



**AMBASSADE
DE FRANCE
EN NOUVELLE-ZÉLANDE
ET AUX ÎLES COOK**

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**Te Pōkai Tara
Universities
New Zealand**

FRANCE-NEW ZEALAND UNIVERSITY RESEARCH LINKAGE

Mobility Grants for University Researchers

RESEARCHER

Call for Applications: Mobility Grant for New Zealand Researchers Collaborating with France on Horizon Europe Projects

1. Purpose

- New Zealand's recent association with Horizon Europe Pillar II represents a significant opportunity to enhance research cooperation between France and New Zealand.
- In this context, the university sectors of both countries aim to capitalize on this momentum and strengthen research-driven strategic partnerships, as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding signed by *France Universités* and *Universities New Zealand* on 4 November 2024.
- This mobility grant, established in 2025, is designed to support the development of joint Horizon Europe proposals involving researchers from France and New Zealand.
- Recognising that in-person collaboration is essential for building strong joint proposals, this grant offers financial support to New Zealand university researchers to conduct a research visit in France. The goal is to co-develop Horizon Europe proposals with one or more identified French partners.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria

2.1 – Eligibility

To be eligible applicants must:

- Be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident (Note: Dual French-New Zealand nationals are not eligible).
- Be employed as academic researchers or research-only staff at a New Zealand university, in any discipline or field.
- Provide evidence of initial contact with one or more targeted French researchers interested in jointly applying for a Horizon Europe call.
- Have the in-principle support of their home university.

Note: There is no requirement for the applicant to speak or understand French.

2.2 – Selection Criteria

Applications will be assessed based on:

- The applicant's academic and research track record.
- The quality and strategic relevance of the proposed collaboration.
- The expected added value of the research visit, both at individual and institutional levels.
- The level of preparedness for submission to a specific Horizon Europe call.

3. Grant Value

- The French Embassy will award grants of:
 - **NZD 4,000** for research visits to mainland France.
 - **NZD 3,000** for research visits to New Caledonia or French Polynesia.
- Grants will be paid directly to successful applicants as soon as possible following notification of award, and no later than **30 November 2025**.

4. Application Process

4.1 – Timeline

- Applications must be submitted by **30 September 2025**.
- Funded mobility must be completed **before 15 June 2026**.

4.2 – Submission

Applications must be submitted via the **Universities New Zealand** online portal:

<https://universitiesnz.communityforce.com/Login.aspx> h

4.3 – Required Documents

Applicants must submit the following:

- **Applicant profile:** CV including key peer-reviewed publications (past 5 years), and details of existing collaborations with France or other European countries (name of country, institution, lab).
- **Copy of passport photo page with expiration date.**
- **Project outline**, including:
 - Profile of the targeted French partner(s), with proof of initial communication.
 - Reference to the relevant Horizon Europe call and any additional European partners involved.
 - Short project description: scientific objectives, rationale for choosing the French partner, anticipated benefits of the visit, any planned access to French research infrastructure, potential interactions with industry (if applicable), and relevance to the applicant's research objectives.

- Tentative schedule and duration of the visit, including key activities. Priority will be given to 2-week-research visits as a minimum.
- Overall budget (breakdown of costs: travel, accommodation, insurance, visa) evidence of supplementary funding if the Grant is not sufficient to cover the breadth of activities outlined in this application,
- Expected research outcomes and long-term vision for the collaboration beyond the Horizon Europe application.
- **Letter of support** from the applicant's home university.

5. Selection Panel

5.1 – Composition

The selection panel will include:

- One representative from the French Embassy in New Zealand and the Cook Islands, who shall Chair the panel.
- Two representatives from Universities New Zealand.
- One representative from New Zealand's National Contact Point (NCP).

5.2 – Evaluation Criteria

Each application will be scored as follows:

Criteria	Score (out of)
Applicant's and French partner's research track record	5
Relevance of the proposed visit to the targeted Horizon Europe call (i.e duration of the visit, research complementarity...)	5
Expected research outputs	5
Long-term added value of the collaboration	5
Total	20