

AUSTRIA / MACEDONIA

SCIENTIFIC & TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION
(WTZ Programme)

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR JOINT PROJECTS in 2018-2020

CLOSING DATE: 31 December 2017

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 Government of the Republic of Macedonia on Scientific & Technological Co-operation of 1st November, 2008*” and is financed equally by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWFW) and by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Macedonian Republic.

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-stage¹, mid-career² 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 July 2018 until June 2020.

Who may apply?

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-stage¹ or mid-career researchers² as well as project proposals with involvement of PhD/doctoral students, early-stage¹ 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.

MACEDONIA: 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.

¹ 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).

² 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).

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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.

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 the Republic of Macedonia (Ministry of Education and Science)**. Proposals which have not been received 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 at [[web-link](#)]. The application must 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 Macedonian)
- Further cooperation perspective

MACEDONIA: The entire application for the research project must be submitted into two copies on the Application Form (Obrazec OB1).

- Brief academic CV for each **Macedonian** project member
- List of relevant publications of the last 2 years
- 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 (Macedonian and Austrian)
- Further cooperation perspective

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 Macedonia (lump sum).*
- * In case the travel costs are at 50% of the lump sum or below, only the actual costs will be refunded on the basis of provided travel receipts. Accommodation expenses: **EUR 100. per day** for Macedonian 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.

MACEDONIA:

Austrian scientists and experts will be paid in accordance with the current Macedonian legislation for funding of bilateral projects within the budget in the amount of MKD 400.000 (equivalent of approximately € 7.000) per two years /per project.

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 following criteria:

- Scientific quality of the intended research project incl.
 - 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)

Following national evaluation, a joint shortlist of projects to be funded will be constituted through consultations between the OeAD GmbH and the Ministry of Education and Science based on the results of the national evaluations. The project selection will be carried out by the Austrian-Macedonian Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation. The results of the project selection meeting will be announced presumably by June 2018.

Projects follow-up and reporting

- A final scientific and financial report has to be submitted in English by both the Austrian and the Macedonian 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 made available to researchers within this programme in similar disciplines.
- Joint publications by researchers have to mention the support from BMWFV and the Ministry of Education and Science

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 **31 December 2017**. Applications received after this date will not be considered for funding.

Please note that the OeAD GmbH and the Ministry of Education and Science 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

| In Austria | In Macedonia |
|---|---|
| OeAD-GmbH (Austrian Agency for international Cooperation in Education and Research) ICM – Centre for International Cooperation & Mobility Mr. Michael Glatz, MA Ebendorferstraße 7 A-1010 Vienna Tel. +43 (0)1/ 53408-472 Email: wtz@oead.at , Website: www.oead.at/wtz | Ministry of Education and Science Department for Science and Technological Development MS. Katerina Sumanovska , Ul. Sv.Kiril i Metodij, 5, 1000 Skopje Telephone: ++389 2 3140 185, 076 485 081 Fax: ++389 2 3118 414 , 3118 630 Email: katerina.sumanovska@mon.gov.mk Internet: www.mon.gov.mk |