

# **CALL FOR PARTICIPATION** Regroupement 5 - Ethics, EDI and Indigenous Engagement

# Context

<u>IVADO's Regroupement 5</u>, which focuses on issues at the intersection of AI and ethics, EDI and Indigenous engagement, is launching its first call for participation to fund projects that would complement its current research program and foster interaction across different disciplines. The research program of Regroupement 5 is structured around the following three axes:

### Axis 1 - Observing, Anticipating, Imagining and Shaping Ethical and Responsible AI

Functioning like an observatory, this axis combines both a research focus and a scientific monitoring role with a forward-looking perspective. It will enable us to explore the potential paths that ethical and responsible AI could follow in the coming years, while also deepening our understanding of AI's role in societal transformation.

### Axis 2 - Engagement, Empowerment, Self-Determination and Power Issues Related to AI

Axis 2 focuses on issues of power and digital sovereignty. It aims to promote a better understanding of AI (AI literacy), develop a critical mindset towards these technologies, and promote the empowerment and self-determination of the various stakeholders.

### Axis 3 - Ethical Foundations, Development and Responsible Implementation of AI

Axis 3 addresses both fundamental theoretical questions on the ethics of AI and the practical conditions necessary for its responsible deployment in organizations and society.

### First Peoples and Marginalized Groups Engagement Function

In addition to its research axes, Regroupement 5 has created a transversal research function focused on the engagement of First Peoples and marginalized groups in AI. This function aims to develop AI research projects, engagement methodologies and mobilization activities with First Peoples and their communities, as well as with marginalized groups.

# Objectives of the Call for Participation

The societal impacts surrounding the development of AI are constantly evolving and affect many individuals and organizations. To remain relevant and attuned to meaningful research perspectives in the fields of ethics, EDI, and Indigenous engagement at the intersection of AI, this call aims to encourage the emergence of original projects. We invite researchers not currently in Regroupement 5 to propose new research angles.

# Suggested Themes

- Any topic related to one of the Regroupement's three research axes;
- Any topic or project related to the *First Peoples and Marginalized Groups Engagement Function*.

### Amount

The maximum amount allocated per project is \$40,000 for one year - non-renewable.

### Important Dates

- Submission deadline: April 25, 2025
- Notification of results: May 2025
- Project start: June 2025

### Application

- Description of the research project (max. 6 pages). The project description must include the following sections:
  - Context
  - $\circ$  Objectives
  - Team
  - Budget
  - Expected outcomes for IVADO and the community
  - Timeline
  - EDI considerations

The description of the research project must be in PDF format and sent by e-mail to the following address before April 25, 2025 at 5 p.m. : <u>florence.lussier-lejeune@ivado.ca</u>

# **Eligibility Criteria**

- The application must be submitted by a professor from a Quebec university.
- The principal investigator must not be part of any IVADO regroupement.
- The funding is intended to encourage the emergence of projects in line with the research axes of Regroupement 5, rather than complementing the funding of existing projects.
- The selected projects will have an interdisciplinary focus, but applications may be written individually or as part of a team.

# Selection Criteria

- Alignment of the proposed project with the research axes or with the *First Peoples and Marginalized Groups Engagement Function* of Regroupement 5.
- Interdisciplinary approach.
- Scientific relevance, clarity of the project, its methodology, budget and feasibility.

# Participation in the Activities of Regroupement 5

Teams whose projects are funded must commit to participating in the scientific activities of Regroupement 5, to which they will be integrated.

# IVADO's Commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

To ensure that all members of society benefit equally from the advancement of knowledge and opportunities, IVADO promotes the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion in all its programs. IVADO is committed to providing an inclusive, non-discriminatory, open and transparent recruitment process and research framework.

# Contact

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