



Call for projects

Inclusion, social acceptability, and the fight against misinformation in sustainable food systems

Key date

Application submission
deadline :
June 9, 2025



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INAF

INSTITUT SUR LA
NUTRITION ET LES
ALIMENTS FONCTIONNELS

Funded by :

Fonds
de recherche

Québec



1. Context and objectives

The Quebec biofood sector faces major challenges related to inclusion, social acceptability of innovations, and access to reliable information on sustainable food. In a context of ecological transition and increasing diversity in information sources, it is essential to better understand informational ecosystems, promote the plurality of knowledge systems, and strengthen food, digital, and media literacy.

This call for proposals aims to support research projects that:

- improve understanding of disinformation, misinformation, and malinformation issues;
- analyze the social acceptability of sustainable food practices or products;
- promote inclusive practices in knowledge dissemination;
- support the valorization of diverse food knowledge systems (Indigenous, immigrant, gendered, etc.);
- strengthen responsible communication practices within the biofood sector.

Ultimately, the goal is to foster collaboration between academic and user communities to build trust, equity, and sustainability in Québec's food systems.

This call for proposals is part of a structuring initiative led by the Pôle bioalimentaire, powered by the Institute of Nutrition and Functional Foods (INAF) and supported both financially and strategically by the Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ). It brings together all Quebec researchers who are members of strategic clusters affiliated with the Nature and Technology, and Society and Culture sectors of the Fonds de recherche du Québec.

2. Eligibility criteria and conditions

- All researchers must be affiliated with a Quebec postsecondary institution recognized by the FRQ and be members of an FRQ research cluster in the Nature and Technology or Society and Culture sectors at the time of the project's implementation.
- The team must consist of at least two researchers from two distinct department (mandatory) and two different strategic clusters (mandatory). The formation of new intersectoral teams is considered an advantage. Please contact us for assistance with networking needs (pole@inaf.ulaval.ca).

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- All researchers must be members of the Pôle bioalimentaire. If membership is not in effect at the time of application submission, support will be provided to facilitate registration and ensure the applicant's eligibility.
- Partnering with an end-user organization for project implementation is required.
- The team may also include collaborators. A collaborator is a person identified by the principal researcher as providing specific expertise to the project or research program for which funding is requested. They cannot be delegated the management of any portion of the funds and are not considered a researcher within the core research team.
- Researchers may only be part of one official application under this call for projects.
- Teams receiving financial support must submit a detailed statement outlining the allocation of the received funds in accordance with FRQ regulations.
- Each project team awarded funding must submit a mid-term report to help monitor project progress. This report must outline the objectives achieved through the research in terms of benefits for the biofood sector or scientific advancements generated by the project.
- Projects whose deliverables will contribute to the preparation of more ambitious funding applications to provincial and federal organizations will be prioritized.
- Projects may last a maximum of 18 months. All projects must be completed by March 31, 2027.
- The maximum funding available is \$25,000 per project (excluding indirect research costs).

3. Application submission

Applications must be submitted using the application submission form ([downloadable here](#)) and must include all the information listed below.

1. Project Information (max. 3 pages)

1.1. Project title (in French and English)

1.2. A short project summary (in French and English): Provide a concise summary of the project that may be used for public communications (e.g., on the INAF website, LinkedIn post, etc.).

1.3. A project description (max. 2 pages): Present the context and problem statement, objectives, methodology, and implementation plan, including a project timeline.

2. Team members: name the researchers and collaborators, their home institutions, their affiliations with FRQ strategic clusters, as well as the scientific and technical complementarities required to achieve the project's objectives within the proposed timeline.

3. Expected results and short- and medium-term perspectives (max. 1 page): Describe the expected outcomes for end users and the projected development perspectives for the biofood industry in Quebec in the short and medium term.

4. Knowledge dissemination and mobilization plan (max. 1 page): Define the project's end users, specify the dissemination strategies for the results, and outline the planned actions to mobilize knowledge among end users.

5. A detailed budget and justification of funds (max. 1 page): Provide a detailed budget, justifying the requested expenses in relation to the project's objectives. Specify the distribution of funds among team members, if applicable.

6. Curriculum Vitae (CV): Include the CVs of researchers involved in the project.

The deadline for submitting the application in PDF format is **June 9, 2025**. Documents must be sent to the following email address: **pole@inaf.ulaval.ca**. Please use the subject line: **"Submission for the communication Call for Projects"**.



4. Evaluation of applications

Evaluation Procedure

Eligible applications will be submitted to a scientific evaluation committee composed of researchers whose expertise aligns with the nature of the proposed projects and who have no conflict of interest with the applicants. A representative observer from the FRQ will also be present.

Applications will be evaluated based on the four criteria listed below.

Evaluation Criteria

- Project quality (25 points): Scientific rigour, relevance of objectives, robustness of methodology, feasibility of the timeline, and budget coherence.
- Team quality (25 points): Synergy of research expertise, collaboration between private and academic partners, resource sharing, interdisciplinarity, complementarity of strategic clusters, and contribution to the formation of a new research team.
- Potential results for the Quebec biofood sector (30 points): Advancement of knowledge, contribution to innovation and sector competitiveness, expected leverage effect, supervision of students, and potential use of deliverables to support a more ambitious funding application.
- Knowledge mobilization plan (20 points): Scope and quality of the mobilization and knowledge transfer strategy, engagement of end users, and their integration into the dissemination and application process.

5. Announcement of results

The allocation of funded projects will be announced no later than **July 2025**, with projects expected to start no later than **August 1st, 2025**. A midterm and final report on deliverables and results must be submitted.



6. Nature of financial support

- **Granted amount:** A maximum of \$25,000 per project (excluding indirect research costs).
- **Eligible expenses:** Costs related to materials, equipment, and resources directly required for project execution that are not typically covered by institutions; compensation for participants, salaries, scholarships, and professional fees (for students and professionals); travel expenses; dissemination and knowledge transfer expenses. (Details on eligible expenses can be found in the following document: https://www.inaf.ulaval.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Liste_depenses_admissibles_POLV2-2.pdf).
- **Support duration:** The project must be completed no later than March 31, 2027, with no possibility of extension. This initiative is made possible through the support of the FRQ, Nature and Technology sector.



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