



PRESS RELEASE – 27 June 2016

IDEX / I-SITE – PIA 2 Call for Projects

NeXT: The Nantes I-SITE project passes the first selection phase

NExT, (Nantes Excellence Trajectory) the Nantes I-SITE project, was shortlisted last Friday alongside four other applicants by an international selection panel within the I-SITE call for projects. With the first phase successfully negotiated, the hearings and final selection will take place in February 2017.

With the support of its four founding members, the University of Nantes, Centrale Nantes, Nantes University Hospital and Inserm, NExT aims to equip the region with a world-class university building on two major themes: Industry of the future and Health. The objective of the NExT initiative is to accelerate the unique dynamic of the Nantes area; recognizing its expertise in research, education and innovation on these two major societal issues. NExT is seeking funding of €370M.

Speaking about the shortlisting, Olivier Laboux, President of the University of Nantes, explained that *"Whilst we have passed the first phase, we still have a lot of work to do. However, the vision that underlies NExT is already in place. This joint project bringing together the University of Nantes, Nantes University Hospital, Centrale Nantes, and Inserm, is inspiring other regional players, acting as a tremendous catalyst for our collaboration and opening up extensive development prospects"*.

The other project partners - Institut de Cancérologie de l'Ouest, INRA, Ifsttar, Mines de Nantes and Oniris, are contributing to the implementation and governance of NExT.

<http://next-isite.fr>

Find out more:

Funded within the PIA2 (Investment for the Future programme) framework, the objective of the IDEX/I-SITE calls for projects is to create universities that develop thematic scientific strengths which are focused, distinct and internationally recognized, and which provide leverage and support for their strategic development and industrial partnerships.

The timing of results for PIA2

The shortlisted applicants, as well as the four unsuccessful finalists of the first wave in January (Clermont-Ferrand, Lille, Montpellier and Paris-Est), have to make their final submission in November.

Final results will be announced at the end of February 2017.

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