2024, of the academic year, a motivated opinion from the doctoral school will complete the file. It must indicate the smooth progress of the audition and admission to enroll in the doctorate, subject to obtaining funding.

Eligible applications will be examined by the programme's selection committee.

Composition of the Committee and calendar

Composition

The doctoral programme selection committee is composed by the vice-president in charge of doctoral studies, a member of the vice-president in charge of international relations of Université Paris-Saclay, members of the doctoral policy council, supervisors or deputy supervisors of doctoral schools, a member of the administrative team of Maison du Doctorat, and doctoral students acting as observers.

The committee will study each application on the basis of the project evaluation criteria, **any incomplete application will not be considered.**

Project leaders are advised to put forward the elements that support the application in the most readable and explicit way for the committee members.

The Committee's evaluation criteria for projects

The following paragraphs are intended to assist in the preparation of the application and the criteria required.

Criterion 1 - Excellence of the application and the doctoral project:

The doctoral school is expected to give a reasoned opinion on the excellence of the application as a whole (the applicant, the doctoral project, the international partnership project, the two laboratories, the conditions of supervision in the two institutions) and to provide elements that will enable the application to be put into perspective with respect to the other applicants auditioned by the doctoral school.

The programme selection committee may take into consideration other elements attesting to the recognised quality of the two host and supervisory teams, the level of the candidate, the originality and scientific risk-taking, and the interdisciplinary and international scope of the doctoral project.

Criterion 2 - Favourable conditions to the successful completion of the international cotutelle of doctorate:

On this second criterion, candidates and their prospective thesis supervisors are expected to provide the project selection committee with an argument answering the questions below:

→ **The motivations of the candidate:** what are his or her intentions and/or reasons to prepare an international cotutelle of doctorate? *The access to other visions on the subject, to complementary skills, to an international field of study, to an intercultural experience, to develop language skills, to enhance the value of an international experience through a double degree, to improve one's professional prospects... ?*

→ **The experience of collaboration between the partners:** what is the level of mutual knowledge of the research teams in France and abroad? Have the two thesis supervisors already cooperated or co-published? Have they planned mobility to meet during the thesis? If the collaboration is already important, detail the level of knowledge of the teams and the achievements. If the collaboration is emerging, specify the scientific issues and the modalities to meet and better collaborate.

→ **The cooperation project around the doctoral project:** How will be ensured the sharing of the scientific direction of the doctoral project and the follow-up of the doctoral student by the two thesis supervisors? *Are they complementary from a scientific point of view? Is*

the mobility of the thesis supervisors or co-supervisors considered to accompany the project? Has the reception in the two laboratories been well prepared, do the supervisors of the research units support the project? Does the research topic require this cooperation (e.g. research activity associated with a geographical site, access to an experimental platform, complementary skills)? Is the expected duration of the PhD student's stay in the two countries balanced?

Criterion 3 - The institutional interest of this international partnership

For this third criterion, applicants and their prospective thesis supervisors are expected to provide the Committee answers to the questions below:

Is the agreement part of an already **structured institutional partnership**?

→ **If it is part** of an already structured institutional partnership,

- What is the **nature of this partnership**, its start and end dates? Is it a Framework Agreement for a double doctoral degree or a joint degree, a Cooperation Agreement between Université Paris-Saclay and/or one of its components, component institutions, associate member university or member research organisation (UMI, LIA, IRN (ex-GDRI), or an international research programme or in a formalised scientific cooperation between research units?
- Does the project allow to **maintain or intensify** this already existing cooperation? Does the project enable the extension or transformation of an existing cooperation?

→ **If it is not part** of an already existing institutional partnership,

- Does the agreement allow for the development of links with a leading higher education and research institution of interest for the **development of the international cooperation** of the Université Paris-Saclay?
- Is the agreement likely to contribute to the development of a **recruitment pipeline** of excellent candidates, to help the development of incoming and outgoing mobility of students, PhD students, researchers and teacher-researchers?
- Is the partnership likely to increase the attractiveness of doctoral training at Université Paris-Saclay or its international recognition? Promote exchanges of good practices?

What will be the contribution of the foreign partner? Whether it is the partner higher education institution or another entity in the partner country (e.g. a dedicated programme of a foreign government), what contribution to the financing of the project is envisaged, in particular to the remuneration of the doctoral student (minimum required 12 months)? Participation in the financing of various expenses incurred by the cotutelle, such as travel expenses for the defence, for example? What possibilities for accommodation and financial support for the mobility of the doctoral student can be offered?

We would like to point out the possibility of submitting, in a coordinated manner, **a couple project** for an international cotutelle of doctorate within the framework of this call for applications, with a process whereby one cotutelle doctoral student is financed 100% by IDEX Paris-Saclay and the second doctoral student 100% by the foreign partner institution. In this case, it will be necessary **to submit two separate applications** within the framework of this call for proposals and to specify, in a very explicit manner, **in each of the two applications**, the link between the two applications. This type of arrangement is encouraged.

NB: In this case, the partner institution must provide funding at least equal to the threshold required by the University Paris-Saclay.

Committee's decision

The results are published one week after the commission meeting.

The international PhD Axis of La Maison du Doctorat communicates the results to the doctoral schools, thesis supervisors, and laureates.

Certificates for laureates are issued only **if the thesis supervisor submits a final financial commitment certificate from the foreign institution no later than one week after the publication of the results.**

Funding

The International Doctoral Actions (ADI) provided by IDEX Paris-Saclay are mainly intended to finance doctoral students.

IDEX Paris-Saclay provides financial support for laureates who will be:

- Employees

Employees recruited on fixed-term contracts by Université Paris-Saclay. The duration of the contract will be equal to the number of months of support granted, according to the periods of the research stay in France within the framework of this call for projects.

- Scholarship holders

Scholarship holders will receive a grant to supplement foreign funding which already covers the entire duration of the thesis in order to reach the minimum threshold required. This grant will be awarded as a supplement to other funding provided by another organisation and for which the amount initially planned is below the required threshold. The grant is awarded for the duration of the doctoral student's research stay in France.

The cost of taking out work-related accident insurance during their stay in France will also be covered as part of the grant supplement.

Substantial co-financing is essential for a minimum period of 12 months from the foreign partner institution, a foreign government or a foreign company, organisation or institution, in particular to contribute to the doctoral student's funding.

PLEASE NOTE: The funding granted under this call for proposals does not provide for the possibility of obtaining an extension of the funding beyond the number of months granted.

Special cases

We would like to draw your attention to the possibility of submitting, in a coordinated manner, a couple of international doctoral cotutelle projects under this call for applications. In this case, one of the co-tutored doctoral students will receive 100% funding from IDEX Paris-Saclay and the other 100% from the foreign partner institution, provided that the partner's funding threshold complies with [the regulations in force in France](#).

Publications

The IDEX Paris-Saclay is financed by the "programme d'investissements d'avenir", managed by the ANR. The state requires that any scientific production resulting from research and financed by IDEX Paris-Saclay, as is the case for cotutelle thesis of this programme, mention IDEX as ANR-11-IDEX-0003.

The following sentence should therefore be added to publications, communications and other scientific productions:

In addition, visual aids (PowerPoint or other presentations, posters) must imperatively include the logos of Université Paris-Saclay and the "programme d'investissements d'avenir".

The ANR carries out studies to evaluate the impact of the funding granted. The general framework of the ANR is as follows: "This work has benefited of an aid from the State under France 2030 with the reference "ANR-11-IDEX-003".

Calendar

- Opening of the portal for the submission of subjects: **January 15th, 2024**
- Closing of the portal for the submission of subjects: **February 23rd, 2024**
- Opening of applications: **February 28th, 2024**
- Closing of applications: **March 31st, 2024**
- Deadline for the submission of the cotutelle application by thesis supervisors: **April 4th, 2024**
- Meeting with the thesis supervisors: **April 8th, 2024**
- Deadline for the selection of candidates by the doctoral schools: **May 15th, 2024**
- The programme selection committee will meet: **June 12th, 2024 at 10 A.M.**
- Deadline for sending the final financial commitment from the partner institution to the international PhD axis: **June 19th, 2024**

Contacts

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask them on the following e-mail address:

adi.upsaclay@universite-paris-saclay.fr

