AUSTRIA / FRANCE
SCIENTIFIC & TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION (WTZ Programme)
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR JOINT PROJECTS in 2022-2023

CLOSING DATE: 1 April 2021 – 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 the Republic of France on Scientific & Technological Co-operation of 06 September, 1968 and funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF) and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development.

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.

Formal Requirements for Applications

AUSTRIA:
Eligible for support under this programme are researchers at universities, universities of applied sciences and non-university research institutions in areas of basic research as well as doctoral students.

Minimum requirement for the Austrian Principal Investigator is a PhD/Dr. degree. In exceptional cases researchers without a PhD/Dr. degree can be accepted as Principal Investigators - for this a track record of the research career and research experience must be provided in the application (e.g. publications, research positions held, research project management experience etc.).

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.

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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).
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.

FRANCE:
Eligibility and selection criteria applied by the French evaluators are available on the website of Campus France under the following links: https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/amadeus

Application Process and Content

It is up to the applicants to find suitable partners in the respective country. Applications must be submitted both in Austria to OeAD and in France to Campus France. 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 methodology (about 3 to 5 A4 pages)
- Brief description of the partner institutions
- Brief description of the project tasks of ALL project members (Austrian and French)
- Further cooperation perspective

FRANCE:
The application must be submitted online on the following website: https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/phc-candidater

Funding Modalities

Collaborative research projects will be supported for a period of two years from January 2022 until December 2023.

Funding will be provided for the mobility of researchers between both countries conducting joint research within the above-mentioned thematic areas of cooperation. In Austria up to EUR 2,000.- per project of the granted funding may be applied for project-related material costs.

The sending side will cover the travel expenses as well as the accommodation costs of its own researchers.

Research stays in both countries are obligatory.

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

Maximum funding: **EUR 8,000.- per project**

Eligible Costs:
- **Travel expenses**: Travel costs (economy class) will be reimbursed for Austrian researchers travelling to France based on submitted invoices.³
- **Accommodation expenses**:
  - **EUR 100.- per working day** for Austrian researchers travelling to France **for up to 14 days** OR **EUR 1,400.- per month** for long-term visits **between 14 days and 3 months** maximum.
  - **EUR 100.- per working day** for Austrian doctoral students travelling to France **for up to 12 days** OR **EUR 1,250.- per month** for long-term visits **between 12 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. Only project-specific material costs will be reimbursed, 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.

FRANCE:

Please refer to the text of the call for proposals: [http://www.campusfrance.org/fr/amadeus](http://www.campusfrance.org/fr/amadeus)

**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 will receive **up to 10 points additionally,**
  - Either if submitted by early-stage or mid-career researchers (+10 points)
  - Or if involving doctoral students/early-stage researchers (+5 points) and/or female researchers (+5 points) (max. 10 points)

Maximum score: 50 points

Based on the results of national evaluations carried out in parallel in Austria and in France a joint shortlist of evaluated project applications will be prepared by the OeAD and the French competent authorities (Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation). The project selection will be carried out by the Austrian-French Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation. The results of the project selection meeting will be announced presumably by December 2021.

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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).
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 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 Research and the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation.

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 1 April 2021 – 12:00 noon. Applications received after this date are not eligible for funding.

Please note that the OeAD and the French 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

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<th>In Austria</th>
<th>In France:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OeAD - Austria’s Agency for Education and Internationalisation</td>
<td>Institut français d’Autriche</td>
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<td>Ms Isabella Scheibelreiter</td>
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