



WIENER WISSENSCHAFTS-,
FORSCHUNGS- UND TECHNOLOGIEFONDS

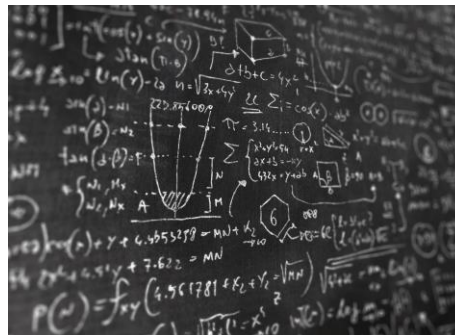
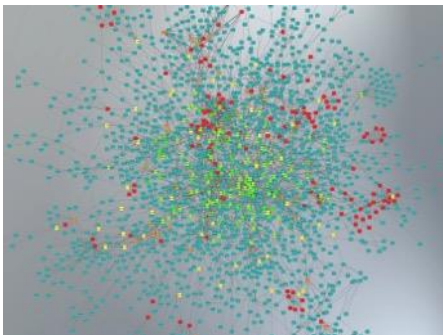
VIENNA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FUND

**STRENGTHENING VIENNA'S
EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH**

Vienna Research Groups for Young Investigators

Call 2016

Kontakt: Donia Lasinger, donia.lasinger@wwtf.at



Agenda

- ▶ Overview WWTF
- ▶ Vienna Research Groups for Young Investigators Call 2016 „Complexity Science“

WWTF: Distinctive features

- The only larger Austrian private non-profit organisation in research funding
- Founded in 2001; funding activities since 2003: more than **120 m € have been awarded** (Banking Foundation, City of Vienna)
- WWTF **Mission:**
 - We fund **top scientific research** in Vienna
 - We provide substantial funding for **larger research projects** and bring younger **Research Group Leaders** from abroad to Vienna
 - We **organise competitive calls** according to highest international standards

The current call I

Thematic programmes



Life Sciences
(*2003)



Mathematics *and ...*
(*2004)



Information- and Communication
Technology
(*2008)



Social Sciences and Humanities
(*2008-2013)



Cognitive Sciences
(*2008)

Instruments

Projects

Science chairs

Vienna Research Groups

Summer Schools

The current call II

Call 2016: „Complexity Science“

- ...concentrates on complex adaptive systems and is interested in dynamic and structural properties
- ...tries to understand how complex systems behave
- ...is interdisciplinary / multi-disciplinary
- ...is driven by new challenges and demands in technology and by the availability of computing resources with sufficient power to model large scale complex systems
- ...has to be quantitative, predictive and testable
- ...includes social, biological or technological systems
- ...requires mathematical knowledge and methods as a prerequisite
- ...covers a broad range of fields: biology, life sciences, social sciences, ICT, computational science, physics, economics, political science, mathematics
- ...has potential for applications
- ...should add to current activities to strengthen research activities in Vienna

The current call III

- Financed by the City of Vienna, operated by WWTF
- 7th call within Vienna Research Groups for Young Investigators Programme
- 2016: 1 position with max. funding of 1.6 mio €

Life Sciences	ICT	Mathematics <i>and ...</i>	Cognitive Sciences	Life Sciences	Computational Biosciences	Complexity Science
Funding volume: 4.5 mio. €	Funding volume: 3 mio. €	Funding volume: 3 mio. €	Funding volume: 1.5 mio. €	Funding volume: 4.8 mio. €	Funding volume: 3.2 mio. €	Funding volume: 1.6 mio. €
Funded VRG Leaders: 3	Funded VRG Leaders: 2	Funded VRG Leaders: 2	Funded VRG Leaders: 1	Funded VRG Leaders: 3	Funded VRG Leaders: 2	To be funded VRG Leader: 1
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016

Characteristics of a Vienna Research Group

- Typically the first “genuine” group led by a young researcher. The WWTF funding (6-8 years) should enable the group members to take the next step in their careers.
- Vienna Research Group leaders...
 - take responsibility for group members
 - are independent in designing their research work and recruiting their staff
 - try to increase third party funding over the years
 - are coming from abroad and are not employed in Austria at the date of submission and being employed at least 2 years within the last 3 years at a non-Austrian institution
 - are in general 2-8 years after PhD (care duties may extend this period)
- **Milestones:** (i) first phase mainly financed by WWTF (4-5 years), (ii) an interim evaluation after the first phase, (iii) increased in-kind contributions of the home institution in the second phase (i.e. years 6, 6-7 or 6-8)

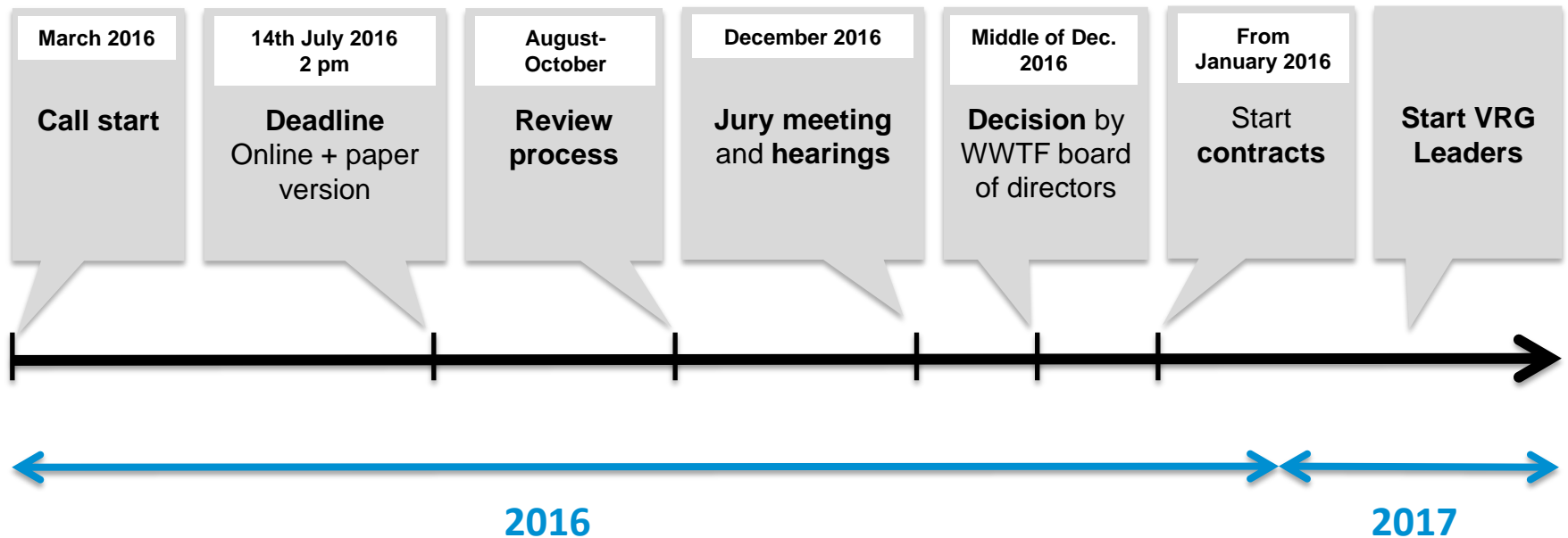
General key facts

- The call process comprises the submission of a concise proposal and a hearing of selected candidates in Vienna. Note that this call employs a **single stage procedure**
- A job announcement e.g. in a high impact journal that is relevant for the topic and/or via professional societies/ mailing lists is obligatory → we are happy to put the announcement also on our webpage (www.wwtf.at)
- WWTF encourages Vienna-based research institutions to propose women who show potential to act as group leaders. The **successful appointment of a woman** will be rewarded with a financial benefit for the Vienna host institution in order to support their gender mainstreaming activities

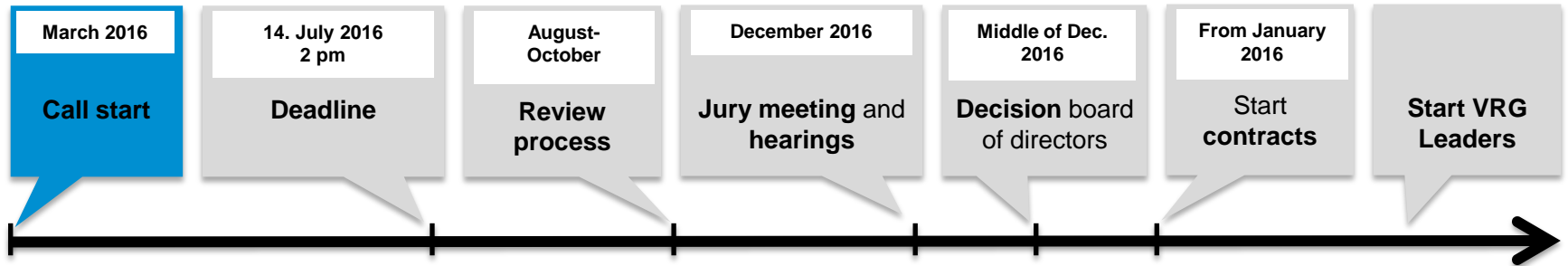
Key facts - finances

- The financial emphasis should lie on the **funding of scientific personnel** -> balance in relation to infrastructure/material costs
- **In-kind vs. overhead:** Basic infrastructure such as office equipment, rent, telephone, internet, basic lab equipment does NOT count as in-kind but is covered by the overheads (paid-out by WWTF)!
- **New:** The budgetary allocation with eventual partner institutions has to be specified already at the application stage
- WWTF does **not** cover **any travelling expenses** for candidates who are invited to the hearings. Compensation of travel expenses e.g. via <http://www.ffg.at/career-grants> (Career grants)

Schedule of the current call



VRG jury and applicants



VRG jury

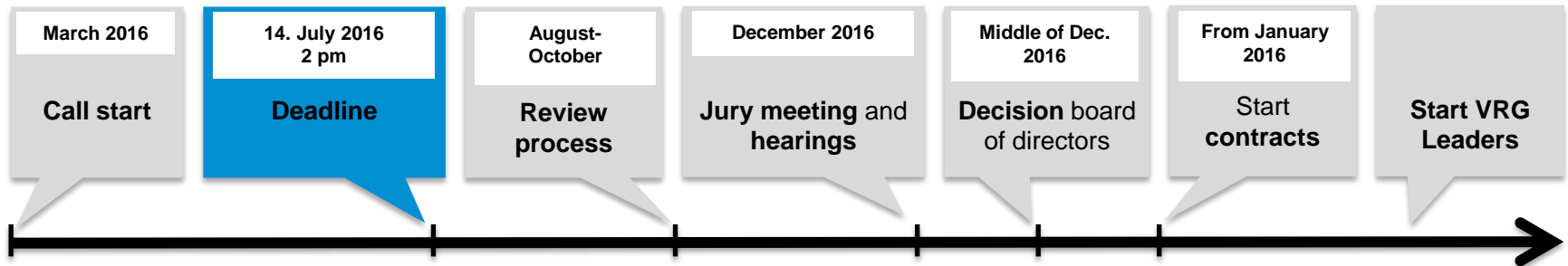
- ~7 international excellent scientists/experts with call-relevant expertise
- Duties within the process
 - Supporting the review process
 - Nominating reviewers
 - Inviting candidates to the hearing &
 - Evaluating the performance at the hearing
 - Comparative assessment and uttering of the funding recommendation

Applicants

- Universities and research institutions in Vienna (via proponent)
- Suggestion of
 - excellent young researchers
 - from abroad¹⁾
 - In general 2-8 years after PhD on application date (in case of caring duties up to 4 years longer)
- Active search for female researches highly welcome

1) During the last three years at least two years at a foreign research institution and currently (submission deadline) not in Austria

Submission deadline and formal eligibility check



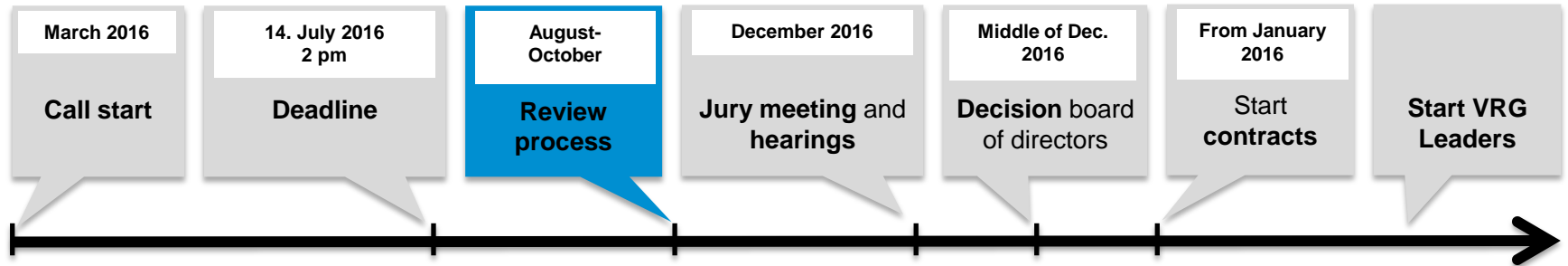
Submission

- Submission via WWTF **Online Submission System AND hard copy** (after submission!) incl. signatures
- Submission in person at WWTF office or date of post mark
- No funding of companies
 - Self funded business partners are possible
 - Project relevant services from companies can be calculated as material costs (if these services can not be provided within the projects with reasonable effort)

Formal eligibility check

- Punctual submission of paper & online version
- Both versions (online & paper) identical
- **Presence of all necessary signatures**
- In-kind contribution: >20% of total sum
- Overhead costs: the regulations of the host institutions have to be observed
- Maximum number of pages (limited by characters and uploads)
- Compliance of the academic age
- From abroad
- Active promotion (announcement, mailing lists,...)

Review process and peer review



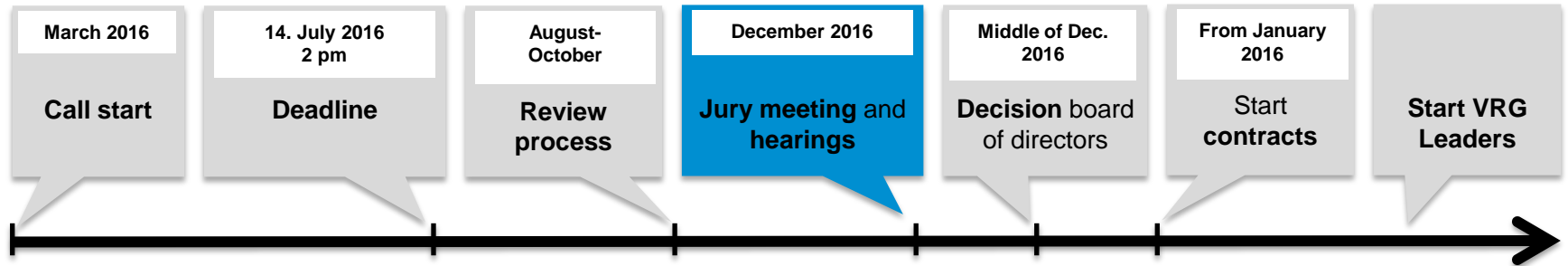
Review process

- Proposals that lie outside the subject area as well as those where a lack of quality is obvious, are not recommended for the review process by the jury
- Brief information without statement of the rejected applicants
- In case of positive proposals: reservation of both hearing days absolutely necessary (booking of a flexible ticket)

Peer review process

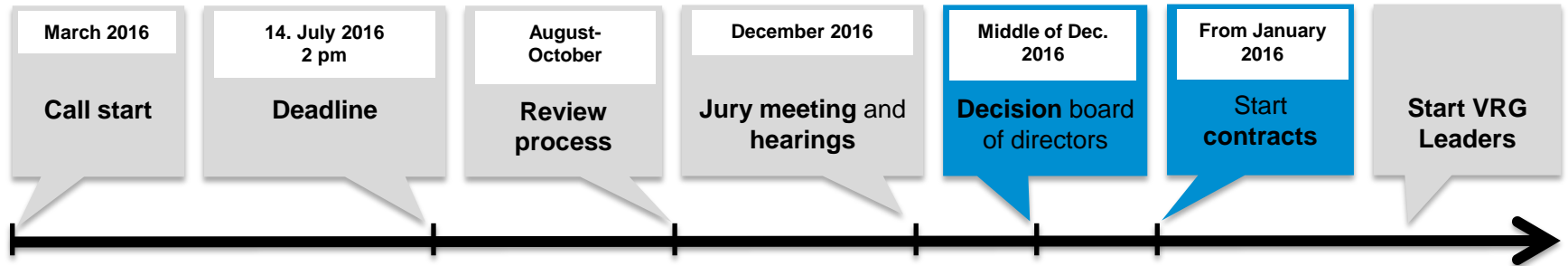
- 2-4 written reviews per proposal will be obtained
- Reviews only by international peers; remain anonymous
- Reviews form the basis of the jury's discussion

Hearing, jury meeting and decision



Hearing	Jury meeting	Decision
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to hearing (selection after review process) • Short-presentation in Vienna 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main evaluation criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific quality and potential of candidates compared to the competitive international environment • Quality of the research project • Integration into research environment • Career perspective • ... • WWTF does not cover travelling expenses. Compensation of travel expenses e.g. via http://www.ffg.at/career-grants (Career grants) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision by WWTF board of directors • All applicants receive a decision letter (acceptances and rejections) with anonymous reviews

Employment contract and funding contract



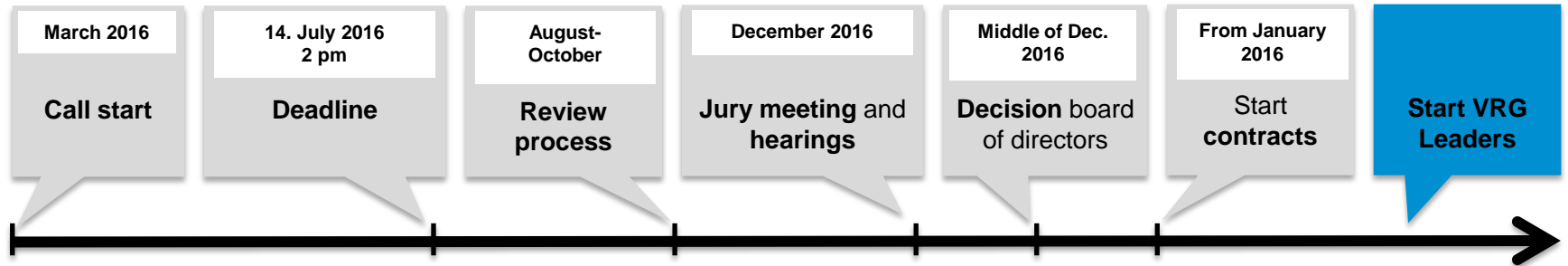
Employment contract

- The employment contract has to be available by no later than 2 months after the decision of the WWTF board of directors has been made
- Clarification until when a qualifying agreement will be offered
- Agreement on a coordinated evaluation of the candidate between the host institution and WWTF
- If the employment contract cannot be achieved within 2 months, the funding will be attributed to a reserve candidate

Funding contract

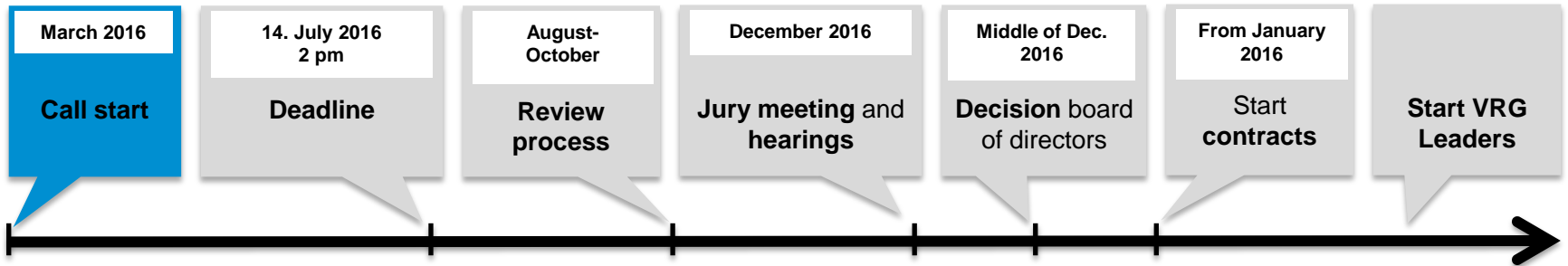
- Funding contract between WWTF and the host institution of the VRG leader (§ 27 according to UG2002 for universities)
- VRG leader has scientific and financial responsibility

Project start, project duration, project completion

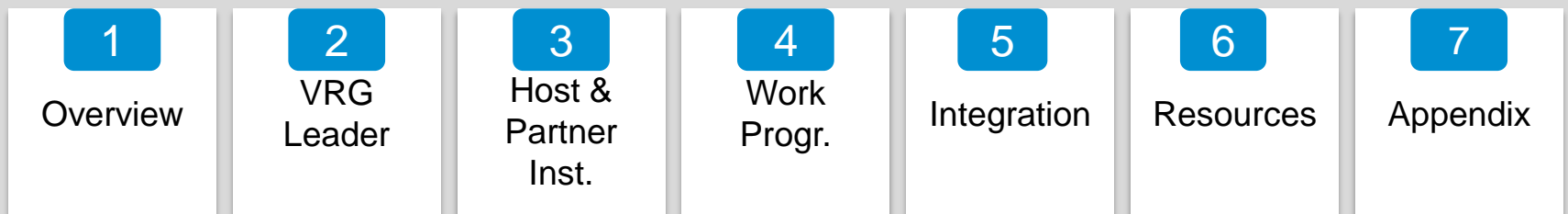


- **Project start:**
 - Latest start date: 18 months after decision by WWTF board of directors
- During **project duration:**
 - WWTF pays funding rates every six months in advance to the host institution
 - Short annual electronic reports to WWTF as prerequisite for the release of installments
 - Site visit by WWTF
- After **project completion** :
 - Comprehensive final report (online)

Online submission system



- Registration with email address and name via <https://funding.wwtf.at>
- Login, select VRG-Call and press „create a new proposal“
- Fill in proposal (online forms, upload of the required data in PDF-format)
- Submit proposal (one PDF file with project number is generated automatically)
 - Only possible when the proposal is filled completely
 - No changes are possible after the submission
- A complete proposal consists of **7 parts**:



Overview

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Overview	VRG Leader	Host&Part ner Inst.	Work Prog.	Integration	Resources	Appendix

- Basic information, scientific disciplines, details proponent/host institution, group leader and partner institutions
- Optional: excluded peer evaluators (max. 3), only visible for WWTF and jury. Note: only peer reviewers with a non-Austrian affiliation will be considered for peer review
- Scientific abstract: will be the first impression jury members and peer reviewers read
- Note: project number and requested funding (in €) will be set automatically after submission

- This section should be filled out by the envisaged VRG leader
- Details to
 - Career steps
 - Highlights of recent work
 - Description of (scientific) leadership potential
 - Motivation for application as Vienna Research Group Leader
- Upload CV of VRG leader
 - Page limit 4: 2 pages biographical scetch, 2 pages publication (max. 25 per page)
 - PDF format only

Host / Partner Institution(s)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Overview	VRG Leader	Host&Par tner Inst.	Work Prog.	Integration	Resources	Appendix

- This section should be filled out by the host institution
- Details to
 - Description of host institution
 - Motivation of host institution to bring the proposed group leader to Vienna
 - Partner institution (if applicable)
 - Boxes will automatically appear as soon as boxes are created in section 1
 - Role and cash in-kind contributions have to be confirmed by a Letter of Intent (LoI) in the appendix

- Details to
 - State-of-the-art in the proposed field and scientific challenges in the next years
 - Relevant references (max. 20, mark the 10 most relevant references)
 - Research plan
- Disclosure of other applications for funding
- Details of complexity science
- Ethical approval
- Optional: Upload of additional materials to this chapter

Integration of group leader

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Overview	VRG Leader	Host&Partner Inst.	Work Prog.	Integration	Resources	Appendix

- Description of the VRG leaders's recruiting process & gender management:
 - Please include gender mainstreaming/affirmative actions here
- Advertisement procedures
 - The international **publication of a job announcement** and/or distribution via mailing lists/professional societies is obligatory
 - Please upload only one job announcement as an example
- Status of group leader during funding period
 - Please explain in detail the **steps leading to a tenure position** (for example the exact process of getting a “Qualifizierungsvereinbarung” including time frames). These details will be the foundation of contractual elaborations in the case of funding
- Time plan, evaluation plan
- Career perspectives for group leader after the funding period
- Integration of the group leader in the host institution

- Details to
 - Description of the envisioned research group
 - Description of the equipment and materials needed
 - Statement of cash and in-kind contributions
 - Please be aware that the cash and in-kind contributions are just the contributions from the host institution. Cash in-kind contributions of potential partners (named in section 3 as additional institutions) need to be documented only in the appendix in the form of Letters of Intent covering items and amounts indicated
 - Overhead policy: max. 20% of the fundable direct costs
- Cost calculations: 3 tables
 1. Personnel costs
 2. Non-personnel costs
 3. Cost overview


Resources II

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Overview	VRG Leader	Host&Part ner Inst.	Work Prog.	Inte- gration	Resour- ces	Appendix


Table 1 : Planning of personnel costs (in k€) - Example

Additional persons

In order to prepare the overall budget per Partner Institution in detail in Section 2, you have to add additional persons here.

Additional person 1 

Name: *	Institution: *	Staff category *
<input type="text" value="N.N. 1"/>	<input type="text" value="-- please select --"/>	<input type="text" value="Post Doc"/>

Additional person 2 

Name: *	Institution: *	Staff category *
<input type="text" value="N.N. 2"/>	<input type="text" value="-- please select --"/>	<input type="text" value="Diploma student"/>

 add Additional person

Before you can fill in the personnel, you have to add a row for every person. Please enter the institution and the staff category. They will be automatically numbered (N.N. 1,...)

Resources III

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Overview	VRG Leader	Host&Part ner Inst.	Work Prog.	Inte- gration	Resour- ces	Appendix

Table 1 : Planning of personnel costs (in k€) - Example

Name	Staff category	Funding source	Average yearly time commitment (from 0 to 100%)								Y1 salary 100% in k€	Funding applied for from WWTF in k€
			Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8		
Mr. Max Mustermann	Group Leader	<div><div><input type="radio"/> WWTF</div><div><input type="radio"/> in-kind</div><div><input checked="" type="radio"/> in-kind & WWTF</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>0</div><div>WWTF</div><div>100</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>0</div><div>WWTF</div><div>100</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>0</div><div>WWTF</div><div>100</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>0</div><div>WWTF</div><div>100</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>0</div><div>WWTF</div><div>100</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>100</div><div>WWTF</div><div>0</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>100</div><div>WWTF</div><div>0</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>100</div><div>WWTF</div><div>0</div></div>	<div>90.0</div>	<div>477.8</div>
N.N. 1	Post Doc	<div><div><input checked="" type="radio"/> WWTF</div><div><input type="radio"/> in-kind</div><div><input type="radio"/> in-kind & WWTF</div></div>	<div><div>WWTF</div><div>0</div></div>	<div><div>WWTF</div><div>100</div></div>	<div><div>WWTF</div><div>100</div></div>	<div><div>WWTF</div><div>50</div></div>	<div><div>WWTF</div><div>50</div></div>	<div><div>WWTF</div><div>0</div></div>	<div><div>WWTF</div><div>0</div></div>	<div><div>WWTF</div><div>0</div></div>	<div>61.0</div>	<div>195.2</div>
N.N. 2	Diploma student	<div><div><input type="radio"/> WWTF</div><div><input checked="" type="radio"/> in-kind</div><div><input type="radio"/> in-kind & WWTF</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>0</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>100</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>0</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>0</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>0</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>0</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>0</div></div>	<div><div>IN KIND</div><div>0</div></div>	<div>32.0</div>	
Total personnel costs applied for funding from WWTF in k€												<div>673.0</div>

Resources IV

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Overview	VRG Leader	Host&Part ner Inst.	Work Prog.	Inte- gration	Resour- ces	Appendix

Table 1 : Planning of personnel costs (in k€)

Will be set automatically

Please avoid short term employments

Minimum wage according to the „**Kollektivvertrag**“ (collective agreement) following the standards of the Austrian Science Fund FWF!

Staff category	Funding source	Average yearly time commitment (from 0 to 100%)								Y1 salary 100% in k€	Final salary WWTF
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8		
Mr. Max Mustermann	<input type="radio"/> WWTF	IN KIND	IN KIND	IN KIND	IN KIND	IN KIND	IN KIND	IN KIND	IN KIND		
	<input type="radio"/> in-kind	WWTF	WWTF	WWTF	WWTF	WWTF	WWTF	WWTF	WWTF		
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> in-kind & WWTF	100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	80.0	424.5
Post Doc	<input checked="" type="radio"/> WWTF										
	<input type="radio"/> in-kind	WWTF	WWTF	WWTF	WWTF	WWTF	WWTF	WWTF	WWTF		
	<input type="radio"/> in-kind & WWTF	0	100	100	50	0	0	0	0	61.0	160.9
Diploma student	<input type="radio"/> WWTF										
	<input checked="" type="radio"/> in-kind	IN KIND	IN KIND	IN KIND	IN KIND	IN KIND	IN KIND	IN KIND	IN KIND		
	<input type="radio"/> in-kind & WWTF	0	100	50	0	0	0	0	0	32.0	
Total personnel costs applied for funding from WWTF in k€											585.0

Wages above Kollektivvertrag are possible and have to be argued. No additional wages for people who are already 100% employed. An increase of employment up to 100% through WWTF funding is possible.

Attention: Wage for „Studentische MitarbeiterIn“ is calculated by FWF with 20 hours and a „DoktorandIn“ with 30 hours per week

Total funding applied for will automatically be calculated including a **3% annual salary** increase

Increase in cash and in-kind contributions starting from year 5

Ressources V

1 Overview	2 VRG Leader	3 Host&Part ner Inst.	4 Work Prog.	5 Inte- gration	6 Resour- ces	7 Appendix
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Table 2 : Planning of non-personnel costs (in €)

Funded via:

- WWTF
- In-kind
- In-kind & WWTF

Costs stated per year

Description / cost category / Institution	Funding source	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Funding applied for from WWTF in k€	
<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px;">XXX</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; width: 100px;">Equipment</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; width: 100px;">Unspecified Institi</div> </div> <div> <input checked="" type="radio"/> WWTF <input type="radio"/> in-kind <input type="radio"/> in-kind & WWTF </div> </div>		WWTF 0.0	WWTF 0.0	WWTF 0.0	WWTF 0.0	WWTF 0.0	WWTF 0.0	WWTF 0.0	WWTF 0.0	0.0	
<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px;">YYY</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; width: 100px;"></div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; width: 100px;"></div> </div> <div> <input type="radio"/> WWTF <input type="radio"/> in-kind <input type="radio"/> in-kind & WWTF </div> </div>		IN KIND 0.0	IN KIND 0.0	IN KIND 0.0	IN KIND 0.0	IN KIND 0.0	IN KIND 0.0	IN KIND 0.0	IN KIND 0.0	0.0	
Total for funding from WWTF in k€										0.0	

Category:

- Equipment
- Materials
- Travelling
- Publication costs
- Workshops/Conferences
- Other

Specify institute

Ressources VI

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Overview	VRG Leader	Host&Part ner Inst.	Work Prog.	Inte- gration	Resour- ces	Appendix

Table 2 : Planning of non-personnel costs (in €)

Description / cost category / Institution *	Funding source *	Y1
<div>XXX</div> <div>Equipment</div> <div>Unspecified Institi</div>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> WWTF <input type="radio"/> in-kind <input type="radio"/> in-kind & WWTF	<div>WWTF</div> <div>0.0</div>
<div>YYY</div>	<input type="radio"/> WWTF <input type="radio"/> in-kind <input type="radio"/> in-kind & F	<div>IN KIND</div> <div>0.0</div> <div>WWTF</div> <div>0.0</div>

ed for funding from

Category:

- Equipment
- Materials
- Travelling
- Publication costs
- Workshops/Conferences
- Other

• Equipment:

- Devices, instruments, system components and other durable goods (providing the group leader with better infrastructure)
- Special explanation if the purchases planned exceed the amount of € 20,000.- incl. VAT
- Renting, leasing, adaptation also possible
- If bought, pro **rata depreciation rates** can be funded

- Consumables: expendable material; appliances up to € 1,500.- € excl. VAT, software
- Workshops / conferences: organized internally
- Travelling: attending project related scientific events and invitations
- Publication costs such as open access cots
- "Other": This covers all other costs, for example service contracts (paid on a lump sum basis)

- Letters of intent
 - One letter of intent - signed by the responsible director/manager/head – of each partner institution who either receive parts of WWTF funding or provide in-kind contributions (**template available online**)
 - Max. 2 pages/up to 3 partners
 - Do not upload main contents in regard to the work programme here
- Letter of recommendation / additional materials
- Upload photo
 - For internal use only
- Affirmations

Overview key facts

- Complete PDF is generated automatically after the submission based on the input → download and obtain relevant signatures
- Include sheet with wet signatures of the authorized persons in the hard copy and hand in at WWTF before the deadline
 - Observe intern rules/habits!
 - Signatures do not have to be all on one sheet!
- Some useful rules:
 - Keep applications short and precise!
 - Use a language aimed at the scientific community
 - Ambitious but feasible
 - In English
 - Contact the research service at your institution in advance!

Contact and consultation



- All documents available at www.wwtf.at
- Personal consultation upon appointment

Donia Lasinger
donia.lasinger@wwtf.at
T: 01/ 402 31 43 – 16

Michael Strassnig
michael.strassnig@wwtf.at
T: 01/ 402 31 43 – 15



- WWTF office: Schlickgasse 3/12, 1090 Vienna