Call for Applications

T.I.E.R.- Trilateral Initiatives in Emerging Regions
2016-2017

The Alliance Calls for Trilateral Initiatives in Emerging Regions (TIER) invites faculty members to submit proposals for a jointly taught course, research, seminars and workshops to broaden educational opportunities and address the student driven demand for exposure to countries and territories outside Europe and North America. The primary goals of the initiative are to promote academic cooperation with out-of-the-network research and education institutions in other continents, in support of capacity building. The initiative encourages projects of all disciplines aimed at innovative regional immersion/integration including, among others, citizenship and urban studies, management of natural resources, public health, statistical capacity or data analysis.

The initiative involves active collaboration of faculty from Columbia University and at least one of the Alliance French partners: Sciences Po, École Polytechnique, and Panthéon-Sorbonne University, in addition to partnering with accredited higher education institutions or research centers outside Europe and North America. The Alliance Program will provide up to $10,000 for travel, materials, technological support, and other expenses in the design/implementation of the project. The grant is available to full-time faculty and may not be used for salary, stipends, or teaching-assistant wages. The initiative targets proposals that have found or will seek external funding from either two channels: a philanthropy or IO focused on assisting capacity building, particularly in Africa and Asia (i.e. Carnegie Mellon, Rockefeller Foundation, SSRC, CODESRIA, EuropeAid, Agence Française de Développement-AFD, Institut de Recherche et de Développement-IRD, CIRAD, INRA, ADEME, PNUE…) and local universities covering local expenses to benefit their faculty.

Eligibility:

- The Alliance Call TIER is open to full-time faculty members at Columbia University, Sciences Po, École Polytechnique, and Panthéon-Sorbonne University in all disciplines.

- The proposal must be presented jointly by a faculty member from Columbia University, one of the Alliance French partner institutions, and the third partner from local higher education institutions or research centers.
The proposing topic can range from, but not limited to the following:

- Tropical Biology and Sustainability
- Data and statistical literacy
- Global Health
- African Soil and Agricultural Sustainability
- Art History and Archeology
- Digital Humanities
- Religion and Tradition
- Media and Theatre
- Sustainable urbanization
- Street politics and citizenship in the global South
- Environmental studies (adaptation and resilience to climate change)
- Renewable energies
- Urban aging

**Application Procedure:**
Proposals should include:

- **Cover page** — includes the project title, e-mail, telephone number and affiliation of each principal initiators;
- **Abstract** — outlines the joint project in a one-paragraph abstract suitable for public reports, publicity materials, and the Alliance website;
- **Narrative** (maximum of five pages) — describes the research question, theoretical foundations, existing literature, empirical and methodological facets, the relevance of regional collaboration in the field and the potential of the project in capacity building. Please also notify how the project intends to attract external funding;
- **Detailed budget** (one page) — details the budget of the research project with amounts specified by category (travel, hosting, salary\(^2\) etc.), external contributions, and a provisional timeline;
- **Curriculum vitae and passport** of project initiators;
- **Letter of intent** signed by all principal participants. The letter can be signed and e-mailed separately (Template page 4).

Please submit completed proposals electronically to rsvp.allianceprogram@gmail.com.

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\(^1\) List of topics based on a review of the main grant-making programs in the US in 2014.
\(^2\) The Alliance grant may not be used for salary, stipends, or teaching-assistant wages.
Application Deadline: June 30, 2015

Review Process:

- Applications are assessed by external reviewers in their disciplines and by the Alliance Scientific Committee. The evaluation will take into account the academic quality of the project, the relevance of the regional collaboration, the coherence and the consistence of the budget, the consistency of the team and its addition to the broader research interest of applicants’ departments and research centers but also the strong potential in capacity building.
- Results will be announced in October 2015.

Requirements of Grant Recipients:

- *Project timeline.* The first project-related expenses should be incurred within one year of the date of award. All expenses and activities should be incurred within one year from the date of the first expenses.
- *Progress reports.* Recipients must report every six months on the activities to which the grant is being applied and on the progress toward obtaining external support for the project.
- *Acknowledgement.* When recipients receive external grants based on the Alliance seed grant, they are expected to acknowledge the support of the “Alliance Program Joint Projects Grant” in any papers, publications or resumes and to provide the Alliance team with copies of these papers and publications.
- *Payment of the grant.* The grant will be awarded via reimbursement based on original receipts. Expenses associated with the joint project should be reported in an Expense Report provided by the Alliance, to be filled out by the principal investigators, within 120 days after the date of the expenses. Past this date, the grant may become taxable income.

Contact:

For more information, please visit the Alliance Program's website. Please direct any questions to rsvp.allianceprogram@gmail.com.