

MONTENEGRO / AUSTRIA

SCIENTIFIC & TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION (WTZ Programme)

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR JOINT PROJECTS in 2021-2022

CLOSING DATE: 27 April 2020 (12:00 noon)

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 Montenegro on Scientific and Technological Co-operation of 10 June 2009 and funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF) and by the Ministry of Science of Montenegro.

Aims of the Programme

- To stimulate international research cooperation by promoting the mobility of researchers to carry out joint research projects;
- To provide an opportunity for researchers to cooperate in an international setting to develop their international network and experience, 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.

Who may apply?

AUSTRIA: Researchers at universities, universities of applied sciences and non-university research institutions are eligible for application. Minimum requirement for the Austrian Principal Investigators is a PhD/Dr. degree. Minimum requirement for project members is a Master Degree or equivalent.

Project applications submitted by early-stage¹ or mid-career researchers² as well as project applications with involvement of PhD/doctoral students, early-stage¹ and/or female researchers will receive additional points during the evaluation process and hence a better overall score.

The focus of the programme lies on new international partnerships. (Follow-up) Applications of bilateral partnerships whose Principal Investigators already received funding from this programme to carry out a joint project are not eligible.

MONTENEGRO:

For the Montenegrin Party, the Call is open to public or private research organizations, registered in the Register of Scientific and Research Institutions of the Ministry of Science of Montenegro. The project must

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).

meet the requirements in accordance with the Law on Scientific Research Activity of Montenegro.

Minimum requirement for the Montenegrin Principal Investigators is a PhD/Dr. degree. Minimum requirement for project members is a Master Degree or equivalent.

Project applications submitted by early-stage¹ or mid-career researchers² as well as project applications with involvement of PhD/doctoral students, early-stage¹ and/or female researchers will receive additional points during the evaluation process and hence a better overall score.

How do I apply?

It is up to the applicants to find suitable partners in the respective country. **Applications must be submitted both in Austria to OeAD-GmbH and in Montenegro to the Ministry of Science.** Applications which have not been received in time in both countries are not eligible 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 (about 3 to 5 A4 pages)
- Brief description of the partner institutions
- Brief description of the project tasks of **ALL** project members (Austrian and Montenegrin)
- Further cooperation perspective

MONTENEGRO: The entire application for the research project must be submitted in English language in hard copy and by e-mail address (at e-mail: ivana.lagator@mna.gov.me).

The application must include the following documents (in PDF format):

- Completed and signed application form;
- Brief academic CV for each **Montenegrin** project member
- List of relevant publications of the last 2 years on the Montenegrin side;
- Project description, including methodological part (3 to 5 A4 pages);
- Brief description of the project tasks of **ALL** project members (Montenegrin 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 provided for visits and the exchange of scientists conducting joint research.

Research stays in both countries are obligatory.

The sending side will cover the travel expenses whereas the accommodation expenses will be financed by the hosting side (and vice versa).

In Austria up to EUR 2,000.- per project of the granted funding may be applied for project-related material costs. Only project-specific material costs may be requested, that are essential to carry out the research project and that go beyond the resources made available from the research institution's infrastructure. Infrastructure or basic equipment of research institutions cannot be funded.

Funding Modalities

Collaborative research projects will be supported for a period of max. two years from January 2021 until December 2022.

Funding will be provided for activities within the scope of these guidelines only.

AUSTRIA:

Maximum funding: **EUR 9,000.-** per project

Eligible Costs:

- Travel expenses: Travel costs (economy class) will be reimbursed for Austrian researchers travelling to Montenegro based on submitted invoices.³
- Accommodation expenses: **EUR 100.- per day** for Montenegrin researchers travelling to Austria **for up to 14 days** OR **EUR 1,400.- per month** for long-term visits **between 14 days and 3 months** maximum.
- Project related material costs/consumables: **max. EUR 2000.-** per project as part of the granted maximum budget based on submitted invoices.

MONTENEGRO:

Maximum funding: **EUR 9,000.-** per project

Eligible Costs:

- Travel expenses: Travel costs (economy class) will be reimbursed for Montenegrin researchers travelling to Austria based on submitted invoices.⁴
- Accommodation expenses: **EUR 100.- per day** for Austrian researchers travelling to Montenegro **for up to 14 days** OR **EUR 1,400.- per month** for long-term visits **between 14 days and 3 months** maximum.
- Project related material costs/consumables: **max. EUR 2000.-** per project as part of the granted maximum budget based on submitted invoices.

How are applications evaluated?

In Austria eligible project applications will be evaluated by recognized experts in the various fields of research represented by the applications received.

Evaluation 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 applications submitted by early-stage or mid-career researchers (10 points) OR project applications 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)

Maximum score: 50 points

Based on the results of national evaluations carried out in parallel in Austria and in Montenegro a joint shortlist of projects to be funded will be constituted through consultations between the OeAD-GmbH and the Ministry of Science of Montenegro. The project selection will be carried out by the Montenegrin – Austrian Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation. The results of the project selection meeting will be announced presumably by December 2020.

³ For travels up to seven hours bus and train shall be used. Travel by private car will be reimbursement with the value of a second class train ticket (proof of ticket price required).

⁴ For travels up to seven hours bus and train shall be used.

Reporting and Publications

Scientific and financial reporting on the project is obligatory.

- A brief project progress report has to be submitted after one year via the OeAD-GmbH online tool. Its approval is the precondition for further funding.
- A final scientific and financial report has to be submitted 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 application.
- The final report must include a short, concise summary comprehensible to lay persons. The final report will be made available to researchers within OeAD's WTZ-funding programme in similar disciplines.

Joint publications by researchers have to mention the support from the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and the Ministry of Science of Montenegro.

Intellectual property

The project partners 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 **27 April 2020**. Applications received after this date are not eligible for funding.

Please note that the OeAD-GmbH and the Montenegrin competent authorities cannot be held responsible for applications that were not received. Principal Investigators have to ensure that their research partners submit their applications in time.

Further information

In Austria	In Montenegro
OeAD-GmbH (Austrian Agency for international Cooperation in Education and Research) International Cooperation in Higher Education - Mobility Programmes, Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation	Government of Montenegro Ministry of Science Directorate for International Cooperation and European Integration
Ms Isabella Scheibelreiter Ebendorferstraße 7 A-1010 Vienna Tel. +43 (0)1/ 53408-472 Email: wtz@oead.at Website: www.oead.at/wtz	Ms Ivana Lagator Rimski trg 46 81 000 Podgorica Tel. +382 (0)20/ 405-371 Email: ivana.lagator@mna.gov.me Website: www.mna.gov.me