**Abstract.** We study the recently proposed projectional subdifferential concept applied exclusively on smooth manifolds. Two ways to conceive the concept are discussed. The first one is to think of projectional subdifferentials as subdifferentials relative to the underlyingmanifold. Applying some basic results in recent papers in the literature, we obtain a deeper insight into this new subdifferential. From that, we can see projectional subdifferentials behave the same as conventional subdifferentials. Motivated by that fact, we present the second way to understand them, that is as intrinsic subdifferentials on smooth manifolds. A coderivative concept on smooth manifolds is introducedin a natural way, and it turns out that the concept comes back to the projectional coderivative. With all the tools developed, some problems as well as their solutions are easy to consider. Finally, we recapitulate the role of projection mappings on tangent spaces in differential tools on smooth manifolds and supplement some auxiliary results when the Riemannian metric comes into play.