RESEARCH & INNOVATION IN FRANCE

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Key features of the French Higher Education and Research system

- **State-funded Higher Education**
  - 1.4% of France’s GDP
  - Predominantly public financing (87%)
  - Education represents largest portion of government spending (more than 20% of budget)
  - Tuition costs among the lowest in the world (for universities: BA is 183€/yr; Master is 254€/yr; PhD is 388€/yr)

- **Effective and diverse research system**:
  - 85 Universities
  - 200 Engineering schools
  - Over 20 Research Organizations
  - Private sector labs
Structure of Research and Innovation in France

Ministry for Higher Education and Research

Strategic Committee for Research (PM)

ANR

Bpifrance (ex-OSEO)

National Programs

Alliances

Research Organizations

Higher Education and Research Institutions (universities, grandes écoles)

Companies

Parliament

Regions

Foundations/Other Agencies

EVALUATION

AGENCIES / PROGRAMS

POLICY

RESEARCH AND R&D PLAYERS

European Research Area

Competitiveness Clusters

Strategic Committee for Research (PM)

Bpifrance (ex-OSEO)
Salary and research funds in France

**Salary funds**
- Government/other sources
- Tenured jobs/Non tenured jobs
- Full time Research/time shared for Research and Teaching

**Research funds**
- Government/competitive grants
- Functionning
- Equipments
- Fluids
- Non tenured jobs
- Travel expenses
What you should know about being a Researcher in France:

- Permanent positions offered
- Evaluation process for tenure Researchers
- Research bonus on a competitive basis
- High quality research facilities
- Access to regional, national and European funds on a competitive basis
- Innovation bill (1999): to facilitate the creation of start-ups by researchers
- French citizenship and language are not compulsory
- Quality of life:
  - University tuition cost are low
  - Health insurance for everyone
  - Jumping-off point to discover Europe
  - Great food and cultural life!
Hosting conditions *(Insurance, banking, accommodation, etc.)*

- To facilitate the visits of foreign scientists to France:

- To facilitate the visits of PhD students to France:
Organization of the Office for Science and Technology (OST)

Main Scientific Fields
- Environment
- Life Sciences/Health
- Agronomy/
- Food Sciences
- Biotechnology
- IT
- Clean Technologies
- Bioinformatics
- Nanoscience/
- Physics
- Innovation

NETVA
CaFFEET
UC Berkeley/
Stanford
Funds

Fête de la Science
France-Chicago Fund

NETVA/YEI
FAID
FATTE+
MIT-France

NETVA
Chateaubriand
Science
Diplomats Club

France-Atlanta
European Café des
Sciences

FABS
Café des Sciences

Café des Sciences

Nanotech
Café des Sciences

Washington
**OST’s programs**

**Mobility program: The STEM Chateaubriand Fellowship**

- **Objectives**
  - Primary tool of the OST to support existing or emerging collaborations
  - Encourage the growing number of young American scientists conducting research in France
  - Support existing or emerging research collaborations
  - Target doctoral students registered in an American university who would like to perform research for 4-9 months in a French laboratory

- **Conditions**
  - Monthly allowance until €1,400 plus travel expenses and health insurance
  - All Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Health disciplines are eligible
  - Agreement from both the American and French advisors to co-supervise the research project
  - Prioritize candidates working towards a dual PhD degree
Innovation: New Technology Venture Accelerator (NETVA)

- Accelerates the internationalization of young innovative startups in the United States
- Established 4 years ago in Boston, then expanded to San Francisco and now Washington DC
- 180 applicants and 32 laureates

Cooperation projects: Bilateral Funds between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and 4 American universities (MIT, Stanford, UC Berkeley/UC Davis, the University of Chicago).

- Funded by the annual revenue of an initial endowment, sometimes supplemented by the French Ministry for Higher Education and Research, finances projects for 1-2 years
- Number of scientific projects financed in 2013: 22 France-Berkeley, 13 France-Stanford, 10 MIT and 10 France-Chicago
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