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Make Our Planet Great Again: 12 new high-level researchers will be joining French labs



On 1 June 2017 Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic, issued a call to researchers, entrepreneurs, associations and NGOs, students and the civil society to pull together and join France in the fight against global warming.

The priority research programme "Make our planet great again" was launched under the auspices of Frédérique VIDAL, Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, and of Guillaume BOUDY, Secretary General for Investment. The CNRS is **in charge of the scientific aspects** of the programme and of the processing of the applications in cooperation with the Agence Nationale de la Recherche. At the end of the first two application phases, **32 high-level researchers had been selected by an international jury** to join the leading French laboratories in the fight against climate change.

The third phase closes today. It produced 85 applications, of which 12 have been selected by the jury. 3 laureates come from North America, 8 from Europe (with 3 from the United Kingdom and 3 from Germany), and 1 from Asia. They shall shortly be joining the French research labs around the country, bringing the total number of *Make our Planet Great Again* laureates to 42.

The selected projects address issues such as the integration of solar cells and electricity storage devices, geological markers of climate change, the variability and intensity of hot weather periods at the poles and the links between climate and financial risks.

They will be financed for a period of between 3 to 5 years, and receive Future Investment Programme (FIP) funding of between €500,000 to €750,000 – depending on the experience of the project proposers – which will be added to at least the same amount from the labs and institutions hosting each of the laureates.

Frédérique Vidal, Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation declared: "I am delighted with the very high quality and diversity of the projects selected since the launch of this initiative by the President of the Republic. The response to the climate crisis is being built in the research labs and by attracting the best researchers from all over the world as France stands amongst the world

leaders. We shall pursue this commitment with our German partners who, at the Franco-German summit in July 2017, expressed their wish to join our call".

For his part, Guillaume Boudy said: "I note the diversity, originality and quality of the dossiers submitted by the different laureates who use the working methods and tools of many disciplines. I am convinced of the global impact of these projects in the long-term on the understanding of climate change and environmental transition".

The 12 laureates of the 3rd phase of Make Our Planet Great Again

Project	Laureate	Subject	French research lab
HOTCLIM	Emilie Capron	Characterisation and dynamics of the hot periods of the past	CNRS
IG-CFR	Carlo Jaeger	Climate and financial risks	CNRS
PRACCATAL	Amir Hoveyda	Multi-catalytic systems for more energy-efficient chemical synthesis	Université de Strasbourg
Rapid Evol	Carol Lee	Rapidly evolving responses to climate change	Université de Montpellier
WEBCLIM	Emmanuel Vincent	Influence of web platforms on climate change information	National Foundation of Political Science
ECS	Ludmila Cojocaru	Solar cells and supercapacitors	Université de Bordeaux
GYPTIS	Alessandro Forte	Geodynamic disturbances of climate markers	Paris Earth Physics Institute (IPG)
PRATO	Katsumasa Tanaka	Achieving the temperature objectives of the Paris Agreement	CEA
PORTAL	Ignacio Palomo	Solutions for transformation towards sustainability in the Alps	CNRS
WAYS-OUT	Bruno Turnheim	Governance of destabilisation and transition processes	INRA
PALMS	Vincent Savolainen	Evolution of palm trees' stress tolerance	IRD
TAD	Rainer Kiko	Desoxygenation of the tropical Atlantic ocean	Sorbonne Université

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