

OHM FESSENHEIM

– LabEx DRIHM –

Call for Research Projects 2022

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<https://ohm-fessenheim.fr>

Call calendar

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Results: January / February 2022

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1. Context

The Fessenheim Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) shutdown is part of a national and international political debate on energy and the role of nuclear power. It has major repercussions on its socio-ecosystem (SES) from a socio-economic point of view, particularly in central Alsace, and will have to meet major environmental challenges during the dismantling phase.

Since the 1970s, the construction of the power plant and its operation have had very significant ecological, economic and social impacts on its territory, impacts that will have to be reconsidered with the shutdown. The perimeters of these impacts vary according to the field considered. The territory concerned thus takes on several dimensions:

- The ecological impact zone has yet to be determined because it is not known how far the particles and contaminants (Copper, etc) released by the power plant during its construction and operation phase could have carried into the Rhine or into the atmosphere. The same is true for their combination with other elements, and the contamination that may have resulted.
- An economic and social impact zone that goes beyond Alsace, since thanks to this power plant, Alsace has been able to export its energy and contribute to development beyond the region, and the debate on civil nuclear power has also gone far beyond its borders;

nevertheless, if we consider the direct impact on employment and urbanization, it corresponds to a tight radius that can be reduced to the on-call zone of the power plant employees, i.e., about 30 kilometers around Fessenheim, including the German part.

The socio-ecosystem of Fessenheim thus appears as a territory subject to profound changes whose dynamics must be studied at the articulation of social and ecological phenomena. The location of this socio-ecosystem, on the borders of Germany and Switzerland, in a highly industrialized region along the Rhine, makes it a unique object of study, complete from a socio-environmental point of view, emblematic of energy logics and their ongoing transitions, and complex because of the European and international aspects that it implies de facto in its understanding.

In this context, the DRIIHM Laboratory of Excellence (LabEx) and the human-environment observatory (OHM) Fessenheim are launching a Call for Research Projects for the years 2022/23. The projects will be conducted over two years.

2. Priority themes

The shutdown of the Fessenheim site (the disrupting event) creates a context of rupture, affecting the territory's ancient ecological, societal and infrastructural heritages, mixed with new contemporary economic logics, including the announcement of strong energy transition policies.

The general theme of the OHM Fessenheim aims to study the transformations of the socio-ecosystem linked to the Fessenheim NPP, based on the elements presented above, by measuring its consequences (interactions/feedback) on humans and nature. The key themes seek to articulate ecological sciences and human and social sciences by focusing on the following questions:

- Nuclear energy and alternative energies, in a context of energy and ecological transition
- The social, societal and urban impact of the shutdown on the territory, and its possible contamination on the surrounding areas
- Environmental changes triggered by production shutdown and dismantling

The shutdown leads to major changes in the socio-economic structure of the area, which must be considered in the context of the overall socio-economic changes affecting the Upper Rhine region. Concerning the environmental impacts, the objective is to characterize and model the actual environmental impact of the Fessenheim nuclear power plant - and its shutdown - in relation to all other sources impacting the environment. The emblematic character of the object, at the same time environmental, societal and energetic in a context of energy and ecological transition, makes it a point of study at the same time focal and pioneer.

3. Main lines of investigation

In this context, the OHM Fessenheim is interested, over the long term and with a prospective vision, in three phenomena shaping the territory and the environment, and in their interactions:

- 1) The evolution of the environmental compartment, and in particular the dynamics of pollutants or contaminants and their evolution following closure and during the dismantling phase / as well as the dynamics of landscapes and associated biotopes.
- 2) The evolution of the societal compartment, and in particular the issues of employment, mobility, risks and perception of risks (natural, industrial, technological, sanitary, psychological, etc.), and the quality of life (health, standard of living, demography, identity) / as well as the general dynamics of deterritorialization and reterritorialization following the shutdown.
- 3) The evolution of the share of new, mainly renewable energies under the influence of national and European energy policies, which in turn will have repercussions on the Upper Rhine region and even beyond.

Each research proposal should focus on the disrupting event and fall within one of the three above-mentioned lines.

The OHM Fessenheim seeks to bring out exploratory avenues and/or interdisciplinary and/or multidisciplinary collaborations, particularly in partnership with local actors. This interdisciplinary dimension and the diversity of the modes of apprehension of the "reality" according to the actors is a criterion of evaluation of the project.

In parallel, it is also possible, within the framework of this call for research projects, to request funding to support PhD theses that are within the scope of the OHM and whose themes relate to one of the three research axes above.

Finally, the LabEx policy commits the teams to a dynamic of sharing and communicating knowledge to the younger generations. In this context, the OHM and the DRIIHM LabEx will pay particular attention to projects that propose one (or more) intervention(s) (workshop, presentation, conference, etc.) in a school within the OHM's territory.

4. Funding of proposals

Research proposals will be reviewed by the OHM Fessenheim Board. Each selected research project will be allocated funding at the discretion of the Board. The Board of the OHM Fessenheim reserves the right not to fund certain areas of research that have not been the subject of relevant

or appropriate projects. The OHM Fessenheim strongly encourages applicants to seek additional funding if necessary.

For projects aiming to support a PhD thesis, each selected project will receive funding at the discretion of the Board.

5. Submitting a research project

5.1. Who can apply?

The proposal can be submitted by a French scientist from an Public Scientific and Technical Research Establishment (EPST in french) members of the LabEx, or by foreign scientists from international OHM (Tessekere, Estarreja, Nunavik, Pima County, Patagonia) or by all foreign scientists with French scientific partners (in concertation with the OHM leaders concerned).

An applicant (principal investigator/project director) may submit multiple applications for IRDHEI funding, provided the proposed projects have different objectives.

5.2. Online submission

Proposals will be submitted electronically at <https://www.driihm.fr/en>.

The applicant (Principal Investigator) must register on the DRIIHM online system (<https://www.driihm.fr/en/registration>) prior to submitting information for their first proposal.

Submission is done in three steps:

- 1) Register for an online account on <https://driihm.fr/en/registration>, create your login (username) and password. After registering you have to confirm your registration by clicking on a link sent to you by email
- 2) Click on *Enter a Research Project*; in your space, select language by clicking the French, British or Portuguese flag. Fill out the form and check the box that you agree with the observatories' charter. Save and Close your submission.
- 3) On your account, you visualize the abstract of your proposal. Click on the *Edit icon*. Now, you have to fill out the *Budget* form. Save and Close.

Only the applicant can see and modify its proposal from its submission until December 5, 2021 at midnight (Paris time).

For requests to cover the costs of the PhD thesis environment, send your request to the same address (<https://www.driihm.fr/>) as an OHM project, mentioning:

- The PhD thesis title and abstract

- The financing of the thesis and its key dates (beginning, expected end)
- The identities and laboratory affiliation of doctoral students and thesis supervisors
- A budgeted description of the request: amount and purpose of the aid requested

5.3. Obligations of funding recipients

The funding recipients commit themselves to the following.

5.3.1 Administrative obligations

For a period of one month following the announcement of the winners, the teams undertake to provide the Call manager with the necessary information to make the funding obtained available. If these formalities are not fulfilled within one month, LabEx DRIIHM reserves the right to reallocate the corresponding funding.

The expenses incurred in the context of the winning projects must fall within the scope of the eligible expenses of DRIIHM Labex (see DRIIHM Financial Guide online on the LabEx website and sent to all Call winners) and will be justified annually in February to the DR16 accounting Department, via the local delegation of the winning unit.

Some major points are already mentioned here:

- capital expenditure is not eligible
- expenditure on "small tools" is eligible up to € 4,000 (as defined by the ANR)
- the service delivery are eligible but their amount must not exceed 30% of the total budget allocated
- internship bonuses are eligible but must be requested at the time of project submission

5.3.2 Scientific obligations

Within two years after obtaining the credits and before any submission to a new DRIIHM Call for research projects, the funded projects will be subject to:

- An oral presentation at the symposium of OHM to which the project referred
- A brief report given to the OHM(s) concerned in the form of a summary sheet (4p.), the outline of which will be available on the DRIIHM website and will also be sent to you by the OHM board.

Acknowledgements

The winners undertake to publish within two years of this call at least 1 article in a peer-reviewed scientific journal. Each scientific partner in the project undertakes to mention the OHMs and DRIIHM in all publications or communications of its research results in the form of: *This work was*

(co)funded by the LabEx DRIIHM, French programme "Investissements d'Avenir" (ANR-11-LABX-0010) which is managed by the ANR.

The LabEx DRIIHM and its address can also be recalled at the header of the article (researcher's address) in this form: *LabEx DRIIHM (Programme "Investments for the future": ANR-11-LABX-0010), INEE-CNRS 3 rue Michel-Ange, 75016 Paris.*

For oral communications and posters, it is requested to affix the DRIIHM logo next to those of the Programme d'Investissement d'Avenir (PIA) and the CNRS (available online on the DRIIHM website).

Data - Storage and archiving

In agreement with the OHM Charter, the storage and archiving of scientific information are two of the objectives of OHMs. Winners must therefore accept the principle of transmitting their metadata via a metadata sheet on the OHM and DRIIHM sites; the DATA DRIIHM group will support each of the researchers in this task.

As in any observatory, the data are intended to be transferred, after valuation by their author, directly to the OHM's information system or, failing that, to the DRIIHM LabEx.

Moreover, all the publications and communications relative to the winning projects must be deposited in HAL, at least their reference if you cannot diffuse widely the document itself. So that these valuations appear in the DRIIHM and OHM collections, take care to follow the recommendations of key words citation and of the ANR project *LabEx DRIIHM: ANR-11-LABX-0010*. You will find these recommendations on the home page of our HAL collection: <https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/LABEX-DRIIHM>.