

**AUSTRIA/ALBANIA**  
**SCIENTIFIC & TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION**  
**(WTZ Programme)**  
**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR JOINT PROJECTS in 2019-2020**

**CLOSING DATE: June 30, 2018**

The programme for Scientific & Technological Cooperation is carried out in the frame of the bilateral "Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Austria and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania" on the Scientific and Technological Co-operation of May 2, 2012 and is financed equally by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF) and by the National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation.

**Aims of the Programme**

- Funding researchers' mobility in the frame of joint research projects to stimulate international research cooperation
- Providing an opportunity for researchers to cooperate in an international setting and to develop their scientific careers, especially for early-stage<sup>1</sup>, mid-career<sup>2</sup> as well as female researchers

**Areas of Cooperation**

The Call is open to all scientific disciplines and thematic areas, including social sciences as well as humanities.

**Duration of projects**

The projects will be supported for a period of max. two years from **January 2019 until December 2020**.

**Who may apply?**

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<sup>1</sup>Researchers with an experience up to 5 years after their PhD/Doctoral degree; recognized career breaks will be taken into account (e.g. due to family reasons, health reasons or occupation outside the academic sector).

<sup>2</sup>Researchers with an experience of 5 to 15 years after their PhD/Doctoral degree; recognized career breaks will be taken into account (e.g. due to family reasons, health reasons or occupation outside the academic sector).

**AUSTRIA:** Researchers working at Universities, Universities of Applied Sciences and other legal entities (e.g. higher education and research institutions, companies) planning to carry out a non-profit-oriented research project within the frame of this call are eligible for application.

Project proposals submitted by early-stage<sup>1</sup> or mid-career researchers<sup>2</sup> as well as project proposals with involvement of PhD/doctoral students, early-stage<sup>1</sup> and/or female researchers will be particularly considered.

The focus of the programme lies on new international partnerships. Follow-up proposals with the same research partners will not be eligible for funding if they have already been funded under this programme.

**ALBANIA:** The researchers from Albania participating in this Programme, should be Researchers that are part of a research institution; early-stage or mid-career researchers as well as project proposals with involvement of PhD/doctoral students, early stage and/or female researchers. All of the researchers should find ground of support based on the Law for Higher Education and Scientific Research in the Albanian Republic, No. 80/2015, specifically Article 24; 26; 93; 95.

Criteria which have to be fulfilled for application in this Programme are new international partnerships. Follow-up proposals with the same research partners will not be eligible for funding if they have already been funded under this programme.

### **How do I apply?**

It is up to the applicants to find their own research partners. Proposals must be submitted both in Austria (OeAD GmbH) and in Albania (National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation-NASRI). Proposals which have not been submitted in both countries will not be considered for funding. The Call process is highly competitive therefore application does not guarantee funding.

**AUSTRIA:** The entire application for the research project must be submitted in English online under [[Application Link](#)]. The application has to include the following documents (in PDF format):

- Brief academic CV for each Austrian project member
- List of relevant publications of the last 2 years on the Austrian side
- Project description including the methodological part (3 to 5 A4 pages)
- Brief description of the partner institution
- Short description of the project tasks of ALL project members (Austrian and Albanian)
- Further cooperation perspective

**ALBANIA:** The entire application for the research project must be submitted in Albanian and in English and will have to be submitted in hardcopy in the premises of The National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation. Address: Str. Papa Gjon Pali i II, No. 3, Tiranë 10101, ALBANIA.

### **Which activities may I apply for?**

The purpose of this call is to support the mobility of researchers between the participating countries to carry out joint research projects. In this regard, funding will be made available for visits and exchanges of scientists conducting joint research.

**The sending state will pay the travel expenses whereas the accommodation expenses will be financed by the hosting state (and vice versa).**

**In Austria in well-justified cases and only within the granted maximum budget EUR 400.- per project may be applied for consumables (lump sum).**

### **Funding modalities**

Funding will be available for a maximum of two years for collaborative research projects jointly developed and completed by researchers on both sides.

### **Funding limits**

#### **AUSTRIA:**

The total sum of **EUR 8,000.-** per project (**EUR 4,000.-** per project per year) can be applied for. The funds can be calculated as follows:

- Travel expenses: **EUR 400.-** per trip for Austrian researchers travelling to Albania (lump sum)\*  
\*In case the travel expenses are 50 % of the lump sum or less, only the actual expenses will be refunded upon submission of the travel receipts.
- Accommodation expenses: **EUR 100.- per day** for Albanian researchers travelling to Austria **for up to 14 days OR EUR 1,500.- per month** for long-term visits **between 15 days and 3 months** maximum.
- Consumables: **EUR 400.-** lump sum per project in justified cases as part of the granted maximum budget.

#### **ALBANIA:**

The total sum of **EUR 8,000.-** per project (**EUR 4,000.-** per project per year) can be applied for. The funds can be calculated as follows:

- Travel expenses: Per each trip of Albanian researchers travelling to Austria the travel tickets will be acquired case by case, respecting the national rules and regulations of public procurement.
- Accommodation expenses:  
**For** Austrian researchers/scientists/students/graduates/experts travelling to Albania NASRI will pay a daily allowance of **ALL 8,600.-** (including accommodation) for maximum 10 (ten) days.  
Up to the 20<sup>th</sup> day max 10 day allowances (= **ALL 86,000.-**). From the 21<sup>st</sup> day one full month allowance (= **ALL 110,000.-**).

#### ***Please note:***

- Should you be successful you will be funded only for the activities within the scope of the guidelines
- Scientific and financial reporting on the project is **OBLIGATORY**

- Research stays in both countries are **OBLIGATORY**

### **How are applications evaluated?**

Following the closing date of the call indicated below, applications will be submitted to recognized national experts in the various fields of research represented by the proposals received. These experts will evaluate each proposal based on the national criteria:

#### **AUSTRIA:**

- Scientific quality of the intended research project includes:
  - Feasibility of the joint research plan
  - Adequacy of the scientific method
  - Competence and expertise of the scientists/research teams involved (max. 25 points)
- Plausibility of the described further cooperation perspective (max. 15 points)
- Project proposals submitted by early-stage or mid-career researchers (10 points) OR project proposals with the involvement of doctoral students, early-stage (5 points) or female researchers (5 points) will receive up to 10 points additionally. (max 10 points)

#### **ALBANIA:**

- The importance and scientific value. (max. 32 points)
- The stand of the scientific proposition of the project (max. 15)
- The value of the project in terms of originality; innovation and application on both countries (max. 14)
- Methodology (max. 10)
- Planning and feasibility (max. 4)
- Budgeting (max. 9)
- Experience and staff specialization in the research field of interest (max. 10)
- The evaluation of the documents requested for application (max. 6)

Following national evaluation, a joint shortlist of projects to be funded will be constituted through consultations between the OeAD GmbH and the National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation based on the results of the national evaluations. The project selection will be carried out by the Austrian-Albanian Joint Commission on Scientific and Technological Cooperation. The results of the project selection meeting will be announced presumably by **December 2018**.

### **Projects follow-up and reporting**

- A final scientific and financial report has to be submitted in English by both the Austrian and the Albanian project leaders no more than 3 months after the end of the project.
- The report has to mention outputs of the projects compared with the objectives and aims of the proposal.
- The final report must include a short, concise summary comprehensible to lay persons. The final report will be available for researchers within this programme working in similar disciplines.
- Joint publications by researchers have to mention the support from BMBWF and the National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation.

### **Intellectual property**

The researchers of each country must take adequate steps to ensure protection and sharing of the intellectual property that could result from the joint projects.

### **Closing date for applications**

Applications must be submitted by **June 30, 2018** Applications received after this date will not be considered for funding.

Please note that the OeAD GmbH and the National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation (NASRI) will not be held responsible for applications that were not received. Researchers are also advised to ensure that their research partners` applications are submitted and have also been received in the partner countries in time.

### **Further information**

<b>In Austria</b>	<b>In Albania</b>
OeAD GmbH (Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research) ICM – Centre for International Cooperation & Mobility	National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation
<b>Mrs. Monika Wiederseder-Staltner</b> Ebendorferstraße 7 A-1010 Vienna Tel. +43 (0)1/53408-445	<b>Mr. Geron KAMBERI</b> General Director Tel: +355 4 2222409 Mob: +355 69 82 13 143 Fax: +355 4 2222409
Email: <a href="mailto:wtz@oead.at">wtz@oead.at</a> Website: <a href="http://www.oead.at/wtz">www.oead.at/wtz</a>	Email: <a href="mailto:geron.kamberi@akti.gov.al">geron.kamberi@akti.gov.al</a> Website: <a href="http://www.nasri.gov.al">www.nasri.gov.al</a>