

AUSTRIA / INDIA

**SCIENTIFIC & TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION
(WTZ Programme)
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR JOINT PROJECTS in 2018-2020**

CLOSING DATE: 30 November 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 India on Scientific and Technological Co-operation of 1 October 2008” and is financed equally by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWFW) and by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) of the Ministry of Science and Technology in India.

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. But joint projects in the area of social sciences and humanities can only be supported if they deal with topics related to natural sciences, technical sciences, human medicine, health sciences, agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine

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.

INDIA: 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 and in India.** 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 [[S&T Call Austria India 2018 20](#)]. 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 Indian)
- Further cooperation perspective

INDIA: The Indian project coordinator must submit two hard copies and soft copy in pdf format of the complete application with necessary documents to DST, New Delhi at the address given below. The application format of DST is attached at Annexure with this announcement.

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 14,000.--** per project (**EUR 7,000.--** per project per year) can be applied for. The funds can be calculated as follows:

- Travel expenses: **EUR 1,200.--** per trip for Austrian researchers travelling to India (lump sum).³
- Accommodation expenses: **EUR 100.-- per day** for Indian 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.

³ 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.

INDIA:

The International travel cost of Indian Scientists are covered by DST. The living expenses of Austrian Scientists in India shall also be covered by DST as given below:

The Austrian Scientists visiting India within the framework of the approved projects will be provided fully furnished institutional guesthouse accommodation or a hotel (if the institutional guesthouse is not available), with reasonable facilities subject to maximum of **Rs.4,000.--/per day**. In addition, they will be provided a **per diem allowance** for meals and out of pocket expenses including local travel and airport transfers at **Rs.2,500.--/per day** for each visit.

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 DST based on the results of the national evaluations. The project selection will be carried out by the Austrian-Indian Joint Commission 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 Indian 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 BMFWF and the DST.

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 **30 November 2017**. Applications received after this date will not be considered for funding.

Please note that the OeAD GmbH and the DST 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 India
OeAD-GmbH (Austrian Agency for international Cooperation in Education and Research) ICM – Centre for International Cooperation & Mobility	Department of Science and Technology (DST) of the Ministry of Science and Technology in India International Bilateral Cooperation Division Government of India
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