



Call for proposals – 2021
Appel à projets vague 2

**EXCELLENCE SOUS TOUTES SES FORMES –
EXCELLENCE IN ALL ITS FORMS (EXCELLENCES)**

EXEBIO

Document de soumission / *Submission form*

RESUME / SUMMARY

Abstract - English version (max. 4000 characters)

Since 2016, the **bioeconomy** has been an identity signature for the URCA. This theme is at the heart of its establishment project but also Reims site that URCA manages. The implementation of the bioeconomy also directly influences (i) the quality of the environment and (ii) the entire socio-economic organization. These areas are fully in line with the sustainable development objectives and the policies carried out at the local, regional, national and European levels, to respond to major societal challenges. The strategy adopted by the URCA is based on a **core potential of 200 researchers**, state-of-the-art equipment and a proactive policy targeting synergies between training, research units and innovation partners for the implementation of the square of knowledge. **The ambition of the URCA, with the EXEBIO project, is to ensure that the excellence of the URCA in research and training in the bioeconomy is recognized nationally and internationally and to make the bioeconomy the driving factor of research for the whole of the university and the territory around the major partners of the URCA, experts in bioeconomy: communities, industrials and clusters, research organisms and academics.** EXEBIO is based on the creation of an **International Institute in Sustainable Bioeconomy. The Institute bears a pioneering policy for the organization and structuring of research in the bioeconomy and for increased research potential.** The Institute will be structured around research groups, decompartmentalizing disciplines, research units, teaching components as well as institutions by directly including in the project the teams of academic partners. EXEBIO is structured around **3 priorities**, developed with and for society and according to multi-sector and interdisciplinary approaches: **1. Deploy the measures of an ambitious policy for research of excellence** through a proactive policy of international recruitment of high-level scientists, support to the development of excellent research and interdisciplinarity, internationalization of research; **2. Transform training to create a European Graduate School aimed at high-level and research-intensive training**, connected to the socio-economic world: three training paths will be created in bioeconomy and integrated at the master-doctorate level, in partnership with privileged partners. The programs will be fundamentally international and flexible and engage students in an active and personalized construction of their training path. Each of the courses is designed to lead students to the highest scientific level but also to meet the needs of the socio-economic world; **3. Develop innovation and partnerships** with the industrial world for a real innovation policy around the bioeconomy and a reinforced "research-training-innovation" continuum: deployment of labcom projects, professionalization of masters-doctorate training and entrepreneurship, in particular through the creation of start-ups. With the deployment of the EXEBIO project, the expected impacts will be a profound transformation of the URCA to become, with its partners on the Reims site, a national leader and leading European player in the bioeconomy, relying on an increased critical mass, recognized and internationally connected.

The strategic importance and the achievement of EXEBIO are **warranted by the diversity and the involvement of the key partners** (territorial and regional communities, research organisms, industrials and competitiveness clusters, media and academics), who strongly support the project (13.27 million euros, 23% of the total cost of the project). Their commitment in EXEBIO relies on funding but also on their participation in the management of the project (strategy, projects and recruitment selection, ...), education courses and in the collaborative projects. EXEBIO thus represents an essential lever to federate all the actors of the territory for common ambitious objectives around bioeconomy.