

SOPRA STERIA – INSTITUT DE FRANCE GRAND PRIZE 2026 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The aim of this scientific prize is to reward research carried out by one or more researchers within an entity such as a university, institute, research laboratory or any other non-profit organisation of general interest, based in Europe.

The entity must carry out fundamental and/or industrial research and/or experimental development activities. It agrees to share the work awarded by the Prize through open-access models, including teaching, publication, communication, technology transfer and/or participation in certification initiatives.

The Grand Prize covers the following field:

- Artificial intelligence and responsible and sustainable technologies

The rapid and widespread adoption of generative artificial intelligence has placed this technology at the centre of public debate. While AI holds great promise, it continues to be developed without in-depth scientific knowledge of its **environmental and systemic impacts**. Current estimates raise significant questions regarding the sustainability of AI production, development and deployment models, in a context marked by limited transparency in impact measurement methodology and results.

Scientific Grand Prize of an amount of **€100,000**.

PURPOSE OF THE PRIZE

The purpose of the Prize is to support research on artificial intelligence or other disruptive technologies that contributes to the advancement of scientific knowledge and helps **measure, act upon and/or assess** the positive and/or negative impacts of these technologies on the environment, natural resources or biodiversity, including their indirect environmental effects.

Applications will be assessed according to the criteria set out in the Grand Prize Rules. In the scientific report presenting the work, applicants must specify its contribution to one or more of the objectives below :

- Measurement: improving the ability to develop reliable methods, indicators and data to assess the environmental impact of AI;
- Action: proposing techniques that integrate greater sobriety in the design, development and/or deployment of AI, and/or deploying AI in support of the low-carbon transition and climate adaptation;
- Assessment: contributing to the analysis of net benefits, positive contributions and/or emissions avoided through the use of AI.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: 20 FEBRUARY 2026

Applications for the Grand Prize must include the following information:

- **For a legal entity:**

- o A letter of application signed by the legal representative of the legal entity (1 page);
- o A scientific report presenting the work of the researcher, team or laboratory, highlighting the scientific contributions being made in relation to the subject of the Grand Prize (maximum 3 pages);
- o A curriculum vitae of the person(s) responsible for the research (1 page each);
- o A list of the 3 main publications supporting the application;
- o A letter of recommendation;
- o A description of how the work will be made accessible.

- **For one or more persons:**

- o A letter of application signed by the candidate(s) setting out their reasons for applying (1 page);
- o A report on the scientific presentation of the work, highlighting the scientific contributions in progress in relation to the subject of the Grand Prize (maximum 3 pages);
- o A list of the 3 main publications supporting the application;
- o A curriculum vitae of the people involved (1 page each);
- o Their links with the organisation or laboratory(ies) involved in the work;
- o A letter of recommendation;
- o A description of how the work will be made accessible.

Applications must be sent in French or English, in Arial font size 11, by e-mail in a single file (PDF format, entitled GP_Sopra_Steria_NomCandidat) to the following address: prix@institutdefrance.fr, mentioning "Grand Prix Sopra Steria - Institut de France" in the subject line.

For further information, please contact Mrs Clémence MORIN, Foundation Officer. Tel: 01 44 41 87 71 - Email: clemence.morin@institutdefrance.fr

The call for applications and the rules can be consulted on the Institut de France website: www.institutdefrance.fr/les-fondations-et-prix/