National Plan for Open Science: €2.6 million for a call for projects

The Steering Committee for Open Science is to launch a call for projects in the field of publishing and scientific publication with a view to developing bibliodiversity. This call for projects will have an overall budget of €2.6 million.

Part of the National Fund for Open Science’s €3.1 million budget announced by Frédérique Vidal in the framework of National Plan for Open Science will be allocated to a call for projects. The projects will be evaluated by a panel of experts and selected by the Steering Committee for Open Science. They must undertake to comply with the exemplary criteria published by the Committee for Open Science.

The Steering Committee for Open Science has decided to invest this funding in two action projects:

• €2.6 million will be allocated to a call for projects in the field of publishing and scientific publication aimed at developing bibliodiversity, part of which will be awarded to international projects accredited by the Sustainability Coalition for Open Science Services (SCOSS);

• €500,000 will be attributed to the multidisciplinary open archive (HAL), to modernise its technical architecture and services, an amount that complements an exceptional allocation of €650,000 from the CNRS.

For its first year of operation, the fund has been allocated a budget of €3.1 million. The origin of these funds is threefold:

• €2 million allocated by the French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation;

• €1 million from savings made thanks to negotiations with the publisher Elsevier;

• A €100,000 voluntary contribution from the Inria which comes from savings made on subscriptions.

The National Fund is financed by ministerial allocations and voluntary contributions from higher education, research and innovation institutions as well as contributions from foundations and patrons.

The Fund complements the support for open science provided by the €2.3 million National Research Agency Flash Open Science call which focused on research data.

About the National Plan for Open Science
The National Plan for Open Science announced by Frédérique Vidal on July 4th 2018 makes open access mandatory for project-funded publications and research data. It set up a Committee for Open Science and supports major landscape structuring initiatives for publications and data. Finally, it has a training component and an international component which are essential to fully involve scientific communities and ensure France’s influence in this emerging landscape.
About the Committee for Open Science
The Committee for Open Science ensures the implementation of a support policy to make research publications and data open. The committee's missions are as follows:

1. To ensure the coordinated implementation with higher education and research operators of a national plan to open all research publications and data to all;
2. To enable the development of open science skills in the scientific community;
3. To coordinate national action in the field of open science at European and international levels;
4. To define the principles and guidelines for the allocation of funding to the National Fund for Open Science and its use;
5. To define the principles and guidelines for negotiations with the main publishers of scientific publications;
6. To propose initiatives likely to strengthen or promote access to knowledge and research data to the ministers responsible for research and higher education and to the public authorities.

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