

Rhone Valley Human-Environment Observatory (OHM VR)

Call for research projects

2022-2023

The Rhone Valley Human-Environment Observatory (OHM VR) corresponds with the riverscape that extends from Geneva to the Mediterranean, including the main channel and all surrounding water bodies and riparian areas, some of which are prone to flooding. The study area is subject to the influence of numerous alterations all along the river course. The river corridor is not only an economic and touristic area, a transport infrastructure, and a source of renewable energy, it is also a natural environment. The different uses, exploitation of its resources and the wider relationship between humans and this environment cause tension between stake-holders and produce choices regarding organisation of the landscape. The immediate consequence of the flood of 2003 was the signing of the Rhone Masterplan by the French state and key river managers in 2004. This interregional agreement constitutes a major event; it is now a matter of reconciling the different expectations while achieving “sustainable development”. The OHM VR proposes studying this new period to provide knowledge to fuel the public debate. The OHM VR will therefore focus on the dynamics of water flow, sediment and pollutants in the Rhône corridor and the coastal delta to highlight the effect of the constructions, and also of the management practices on the shape of the river and the offshore bar in addition to their impact on society and the environment. The OHM VR will also analyse the environmental benefits arising from restoration activities, the development of social representations and the role of the actors.

Call for research project 2022-2023

The call for research projects is intended to feed the collective thinking on the change of management paradigm and produce knowledge to promote sustainable development of the Rhône corridor. The call for project also provides support to feed a common database on the Rhône.

The scientific contributions submitted must be interdisciplinary. However, insofar to light research fields that have not yet been explored, disciplinary proposals can be submitted. In this case, it will be necessary to specify how the proposal fits into the collective approach and objectives of the OHM.

This new call for projects, like the previous ones, will favour orphan approaches, complementary to the studies already implemented, notably in the framework of research agreements with the Rhône Plan partners.

News 2021 !

This call for projects can be linked to two new scientific dynamics within the Rhône Valley OHM:

- **Inter-OHM programmes:** these programmes aim to strengthen the DRIIHM by developing transversal projects between the Human-Environment Observatories where the comparative approach provides original knowledge or new concepts in the understanding of socio-ecosystems and environmental crises.

The Rhône Valley OHM is involved in two transversal programmes: ENERGON or "Energy transitions and reconfigurations of socio-ecosystems" led by the Provence Mining Basin OHM and HYDECO "Connections, disconnections and reconnections in socio-hydrosystems", led by researchers from the Pima-County OHM.

Links between the research projects submitted to OHM VR and these transversal programmes will be welcome.

- **Global Ecology Study Sites of Anthropised Environments:** the SEEGMA are CNRS devices aimed at providing experimental sites in global ecology, specific to anthropised environments within the framework of the DRIIHM.

The Crépieux-Charmy clean water catchment area was labelled a SEEGMA in September 2019. This site, upstream of Lyon conurbation, is exceptional because of the many questions it raises about the functioning and management of the Rhône River (e.g. drinking water supply, recreational practices, ecological restoration, risks, etc.), which are at the heart of the OHM VR. The creation of this SEEGMA by the CNRS will enable the reinforcement and development of research actions and science/management partnerships on these socio-ecosystemic issues, by anchoring them in the local territorial environment.

Research projects dealing with the multiple issues and problems related to this site are expected to be linked to the topics of the call for project of the OHM VR.

Focus research topics

Six focus research topics have been identified, although they are not exclusive

- **Geo-historical trajectory of the river and ruptures**

Key-words: retrospective vision; Rhone river stakeholders; biophysical structures; crisis; disrupting events.

- **From sustainable development to transition**

Key-words: sustainable development; environmental transitions; integrative management; socio-economic issues; territorial applications.

- **Functioning of the fluvial socio-ecosystem**

Key-words: groundwater and river connection processes; vegetation dynamics; environmental quality and diagnostic; hydromorphological processes; ecosystems services; amenities; sustainable management.

- **Environmental risks (floods; contaminants; water resources)**

Key-words: ecotoxicology; chemistry; climate change; water resource availability; flood risk; riverine resident perception.

- **Restoration and renaturation of aquatic and riparian environments**

Key-words: aquatic and riparian habitat characterisation; quantitative action models; physical repairs; ecological monitoring; processes; ecosystem functioning.

- **Experimentation and application of innovative tools**

Key-words: simulation; models; participatory science; data visualisation; knowledge sharing.

Who can submit a research proposal?

This call is open to all research teams that are partners of the DRIIHM LabEx as well as to any French or foreign team via a partnership with a French team member of the LabEx. One team may submit several projects to the Rhone Valley OHM, to several OHMs or to the DRIIHM (interOHM).

The project leaders and co-leaders must be attached to a research structure, even if external participants may be involved in carrying out the research (contractualisation).

How to submit a research proposal?

Research proposals to the Rhone Valley OHM will be submitted electronically at <https://www.driihm.fr/en>

The applicant (project leader) must be registered on the DRIIHM online system (<https://www.driihm.fr/en/registration>) prior to submitting information for his first research proposal.

Register for an online account : three phases to the submission

At first: Register for an online account on <http://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.

Secondly: Click on « [Enter a Research Project](#) »; in your space, select language by *clicking* the french, british or portuguese flag. Fill out form and Check the box check the box that you agree with the

observatories' charter. Save and Close your submission.

Subsequently : On your account, you visualize the abstract of your proposal. Click on « 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 midnight, Sunday December 5th, 2021.

All applications must present:

- history of the project and report on the results already achieved when a proposal is a continuation of a project supported in previous years or in the framework of an ongoing PhD or post-doc, as well as the expected results and the link with the previous project;
- details of what is actually covered by the project and what is covered by another source of funding, both in terms of budget and in terms of research actions;
- description of the collaborating teams and their expected contribution.

You can attach any documents you deem useful.

You must inform the OHM Rhône Valley coordination of your proposal (see contact)

Proposals will be examined by the OHM's Scientific Board.

IMPORTANT! Before submitting any inter-OHM project, the researcher must contact the directors of the OHMs concerned.

Inter-OHM projects must be submitted with an overall financial request that is not divided by OHM. This component is managed directly by the LabEx and benefits from specific funding. This is a "white" call for research project, and therefore not targeted. However, the projects submitted must involve at least two OHM.

Obligations

If a project is accepted, the winning team undertakes to become a member and to sign the OHM charter. In doing so, it acknowledges the objectives of the OHM Rhône Valley and accepts the following obligations:

Administrative and financial obligations

For a period of one month following the announcement of the winners, the teams undertake to provide the APR 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 APR winners) and will be justified annually in February to the DR16 accounting Department, via the local delegation of the winning unit.

Each selected project will be allocated funding of up to €15,000 at the discretion of the OHM Rhône Valley Management Board. Please note that:

- salary expenses are not eligible under the call for projects;
- internship bonuses are eligible but must be declared when the project is submitted. For projects that include interns, the internship subjects and profiles sought must be specified;
- equipment expenditure is not eligible under the call for projects;
- expenditure on "small equipment" is eligible up to €4,000 (as defined by the ANR);
- external services are eligible but their amount must not exceed 30% of the total budget allocated;
- valorisation (translation, participation in a conference, etc.) must not exceed 20% of the total allocated budget.

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:

- oral presentation at the symposium of Rhone Valley OHM;
- brief report given to the Rhone Valley OHM 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 Rhone Valley OHM.
- in the case of a project involving a student, the internship report should be provided to the OHM, together with the data collected in the course of the work.
- quantitative report including: publications, reports, internships reports, theses, poster, communications, etc. These factual elements will serve as selection criteria for the allocation of any new funding.

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 OHM VR. Winners must therefore accept the principle of transmitting their metadata via a metadata sheet on the OHM VR 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 VR 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 Rhone Valley 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/OHM-VALLEE DU RHONE](https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/OHM-VALLEE_DU_RHONE).

Calendar

Opening Date: **October 5th, 2021**

Applications are to be submitted before: **December 5th, 2021 (24h00 Paris local time)**

Results of call for research projects: **January 2022**

Contact

Bertrand Morandi, GRAIE

☎ 04 72 43 88 66

✉ bertrand.morandi@graie.org