

A*MIDEX: a key instrument to serve the strategy of AMU and its partners

Aix-Marseille University (AMU) and its partners (CNRS, Inserm, CEA, IRD, ECM, IEP, AP-HM) submitted the A*MIDEX project to an international IDEX jury in 2012. Following a highly selective short-listing process, A*MIDEX was recommended to the Prime Minister who validated the choice the same year.

On 29th May 2012, the University's Executive Board established the A*MIDEX University Foundation (UF).

A*MIDEX has been designed as a major tool aiming at strengthening the capacities of AMU and its territory by powering a dynamic of excellence and implementing an interdisciplinary strategy capable of tackling local and global scientific challenges. The objective is to position AMU among the world's top-class universities within the next ten years.

The project is backed by a non-consumable fund of €750 million which represents annual funding of €25 million for 10 LABEX (Laboratories of Excellence) managed by the site's teacher-researchers and researchers.

A*MIDEX covers 5 major thematic areas (Energy, Environment, Life and Health Sciences, Advanced Sciences and Technologies, Humanities) focusing on 5 strategic objectives which benefit from specific development instruments (calls for projects, proactive action plans, experimental programs...).

A*MIDEX objectives and means

A*MIDEX challenges	Research	Education	Social and economic impact
Objectives	Reach world's top 100 of research universities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve Masters' and Doctorates' internationalisation Promote Excellence Academy and interdisciplinarity 	Expand the frontiers of partner-based research and of technological transfers
Tools and Instruments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interdisciplinary Fund Emergence and Innovation Fund Rising Star Fund 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellence Academy Tailor-made life-long education Doctoral College 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transfer Fund AMU incubators SATT
Internationalisation	Transversal approach to internationalisation: dual strategy, international fund for research and education, in-going and out-going mobility, welcoming policy		
Human resources	Ambitious human resource policy to attract, recruit, retain and develop all talents : junior and senior chairs, tenure-tracks, dynamic compensation policy		

2016: A*MIDEX is perpetuated

On 29th April 2016, following a probationary period of four years, AMU and its partners were awarded the perpetuation of their IDEX (A*MIDEX). The decision was based on the assessment and the proposal of an international jury, the same jury that had labelled the project in 2012. Its members considered that the dynamic on the site, especially the building of a world-class research university, had been clearly initiated, with compelling results. The jury also pointed out that this dynamic had become irreversible.

The label comes along with a funding of over €25 million per year to pursue the strategy implemented in research, education, technology transfer and innovation, and in attractiveness and international policy. This translates into the recognition of the outstanding merits of the academic community as a whole, of the vibrant dynamism of the territory, and of the global outreach of the university.

The devolution convention of the Aix-Marseille IDEX was signed on 23rd December 2016. It specifies the implementation process of the devolution and its follow-up mechanisms.

- Fund transfer – Following the Prime Minister's decision, the French state grants funding amounting to €750 million financed by the state at 3.3413% interest.
- Financial and accounting control – Aix-Marseille University is responsible for the follow-up of ear-marked funds and is accountable to the state in case of information requests.
- Implementation follow-up – Within the framework of standard LABEX control procedures, Aix-Marseille University is committed to providing until 2020 all characterisation indicators and monitoring data in use for LABEX control.
- Assessment mechanism – In compliance with international research universities' best practice, the university establishes a periodical self-assessment mechanism of its scientific and pedagogical performance and of its European and international rankings. The assessment procedure involves both national and international external jury members (A*Midex Board).





A university with international ambitions rooted in its territory

Aix-Marseille University is today one of the youngest universities in France, it is also the largest by the number of its students, its staff and its budget. All of which made of Aix-Marseille University an institution of higher education and excellent research.

A multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary university

Aix-Marseille University offers training in all disciplines: Arts, Literature, Languages and Humanities; Law and Political Science; Economics and Management ; Health; Science and Technology. An intensive research site in collaboration with leading organizations, AMU is one of the French sites of excellence recognized by an international jury as part of Future Investments. AMU is also among the sites labeled "Operation Campus", with 500 million euros in capital mobilized to renovate and modernize its university campuses. The AMU Foundation helps develop research, training and employability of students, while creating a privileged link with the socio-economic world. Training, research, guidance, employability, interdisciplinarity and exploitation of knowledge are the pillars of this establishment, largest university in France and the Francophone world.

UNIVERSITY IN FIGURES

74 000 students	12 doctoral schools
5 large campuses	3 400 PhD
58 geographic sites	150 student associations
6 disciplinary fields	8 000 personal
19 faculties	750 M€ budget
130 research structures	