LE STUDIUM
Loire Valley
Institute for Advanced Studies

RÉGION CENTRE VAL DE LOIRE

SMART LOIRE VALLEY (SLV) Programme

LE STUDIUM VISITING RESEARCHER Award

Call for Applications 2027

Indicative application format

Introduction:

Please note that this document is designed to share information between the applicant and the host scientist. **Applications must be completed online on the LE STUDIUM website.** An application submitted by email will **NOT** be valid.

To submit an online application, the applicant needs to register on the LE STUDIUM website. After validation of her/his account, the applicant will receive by email an invitation to access the submission platform. Once he is logged into his personal space, the project to be completed can be found under the "projects" tab.

The online application is divided into 3 parts:

- **Part A:** General information (online form) and documents to upload (CVs, support letters).
- **Part B:** Scientific proposal (document to upload)
- **Part C:** Engagement of the host research institute / laboratory (document to upload)

General information:

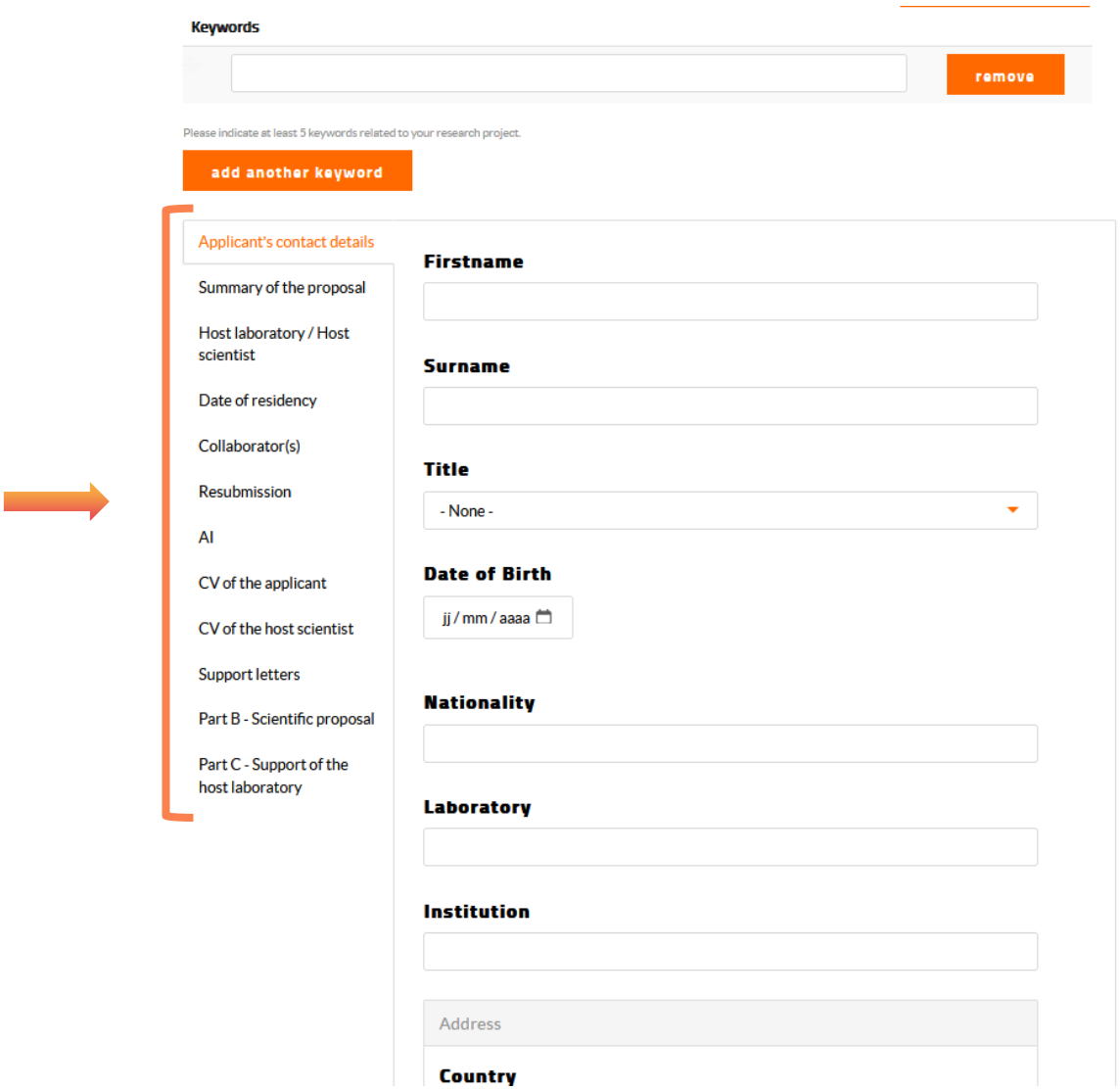
The parts B and C must respect the following minimum standards:

- ✓ A minimum font size of 11 points, except for Gantt chart and tables where the minimum font size is 8 points
- ✓ Single line spacing
- ✓ A4 page size
- ✓ Margins (top, bottom, left, right) of 25 mm
- ✓ A clearly readable font (e.g. Arial or Times New Roman) on a printed copy

Tables are only for illustrating the core text of the proposal. As such, they can not be used to contain the core text itself. The LE STUDIUM operational team will systematically check the page formatting. For non-compliant proposals, applicants will be asked to reformat their proposal without the possibility of modifying the content. Evaluators will subsequently disregard excess pages.
Footnotes are to be used exclusively for literature references. Their minimum font size is 8. They will count towards the page limit.

Part A:

To complete this part, applicants are invited to use the online form.



The form is divided into different sections, which you can access via the tabs on the left.
Click on each section to display and complete it.

1- Applicant's contact details

Give the following details concerning the applicant: first name, surname, title, birth date, nationality, laboratory, institution, professional address, phone number, email, website and specialty.

2- Summary of the proposal

Write a summary of the proposal in English **and** in French (mandatory); it will be used for LE STUDIUM website and in public media if the proposal is funded.

Content limited to 2000 characters for each summary.

3- Host laboratory / Host scientist

Give the following details concerning the regional host research institute/laboratory and host scientist: first name, surname, title, nationality, laboratory, institution, professional address, phone number, email, website, name and email of the director of the host research institute/laboratory.

4- Dates of residency

Indicate approximate dates for the scientific residency in Centre-Val de Loire region in the framework of the LE STUDIUM Visiting Researcher award.

Choose what type of duration are you applying for? Short or long stay.

5- Collaborator(s)

The collaborators provide high-level expertise on an aspect of the overall project to ensure a project specific outcome.
-> Give the following details for each collaborator: first name, surname, title, nationality, laboratory, institution, professional address, phone number, email, website and speciality.
-> Describe the collaborator role

Content limited to 2000 characters for each collaborator.

Having collaborators is not necessary to submit an application.

6- New Application / Resubmission

Declare if the applicant has submitted this application or a similar one to LE STUDIUM programmes in the last 3 years.
If yes explain how the application has been improved following evaluators' feedback sent in the Evaluation Summary Report.

Content limited to 4000 characters.

7- Ethics

Indicate if the the proposal involves collecting data on humans or animal experimentation to achieve the study outcomes?

If yes, please explain your strategy to manage the requirements for compliance with Ethics regulations in the Centre-Val de Loire region.

8- Utilisation of Artificial Intelligence

Indicate if the applicant has used artificial intelligence (AI) tools in preparing this application.

If yes, please provide a brief explanation of how and to what extent these tools were used.

9- CV of the applicant

Upload the CV of the applicant (maximum 10 pages).

10- CV of the the host scientist

Upload the CV of the host scientist (maximum 10 pages).

11- Support letters

If relevant, upload support letters (home institution representative, company, academic partner, etc…)

Having support letters is not mandatory.

Part B:

To complete this part, applicants are invited to upload a document (Word or PDF format) on the online platform. This document must respect the standards described in the guidelines of the call and at the beginning of this Indicative Format document.

The maximum total length for this document is 10 pages. It should be composed as follows (detailed description below):

- ✓ Section 1: Scientific project
- ✓ Section 2: Impact of the proposed research
- ✓ Section 3: Career and Track record of the Applicant

Of the maximum 10 pages quota applying to the whole document, applicants are free to decide on the allocation of pages between the sections 1, 2 and 3.
If some of the proposed sub-sections are not relevant to their proposal, applicants are invited to ignore them.

After the call deadline, excess pages will automatically be made invisible, and consequently not taken into consideration by the experts. It is the responsibility of the applicant to verify that the submitted PDF documents are readable and are within the page limit.

Please find below a proposed plan for the part B (10 pages maximum in total).

Section 1 : Scientific Project

1- State of the Art

Describe the State of the Art in the field related to the project

2- Aims

Describe the specific aims of the project, including a clear statement of the hypothesis to be tested

3- Significance

Describe the importance of the problem to be researched, the planned outcome of the research, and the potential significance of the research.

4- Research plan

Describe the methods and techniques to be used and research plan, including as appropriate:

- Description of the experiment design;
- Techniques to be used;
- Methods of statistical analysis;
- Strengths and challenges of the study design

5- Risk assessment / mitigation strategies

Identify the main scientific or methodological risks of the project and describe the strategies you will use to mitigate them.

Section 2: Impact of the proposed research

1- Innovation

Describe the innovative aspects in the proposal specify the contribution of the research project to the development of knowledge in the scientific field.

2- Interdisciplinary dimension

If relevant, show how the proposed research project connects various scientific disciplines.

If relevant, describe how interdisciplinary aspects consist in a key factor of the application.

3- Collaborations between research institutes/laboratories / partnerships with socio-economic sectors

If relevant, present the proposed collaborations. These partnerships can be with other academic research institutes/laboratories as well as with private or public companies or socio-economic stakeholders.

4- Intellectual property / industrial applications

If relevant, describe the applications related to the research project regarding industry, economy and/or society. If the intellectual property strategy with the host scientist's research institute/ laboratory is already defined, the applicant is invited to present it.

5- Exploitation and dissemination of results

Describe how the new knowledge generated by the proposed research will be disseminated and exploited, and the potential impacts. Discuss the strategy for targeting peers and key stakeholders (such as the scientific community, industry, professional organisations, policy makers, etc.).

6- Mentorship / Training activities

If relevant, explain any mentorship or training activities you will undertake during the visit, including supervision of students or early-career researchers.

7- Societal and regional impact

Describe the potential societal or regional impact of your research, including benefits for the Centre-Val de Loire region or the broader community.

8- Summary - Quantifiable outcomes

Please provide a list of **quantifiable** and institutionally valuable outcomes, such as peer-reviewed publications, invited or public seminars, teaching activities or education contributions, the establishment of new collaborations or partnerships, the preparation or submission of joint research proposals, as well as any other measurable outputs that contribute to the visibility and impact of the proposed collaboration. Clear Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are expected for this section.

Section 3: Career and track record

1- Track record of the applicant

Highlight the career achievements of the applicant and awards including a list of peer-reviewed publications in the last five years. Identify up to five publications from this list relevant to this proposal EXCLUDING submitted papers. Book chapters and books should be listed separately.

2- Career development

Explain the relevance of the SMART LOIRE VALLEY LE STUDIUM Visiting Researcher award for the career development of the applicant.

3- Developing long lasting research links

Indicate if there is a strategy for long lasting research collaboration between the applicant and the host research institute/laboratory or host scientist.

4- Funding Roadmap and Expansion Plans

If relevant, provide a list of funding calls you plan to apply for, and describe any strategy for developing larger-scale collaborative projects as a continuation or expansion of your LE STUDIUM award.

5- Investment of the home institution

If relevant, explain how the home institution is engaged in the proposed Visiting Researcher award. If the home institution considers a reciprocity, describe the considered scheme.

6- Relevance of the host laboratory choice

Explain why the applicant has chosen the host research institute/laboratory for the project.

7- Transfer of knowledge between the applicant and the host research institute/laboratory

Outline how a two-way transfer of knowledge will occur between the applicant and the host research institute/laboratory:

- ✓ Explain what new knowledge the applicant will gain during the Visiting Researcher residency at the host research institute/laboratory and how it will be acquired
- ✓ Outline the previously acquired knowledge and skills that the researcher will transfer to the host research institute/laboratory

Part C:

To complete this part, applicants are invited to upload a signed PDF letter

The part C consists in a 2-page (maximum) letter from the host scientist supporting the application. The letter must describe:

- ✓ The qualifications and experience of the host scientist
- ✓ The experiences of the host research institute/laboratory in the field of research
- ✓ The equipment, resources and environment of the host research institute/laboratory that will allow the applicant to achieve his/her research goals
- ✓ How the proposal fits into the scientific strategy of the host team and/or institution
- ✓ The benefits of the Visiting Researcher award for the host research institute/laboratory
- ✓ The hosting arrangements showing that the experienced researcher will be well integrated within the team/institution so that all parties gain maximum knowledge and skills from the Visiting Researcher award.

The part C has to be signed by the host scientist and the director of the host research institute/laboratory.

Deadline: the submission of all parts has to occur before the 2nd February 2027, 5pm CET.