



Australia-France Indo-Pacific Strategic Environment Grants Guidelines 2025

The Australia-France Indo-Pacific Studies Program (AFIPS Program) will be delivered by the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia (the Academy) from 2024 to 2027, with support from the Australian Government (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) under the Australia-France Roadmap.

As part of the AFIPS Program, The Academy will facilitate grants of up to AU\$20,000 for one- or two-year collaborative research projects and exchanges focussing on the regional strategic environment, including on economic and non-traditional security issues. Grants are available to researchers from Australia, France, Indo-Pacific nations and French overseas territories, and papers are invited to make practical recommendations for Australian and/or French policymakers.

The Academy welcomes proposals for collaborative social science **or related research** projects that consider at least one of the following priority research themes:

- **Foreign policy, defence or strategic issues**
- Governance and economic resilience, including information resilience
- Digital and cyber transformation
- Sustainability and climate change
- Cultural and economic development, including intergenerational equality
- Trade, diplomacy, and international relations

Funding:

Grants of up to AU\$20,000 for one or two-year projects (AU\$10,000 per year) are available for research and publication activities.

Duration:

One year (12 months) or two years (24 months)

Eligibility:

The person submitting the grant application will be identified as the 'main applicant.'

To be eligible to apply, the main applicant must be a social science researcher, and:

- Living and working in Australia, France, an Indo-Pacific nation or French overseas territory.
- Proposing direct collaboration with one or more researchers living and working in a different area within the above locations.
- Employed by a research organisation (university, research institute, think tank or government research agency) with capacity to administer and support the proposed project.

Please see a list of social science disciplines (fields of research) recognised by the Academy via the Australia and New Zealand Research Classifications (ANZRC) [here](#).

The main applicant will be the recipient of the grant funds (generally through their employing institution) and is responsible for their acquittal. The main applicant is responsible for the completion of the project/activity described in the grant application. Only one main applicant can be listed in an application.

A co-applicant is a researcher taking part in the research project and thereby receives a share of the grant according to the budget. A maximum of five additional co-applicants can be included in the application. The main applicant (or their institution) is legally responsible for the grant and the transfer of the shares of the grant to the project co-applicants according to the budget submitted in the application.

Project Outputs:

- Research papers and/or
- Project summary report (five pages maximum)

Project outputs must contain practical recommendations for Australian and/or French policymakers.

Application Process:

Applications should be submitted to the Academy's International Team via the application form and host endorsement form links available on the AFIPS Program [website](#).

In addition to the completed application Form, attachments should include a current CV (two pages max.) of the main applicant and each of the co-applicants.

Proposals must include

- An overview of the research focus and need, including a working title,
- Proposed collaborators (in addition to co-applicants, where applicable),
- Methodology and timeline (project timeframe of either one or two years)
- Proposed budget for research activities, including indication of additional funding contributions where relevant.

- Proposed outputs and dissemination/translation strategy.

Assessment Criteria:

- Quality of the outline of the planned research to be undertaken during the project and how it connects to the AFIPS Program objectives
- Impact and significance of the planned collaborative research activity outputs to arise from the project, considering the innovation and scholarly significance of the research activities, as well as practical strategic policy advice as a result of the project
- Feasibility of the planned project activities within the grant funding available and proposed project timeframe
- Track record of the main applicant and co-applicants, considering preparedness to fulfil the proposed research activities and AFIPS Program objectives.

Each of the above criteria will be assessed with equal weight with reference to the information included in the application documents.

The assessment committee will also consider factors of diversity (women researchers, researchers from low-middle income countries, disability and other factors of disadvantage).

Conditions:

By submitting your application, you will be asked to acknowledge and agree to the following conditions:

- Information on the application form is collected to make recommendations to the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia on the allocation of financial assistance under their respective budgets. The information collected may be passed to assessors for the purposes of obtaining a peer-review assessment of the application. It may also be passed to other funding bodies and other public organisations (inc. Universities and research bodies) judged appropriate by the funding organisations. In other instances, information on this form can be disclosed without your consent where authorised or required by law.
- While the Academy's selection committee gives careful consideration to all applications, it is not able to enter into discussion or correspondence regarding the reasons why an application is unsuccessful.
- Successful applicants, or their institution, will invoice the Academy according to the funding agreement payment schedule, within two weeks of executing the funding agreement.
- Successful applicants are required to submit a report of the research activities funded by the program and an acquittal of funds within **two months** following the completion of the funded activities.

Contact:

Anna Devenport – The Academy of Social Sciences in Australia

international@socialsciences.org.au