

## AUSTRIA / SLOVENIA

### SCIENTIFIC & TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION (WTZ Programme) CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR JOINT PROJECTS in 2020-2021

**CLOSING DATE: 25 April 2019**

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 Slovenia on Scientific & Technological Co-operation" and funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF) and by the Slovenian Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (MESS).

#### **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-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.

#### **Who may apply?**

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

Project applications submitted by early-stage<sup>1</sup> or mid-career researchers<sup>2</sup> as well as project applications with involvement of PhD/doctoral students, early-stage<sup>1</sup> 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.

#### **SLOVENIA:**

Research organizations and private researchers registered in evidence of research organizations or evidence of private researchers of the Slovenian Research Agency and fulfil conditions, according to the law for the research and development activities and on the basis of the regulations of the Slovenian Research Agency.

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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).

Research organizations or private researchers have to be included in nationally funded research, financed or co-financed by the Slovenian Research Agency or internationally funded projects.

### **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 Slovenia (Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS)).** 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 [[S&T Online Application](#)]. 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 France)
- Further cooperation perspective

### **SLOVENIA:**

The application form must be completed in the Slovene language, and the title and summary of the bilateral project is also in English. The application form with a qualified digital signature is submitted on the form on the ARRS web portal. The application form without a digital signature is completed on ARRS web portal and sent in printed form.

- Principal **Slovenian** investigator and his CV
- Other Slovenian Collaborators (condition: the involvement of doctoral students and post-doctoral students (up to 3 years after the Ph.D.))
- Priority criterion: approval of 20% of applications whose leaders are researchers who defended their first Ph.D. less than 5 years ago (if possible)
- Citations
- General information of principal investigator, other collaborators and research organization in Austria
- Description of previous cooperation and list of joint publications
- Proposal summary
- Main financing source
- Proposed visits

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

In Austria up to EUR 2,000.- per project of the granted funding may be applied for project-related material costs.

### **Funding Modalities**

Collaborative research projects will be supported for a period of max. two years from January 2020 until December 2021.

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

### **AUSTRIA:**

Maximum funding: **EUR 7,000.-** per project

Eligible Costs:

- Travel expenses: Travel costs (economy class) will be reimbursed for Austrian researchers

- travelling to Slovenia based on submitted invoices.<sup>3</sup>
- Accommodation expenses: **EUR 100.- per working day** for Slovenian researchers travelling to Austria **for up to 14 working days** OR **EUR 1,400.- per month** for long-term visits **between 14 working days and 3 months** maximum.
  - Project related material costs: **max. EUR 2000.-** per project as part of the granted maximum budget based on submitted invoices.

## **SLOVENIA:**

For stays of **Austrian scientists and experts** in Slovenia the accommodation costs will be covered by the hosting institution that will also provide per-diems according to national regulations and **local transport costs** (public transport).

For short-term stays of up to fourteen days the following rate in Euro (€) will be granted:

- paid **accommodation** up to 100,-€ per day and **daily allowance** in accordance with the Slovenian regulations on reimbursement of travel expenses (currently 21,39€).

For stays longer than fifteen days the following rate in Euro (€) will be granted:

- paid **accommodation** up to 1250,-€ monthly and **daily allowance** in accordance with the Slovenian regulations on reimbursement of travel expenses (currently 21,39€).

For visits of **Slovenian scientists and experts** in Austria **international travel costs** will be reimbursed.

## **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 Slovenia a joint shortlist of projects to be funded will be constituted through consultations between the OeAD GmbH and ARRS. The project selection will be carried out by the Austrian-Slovenian Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation. The results of the project selection meeting will be announced presumably by December 2019.

## **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 as a 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.

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<sup>3</sup> For travels up to seven hours bus and train shall be used.

Joint publications by researchers have to mention the support from the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research and the Slovenian Ministry for Education, Science and Sport.

### **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 **25 April 2019**. Applications received after this date are not eligible for funding.

Please note that the OeAD GmbH and the Slovenian 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**

<b>In Austria</b>	<b>In Slovenia</b>
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