

# Franco-German Research Fund on the Provenance of Cultural Objects from sub-Saharan Africa

## Networking and Partnership Funding

### 2024-2026

## Call for Projects

As the host institution of the Franco-German Research Fund on the Provenance of Cultural Objects from sub-Saharan Africa, the Centre Marc Bloch is pleased to announce the creation of a new call for projects specifically designed to encourage the emergence of international research teams and to reinforce already existing collaborations on provenance research between France, Germany and Sub-Saharan Africa.

This call is open to all researchers, museum professionals, experts and civil society members wishing to carry out networking activities in a variety of forms: staff exchange and other mobility, workshops, joint teaching activities, joint publications.

This funding supports activities to be carried out in 2025 and 2026. Teams may apply for up to 15 000 EUR for projects lasting a maximum of 12 months.

A special emphasis will be put on proposals that demonstrate the potential to set up new research teams or to advance existing collaboration with researchers and museum professionals from sub-Saharan Africa, as well as proposals that include a genuine Franco-German dimension. Initiatives from early-career researchers, museum professionals and from civil society will also be encouraged.

This call is complementary to the regular call for projects (see open call 2025 on the [CMB website](#)). Funded networking and partnership projects can result in a follow-up project that can be submitted within the regular call for projects of the Provenance Fund. It can also be followed by any other funding by any other institution.

### Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for support, the networking project must contribute to provenance research on cultural objects from Sub-Saharan Africa and bring together participants (including researchers, museum professionals, experts, civil society members) based in one or more Sub-Saharan African countries, as well as in Germany and France. Projects proposals must be hosted by one partner institution<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Partner as the legal entity administrating the funding. This entity must be based in France or in Germany.

## **Application**

The coordinator of the project receiving funding must hold at least a PhD or be employed by a museum structure on a fixed-term contract for the duration of the project or on a permanent basis.

Applicants must use the application form provided and briefly describe their project, covering aspects such as project description including budget, objectives, joint activities, and foreseen impact of the project.

Please note that only material costs, including fee payments and fellowships are eligible for funding (see submission form).

## **Selection criteria**

The following criteria will be used to evaluate the overall quality of each proposal:

- ✓ Quality, coherence and innovative potential of the team and adequacy of the choice of the partner institution;
- ✓ Strategy to build or consolidate durable and sustainable transnational relationships and to foster new collaborations between research institutes, museums and civil society;
- ✓ Clarity of the budget and feasibility of the working plan.

The CMB values diversity and inclusion in all aspects of collaboration. Proposals that incorporate diverse perspectives, promote gender equality, and support underrepresented groups will be highly regarded.

## **Evaluation and selection process**

Proposals will be evaluated and selected by the Fund's Scientific Council. The evaluation will be provided by two internal reviewers selected among the members of the Scientific Council. The Scientific Council selects the projects based on the reviews and on a collegial discussion. The usual rules governing conflicts of interest will be applied to guarantee an objective evaluation based on publicly available criteria.

After notification of the results, a short report on the selection decision will be provided on demand.

## **Timetable and next steps**

Submission deadlines are:

- 28 February 2025
- 31 May 2025
- 31 August 2025
- 31 December 2025

The projects will be formally notified 2 months at the latest after the submission deadline. Funded projects can start no later than 3 months after notification.

## **Funding rules**

Upon completion of the selection procedure, the allocated funds will be attributed by the Centre Marc Bloch following its regulations of project funding. Funding will be made in installments according to the project budget.

**Please submit the application form, CVs and questions regarding this call to**

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