

Austrian EURASIA-PACIFIC UNINET

Call for applications for the year 2026
(Initial funding for bilateral and multilateral projects)

Submission deadline: 15. January 2026 (deadline 12:00 p.m. CET)

Awards will only be made following ministerial approval (BMFWF), foreseeably in June 2026.

Call

Please refer to the official grant announcements for Eurasia-Pacific Uninet Project Funding for ([EPU Outgoing](#)) and ([EPU Incoming](#)).

Objective

Promoting bilateral and multilateral projects in the areas of research, research-led teaching and the arts between Eurasia-Pacific Uninet partner institutions.

Project duration

Project implementation period is one year – from 01.07.2026 to 30.06.2027

Area of study or research

The call is open to all scientific disciplines (incl. the arts).

Target group

Project proposals may only be submitted by researchers from Austrian universities, universities of applied sciences, and non-university research institutions that are members of the Eurasia-Pacific Uninet (EPU).

Eligible participants include PhD/doctoral students and researchers at Austrian and foreign universities as well as non-university research institutions that are members of the EPU.

Information on applying

- The applicant's institution must confirm its approval for the project proposal by the signature of a legal representative (Letter of Endorsement, see application document).
- Involvement of at least one Austrian and one foreign EPU partner institution is required.
- Priority will be given to multilateral projects.
- Bilateral projects with China, India, and South Korea are funded only in the field of arts (exception: clinical electives!). For bilateral projects with these countries, reference is made to the [WTZ programme](#).
- Project activities may only be funded in countries with EPU partner institutions involved in the application.
- Applications can be submitted exclusively online [\[link\]](#).
- In addition, reference is made to the provisions regarding [partners from sanctioned states](#).

Application documents

The following documents must be uploaded to the online portal [\[link\]](#) when submitting the application. Corresponding mandatory templates may be found there or are linked there:

- Letter of Endorsement from the submitting (Austrian) university ([template](#))
- Abstract
- Detailed project description including method (max. 5 pages)
- Description of the added value for Austria and the applicant institution (with reference to the institution's internationalization strategy); monitoring and exit strategy.
- Description of perspectives for cooperation
- CV of the applicant in Austria
- List of publications of the applicant (5 thematically relevant and recent publications)
- List of all project participants (Austrian and EPU partner country/countries), including tasks in the project ([template](#))

- Brief description of the partner institutions involved in Austria and in the partner country, any previous collaborations, and the rationale for their selection.
- Budget plan ([template](#))

Application process

- Submission of the application by the coordinating researcher online ([link](#)) to the OeAD
- Formal review of all submissions by the OeAD
- Forwarding of a list of formally valid project proposals for information to the Board of the EPU
- Evaluation of the valid project proposals by an expert panel of the Eurasia-Pacific Uninet, followed by a decision by the EPU Board
- Preparation of a recommendation for the competent federal ministry (BMFWF) as the funding authority, which makes the final decision on the projects to be funded.

Submission note: A correctly submitted application does not equate to a funding confirmation. Applications that are incomplete or not submitted on time will not be considered out of formal reasons. Additions or subsequent submissions to incomplete applications may only be made up until the application deadline.

Evaluation Criteria

1. 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.
2. Contribution to the intensification of network activities within the Eurasia-Pacific Uninet.
3. Plausibility of the described further cooperation perspective.
4. Plausibility of the requested budget.
5. Added value for the institution and Austria, monitoring, exit strategy

Funding modalities

After funding has been confirmed by the OeAD-GmbH, a funding agreement in accordance with the Austrian Universities Act – UG (§ 27) is signed between the submitting institution and the OeAD. This specifies all the rights and obligations of the actors involved arising from the funding. The projects are financed from funds of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Women, Science and Research (BMFWF).

Eligible costs

The funding is intended exclusively to cover travel and accommodation expenses as well as material costs. The requested funding amount must range between 5,000 Euro and 20,000 Euro. The maximum funded stay for project participants is three months.

Travel expenses

For project participants traveling to the country of the partner institution (outgoings) or to Austria (incomings), travel expenses (Economy Class)¹ of up to a maximum of **1,500 Euro** can be reimbursed.

Accommodation costs

For project participants traveling to the partner country (outgoings) or to Austria (incomings), per diem allowances of 110 Euro per working day can be paid for up to 12 working days, or for longer visits of up to one month, a maximum of **1,300 Euro** per month.

¹ For bookings above economy class, the amount can only be funded up to the amount of economy class (cheapest alternative). The prerequisite is the submission of a comparable offer for the same flight. Additional fees (e.g., additional luggage, seat reservation, etc.) cannot be funded.

Material costs

Any project-related material costs of up to **3,000 EUR**, if required to achieve the project objectives (e.g., consumables for laboratory experiments, invoices [not fees] for translation systems or data acquisition, local vehicles to reach remote locations during field research).

Reporting requirements

After the project has been completed, the project leader must submit a final report on the activities carried out and the use of the funding (template available in the online tool).

Clinical electives

Funding exclusively in the field of human medicine! For students of an EPU partner institution in Austria undertaking a clinical elective (Famulatur) at an EPU partner institution.

Duaration:	(one-time) grant for trainees:
4 weeks (minimum)	1,000 Euro
6 weeks	1,500 Euro
8 weeks	2,000 Euro

Student applications must be submitted through their home institution in Austria.

Contact person at OeAD-GmbH

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