



Institut
exposUM
UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTPELLIER

ExposUM **FELLOWSHIPS**

2024



ExposUM is an initiative of the University of Montpellier and its partners aiming to establish an off-site and decompartmentalized reference institute for the study, training and science-society interface of the environmental determinants of human health. Laureate of the ExcellenceS call (PIA4) and supported by the Occitanie Region, ExposUM has a budget of 46.4M€ over the 2022-2030 period.

SCIENTIFIC SCOPE

The exposome is the set of environmental and social factors the effects of which, combined with the intrinsic characteristics of individuals, underlie the onset, the evolution, and the severity of infectious or non-communicable human diseases. In this sense, it is the environmental counterpart of the genome, with which it interacts throughout the life of individuals.

OBJECTIVES

The Research axis of the ExposUM Institute aims to accelerate the acquisition of fundamental knowledge in an interdisciplinary, coordinated and non-segmented manner on the fields of study of the exposome under **the four pillars** :

1. Strengthen the monitoring of environmental exposures,
2. Refining the understanding of the ecology of hosts, pathogens, reservoirs, and vectors in a *One Health* approach,
3. Improve fundamental knowledge of biological mechanisms,
4. Study the consequences for human health.

Data science (in its broadest sense) constitutes a bridge linking all the pillars, both in terms of methodology, exploitation and highlighting of the results. Based on one or more of the pillars, research oriented towards the study and development of **new exposure control strategies** also falls within the scope of this axis, in coordination with the Interfaces axis.

To this end, the ExposUM Institute is proposing two *ExposUM Fellowships* for the start of the 2024 academic year. They are a complement to the regular research project call, and are a continuation of the MUSE I-SITE attractiveness programme, the terms of which they follow.

The *ExposUM Fellowships* programme supports the consolidation and development of local skills and the scientific potential of the site on the themes of the Institute.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Financial support will be granted for two years and will be renewable once for a further two years. The grant will cover, if necessary, the salary of the successful candidates and a research budget of €200k/year, including the salary related to the recruitment of at least one post-doctoral fellow (employer's cost from €46k/year, adjusted according to experience and expertise) and additional project expenses (recruitment of an engineer or technician, operating costs and equipment), contributing to the implementation of an original research project on the exposome.

¹Occitanie Region, CNRS, IRD, INRAE, CIRAD, INSERM, CHU Montpellier, ICM, Institut Agro Montpellier, ENSCM, Ifremer, INRIA.

²From ANR and Région Occitanie funds.

³Recruited within the scientific project of the laureate, according to the salary scales in force at the University of Montpellier.

ELIGIBILITY

This call aims at attracting experienced and recognised researchers and teacher-researchers who wish to join one of the research structures within the ExposUM Institute's perimeter to develop ambitious and original research projects.

All PhD holders who are currently teaching or researching **outside the site, whether on a non-permanent or permanent basis**, are eligible to apply (the cost of the modulation of the teaching service may be included in the cost of the project).

Nationality and country of residence are not eligibility criteria.

The affiliation laboratory (research unit of the ExposUM consortium, with or without the University of Montpellier as co-supervisor) is left to the choice of the applicant, who must have identified it at the time of application, with the approval of the management of the laboratory concerned (*see below*).

The research project must fall within the field of the exposome, i.e. **the study of human health determinants of environmental origin in the broadest sense**.

APPLICATION FORMALITIES

Applications will be evaluated on the sole basis of a French or English written material, which must include :

- **a letter from the director of the host laboratory**, presenting the interest of the project and its inclusion in a long-term vision for the development of the research unit, the potential for the sustainability of the position and the team at the end of the project: maximum 2 pages,
- **an introduction of the candidate including a full CV** and a justification of her/ his ability to develop a specific theme and possibly to take charge of a young team of the future (e.g. ATIP-Avenir), the potential to obtain international recognition (e.g. ERC Starting Grant), the capacity to carry out a structuring project and his/her career prospects: maximum 3 pages,
- a description of **the research project** (state of the art, progress, potential impacts), a provisional timetable and budget (while indicating other funding already available or expected): maximum 7 pages,
 - for non-permanent candidates, **a commitment to apply to the French competitive exams** to become a tenured teacher-researcher or researcher.

These four elements must be merged in this order (no template is provided) in a PDF file named **EUMF_NomPrenom.pdf** to be sent by email to exposum-aap@umontpellier.fr with **[Candidature ExposUM Fellowship]** in the subject line

before 1 April 2024 14:00 (UTC+2).

EVALUATION

Applications will be evaluated and selected by the **Scientific and Strategic Orientation Council (SSOC)** of the ExposUM Institute, on the basis of the quality and scientific potential of the applicant and the project, the relevance of the project to the themes of the Institute and the coherence of the project with the strategy of the consortium partners, with the aim of strengthening the attractiveness and international scientific influence of the Institute.

Applications with one or more of the following qualities will be valued, given equivalent scientific level :

- a highly interdisciplinary project (especially if it includes a Social Sciences component),
- initiation of new partnerships (academic or otherwise),
- research focused on One Health, Global Health and the South.

CALENDRIER

- Publication of the ExposUM Fellowships calls : 19 January 2024
- Deadline for receipt of applications : 1 April 2024
- Evaluation and selection of applications : April 2024
- Announcement of results : May 2024
- Taking up post : September to November 2024.

Commitments

The selected candidates commit to :

- Start their research activities in the identified research unit between September and November 2024,
- include the France 2030, University of Montpellier and Région Occitanie logos in all communications resulting from the project, and to abide by the University of Montpellier's publication signature chart,
- provide an annual report to the Institute on the activities carried out
- for non-tenured laureates, apply for competitive exams to become a permanent researcher or professor.

Contact

For further information, please contact
exposum-aap@umontpellier.fr with the subject : **[Contact Fellowships]**.

Governance of the ExposUM Institute

Executive Committee (EC)

Éric Delaporte (Directeur),
Aurélie Binot (Interfaces), Charlotte Boullé (Formation), Mircea Sofonea (Recherche).

Project management team

Morgane Cottin, Camille Couralet, Noémie Moret, Elodie Suttling

Scientific and Strategic Orientation Council (SSOC)

Jacques Mercier (President),
Amaria Baghdadli, Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent, Pascal Demoly, Delphine Destoumieux-Garzon,
Hélène Fenet, Didier Fontenille, Sylvain Gandon, Julie Pannequin, Denis Pesche, Coumba Toure
Kane, Muriel Vayssier-Tarissat, Laurent Visier.

Research Orientation and Evaluation Council (ROEC)

Mircea Sofonea (Président),
Manouk Abkarian, Anne-Muriel Arigon, Charlotte Boullé, Anca-Mirela Chiriac, Constance Delaby,
Gauthier Dobigny, Elena Gomez, Christelle Gramaglia, Antoine Gross, Alexandre Hobeika, Nadine
Laguet, Georges Lutfalla, Antonio Maraver, Anatja Samouelian, Jérôme Thireau, Annelise Tran.



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THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTPELLIER

KEY FIGURES

52372
students



74
research facilities

TOP 200
in the Shanghai
ranking

657
National and
institutional diplomas

17
faculties, schools and
institutes

9
doctoral schools

3rd
worldwide in
ecology



5132 employees
including **2818** teachers, researchers and research assistants

6500
scientific publications
in 2021

RESEARCH CENTERS

From space exploration and robotics to ecological engineering and chronic diseases, UM researchers are inventing tomorrow's solutions for mankind and the environment.

Dynamic research, conducted in close collaboration with research organizations and benefiting from high-level technological platforms to meet the needs of 21st century society.

The UM is committed to promoting its cutting-edge research by forging close links with local industry, particularly in the biomedical and new technologies sectors.

More Information : <https://www.umontpellier.fr/en/recherche/unites-de-recherche>

SCIENTIFIC APPEAL

Open to the world, the University of Montpellier contributes to the structuring of the European higher education area, and strengthens its international positioning and attractiveness, in close collaboration with its partners in the I-SITE Program of Excellence, through programs adapted to the major scientific challenges it faces.

More Information : <https://www.umontpellier.fr/en/international/attractivite-scientifique>



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