

Cooperation Development Research – CDR/KoEF

Information 2022

About Cooperation Development Research – CDR/KoEF

With the programme Cooperation Development Research – CDR (*Kooperation Entwicklungsforschung – KoEF*) the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF) has created an instrument to foster research on the two main principles of excellency and cooperation in development research.

It aims to support application-oriented cooperation projects between Austrian higher education institutions/research institutions and institutions in countries of the Global South and therewith to contribute to analysing and solving local challenges and to achieving the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) adopted by the United Nations in 2015.

Eligible to apply are researchers (postdocs) at Austrian public universities and non-university research institutions within the framework of application-oriented research as well as researchers at state-accredited universities and non-university research institutions in countries of the Global South according to the [DAC-list of the OECD 2022/2023](#) (“least developed countries”, “other low income countries” and “lower middle income countries and territories” excl. India). Eligible costs are mobility and material expenses in the context of 1-3-year research projects in all scientific disciplines. Depending on the duration of the project the funding amounts are up to EUR 50.000,- per project.

KoEF intends to contribute to creating an environment which fosters international cooperation between researchers and institutions extending beyond individual project durations.

The OeAD-GmbH – Agency for Education and Internationalisation – in short OeAD – implements Cooperation Research Development (CDR/KoEF) in accordance with the special directive “Maßnahmen zur Internationalisierung” (GZ 41.906/0001-V/7/2019) of the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF).

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Third Call for KoEF Research Cooperation Projects | 1 September 2022 – 30 November 2022

Cooperation Development Research (KoEF) funds application-oriented international research cooperation projects with at least one Austrian public university / research performing institution and at least one state-accredited university / research institution in a partner country in the Global South. Only institutions situated in countries classified as “least developed countries”, “other low income countries” and “lower middle income countries and territories” excl. India in the [DAC-list of the OECD](#) are eligible as a non-Austrian partner institution. Any partnering institution may assume the main coordination of the project, while the other partnering institutions shall nominate a project co-coordinator. The minimum qualification for any project (co-)ordinator is a PhD. Minimum qualification for project participants is an active enrolment in a PhD/doctoral programme.

The aim of the projects is to promote excellent research and to contribute to the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#). They shall foster the formation and strengthen existing partnerships between Austrian universities and research institutions and universities and research institutions in the Global South.

Eligible as project coordinators and co-coordinator is any researcher with a minimum qualification of a PhD/doctorate affiliated with an eligible institution.

Eligible as a project participant is any researcher enrolled in a PhD/doctoral programme or with a higher academic qualification, who is affiliated with an eligible institution.

An eligible institution is any public university or research performing institution located in Austria or any state-accredited university or research performing institution in any country of the Global South classified as “least developed countries”, “other low income countries” and “lower middle income countries and territories” excl. India in the [DAC-list of the OECD 2022/2023](#). Additional regional restrictions may apply.

KoEF Research Cooperation Projects

All activities of the international research cooperation projects must be research-centred and contribute to the overall goals of the project.

In view of the current COVID-19 situation, activities must be planned accordingly to ensure progress regarding project aims and results, even if travel restrictions apply.

Funding framework and eligible costs

Funding can be only be provided for **mobility costs**, i.e. travel expenses and subsistence and accommodation costs for research mobilities (project-related research travels).

Exception: up to EUR 3.000 **per project** can be allocated to equipment and materials.

Depending on the duration of the project the maximum funding amounts are as follows:

- 1-year projects: up to EUR 20.000,-
- 2-year projects: up to EUR 35.000,-
- 3-year projects: up to EUR 50.000,-

For detailed information on the eligible costs, please refer to the document **Funding Framework and Eligible Costs 3rd Call**.

Application documents

Application documents can be downloaded from the KoEF website: <https://oead.at/koef>

The templates for the project proposal and the budget sheet provided on the KoEF website must be used. A template for the letters of intent is also provided, it can however be adjusted to fit the requirements of the respective institutions. There is no template for the CVs, nevertheless each CV must not exceed 4 pages.

Content of the project proposal

- Abstract
- General information
- Cooperation and partnership
- Project design and scientific quality
- Contribution to the SDGs and gender and diversity issues
- Sustainability and application of results
- Risk management and cost-effectiveness

Complete application

A complete application consists of 4 documents:

1. **Project proposal (word doc)** AND
2. **Project proposal (pdf)**
 - Including signature of the project coordinator.
 - The project proposal must not exceed 12,000 words for the complete file.

- The project proposal must be in English.
- All partnering institutions must be eligible considering the above mentioned criteria.
- Minimum qualifications:
 - project coordinator and co-coordinators: PhD
 - project participants: enrolment in PhD/doctoral programme

3. Budget sheet (excel file)

- The budget limit for the applied duration must not be exceeded.
- Only mobility costs are eligible for funding – please refer to the document Funding Framework and Eligible Costs 3rd Call.
- If equipment costs are budgeted, they must not exceed EUR 3.000,- for the entire project duration.

4. Appendix (pdf)

- CVs of project coordinator and each co-coordinator and all project participants (max. 4 pages each)
- Letters of intent of each partnering institution, signed by the authorised signatory of the respective institution

How to apply

- Any application must be submitted by the project coordinator within the deadline.
- Application templates and documents can be downloaded from the KoEF website: <https://oead.at/koef>
- Completed application documents – 1. Project proposal (word), 2. Project proposal (pdf), 3. Budget sheet (excel), 4. Appendix (pdf) – must be sent via email to kooperation-entwicklungsforschung@oead.at

Formal requirements

- Application was submitted within the deadline by the project coordinator.
- Complete application, including signatures
- Eligibility of institutions
- Eligibility of project coordinator, co-coordinator(s) and participants
- Compliance with financial regulations.
- All documents must be in English

Reviews and Selection Process

Formally correct proposals will be evaluated by a minimum of two independent reviewers for each proposal. They will assess the project proposals individually and convey their reviews to the KoEF Office. The reviews will include of a scoring matrix (max. 100 points) and narrative assessments.

Evaluation criteria will be:

- Project design, quality of the project proposal and the partnership, contribution to the formation of the network (max. 50 points) | *Sections 2-4, CVs, Letters of Intent, Budget Sheet*
- Contribution to the SDGs, integration of gender and diversity perspective (max. 20 points) | *Section 5*
- Sustainability and application of results (max. 20 points) | *Section 6*
- Risk management and cost-effectiveness (max. 10 points) | *Section 7, Budget Sheet*

Ranking based on the average score of the reviews (maximum score 100). The list of selected projects has to be approved by the BMBWF.

Schedule

Call open: 1 September 2022 – 30 November 2022

Eligibility check by the KoEF Office / OeAD: December 2022

Review process: January - April 2023

Start of the projects

After approval by the BMBWF the contract will be signed. Earliest possible project start will be 1 June 2023.

Reporting

While all projects must submit final (scientific and financial) reports, projects with a duration of 2 and 3 years must additionally submit scientific and financial mid-term reports. Please refer to the **Guidelines for Reporting**. Detailed reporting requirements will be stipulated in the contract.

Note on the use of the term “Global South”

For the purpose of this project call the term Global South is used to refer to the group of countries classified as "least developed countries," "other low income countries," and "lower middle income countries and territories" (excl. India) in the OEAD DAC list of ODA recipients for 2022/2023.