

**SCIENTIFIC & TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION (WTZ)  
AUSTRIA / BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA  
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR JOINT PROJECTS 2025-2026**

**CLOSING DATE: 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – 12 noon**

The programme for Scientific & Technological Cooperation (WTZ) is carried out in the frame of international agreements with selected partner countries with the aim to stimulate international research.

**Thematic areas**

Open to all scientific disciplines and thematic areas, including social sciences as well as humanities.

**Target group**

**AUSTRIA:**

- **Researchers** at higher education institution (minimum requirement PhD degree) and researchers at non-university research institutions in areas of basic research (minimum requirement Master degree)
- **PhD/Doctoral students** as team members only (Bachelor and Master graduates are not eligible for funding)

**Project applications submitted by early-stage researchers<sup>1</sup> as well as project applications with involvement of PhD/doctoral students and/or female researchers will be prioritized<sup>2</sup>.**

**Please note:** Only new project partnerships can be funded under this programme. Follow-up applications of already funded partnerships are not eligible.

A maximum of two projects can be submitted per Principal Investigator.

**BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA:**

(1) The right to submit projects based on this grant have scientific research organizations and institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina that are registered by laws or other regulations to carry out scientific research and research development activities

(2) Entities from paragraph (1) in order to participate in joint projects one should provide the written consent of the partners on the application form.

(3) The project leader/coordinator can submit only one project application

(4) minimum requirement for the project leader/coordinator is Dr./PhD degree

**Please note:** Only new project partnerships can be funded under this programme. Follow-up applications of already funded partnerships are not eligible.

A maximum of two projects can be submitted per Principal Investigator.

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<sup>1</sup> *Researchers with an experience of up to 10 years after their PhD/Doctoral degree; recognized career breaks will be taken into account (e.g. due to family or health reasons or occupation outside the academic sector).*

<sup>2</sup> *These project applications will receive additional points during the evaluation process and hence a better overall score.*

## **Funding**

Funding will be provided for the **mobility of researchers to carry out bilateral research projects.**

**Funding mode:** The sending side covers the travel expenses as well as the accommodation costs of its researchers.

**Project duration: January 2025 until December 2026.**

**Please note: Research stays in both countries are obligatory.**

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

In accordance with the Austrian University law, UG 2002 §26 (5) the funding will be transferred to an account managed by the institution. The reimbursement of all project-related expenses will be handled by the Austrian Principal Investigator.

### **AUSTRIA:**

**Funding amount: min EUR 5.000, max EUR 10.000, per project over two years**

#### **Eligible costs:**

- **Travel expenses:**  
up to max EUR 1.200 Travel costs (economy class) will be reimbursed based on submitted invoices.<sup>3</sup>
- **Accommodation expenses:**  
**EUR 120.- per working day for up to 12 days OR**  
**EUR 1.440.- per month for long-term stays between 12 days and 3 months maximum**
- **Project related material costs: max. EUR 3000.-** as part of the granted maximum budget based on submitted invoices.<sup>4</sup>

### **BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA:**

#### **Funds will be allocated for:**

- The sending side covers the travel expenses as well as the accommodation costs of its researchers.
  - **International travel costs for Bosnian researchers, incurred in the most economical way, respecting economical transportation prices.**
- **Accommodation expenses:**  
**EUR 150.- per working day for up to 12 days**

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<sup>3</sup> Journeys of up to seven hours must be by bus or train. A subsidy for private car usage is only possible in exceptions and in accordance with the OeAD.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

## **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 Austria's Agency for Education and Internationalisation (OeAD) and in Bosnia and Herzegovina Ministry of Civil Affairs.** Only applications submitted in time in both countries are eligible for funding.

**AUSTRIA:** Electronic application only [web-link](#)

### **Content:**

- Brief academic CV of Principal Investigator incl. academic status (early-stage researchers) and language skills
- Abstract
- List of relevant publications of the last 2 years on the Austrian side
- Project description including methodology (3 to 5 A4 pages)
- Brief description of the partner institutions (incl. reason of choice of cooperation partner)
- Brief description of the project tasks of ALL project members (Austrian and partner incl. their academic status phd students/researcher and their competence in Austria) and project timeline (template)
- Further cooperation perspective
- Brief description: monitoring, exit strategy, added value for home institution and Austria
- Detailed budget plan (template)

### **BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA:**

Javni konkurs za dodjelu sredstava iz tekućeg za realizaciju projekata bilateralne saradnje u oblasti nauke na po osnovu međunarodnih sporazuma za 2024. godinu Ministarstvo civilnih poslova, Trg BiH 1, 71 000 Sarajevo.

(Public call for allocation of funds from the grant for the implementation of bilateral cooperation projects in the field of science, based on international agreements for the 2024.

Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina,  
Trg BiH 1, 71 000 Sarajevo.)

(Public Call for the allocation of funds for the implementation of bilateral cooperation projects in the field of science on the basis of international agreements for 2024, Ministry of Civil Affairs, Trg BiH 1, 71 000 Sarajevo)

### **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

- a) Application form filled in, signed and certified by the applicant
- b) current extract from the register of the competent body in which the project applicant is registered, not older than three months (original or copy certified by the competent body),
- c) Short CV for each member of the project team
- d) List of relevant works published in the last five years for all members of the project team
- e) Brief description of partner institutions

- f) Proof of participation in international programs
- g) Perspective of further cooperation
- h) Researcher exchange plan
- i) Brief description of project tasks for all members of the project team (Austria and Bosnia and Herzegovina)

The documentation from point a) to point j) is to be submitted in the same order as stated. It must be bound as a whole (as a hard bound book or spiral coil binding) so that individual sheets cannot be inserted, removed or replaced later.

Documentation that is not bound in the manner defined in the previous paragraph will not be taken into consideration and will be considered out of order.

Project applications for the competition are submitted on forms that can be downloaded from the website of the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina [www.mcp.gov.ba](http://www.mcp.gov.ba).

### **Evaluation criteria in Austria:**

- **Scientific quality** of the proposed research project incl.
  - Feasibility of the joint research plan
  - Adequacy of the scientific method
  - Qualification of researchers **(max. 25 points)**
- Perspective for **further joint cooperation activities** **(max. 10 points)**
- **Added value for the institution and Austria, monitoring, exit strategy** **(max 5 points)**
- Project applications will receive up to 10 points additionally,
  - Either if **submitted by early-stage researchers<sup>2</sup> (+10 points)**
  - Or if **involving doctoral students (+5 points) and/or female researchers (+5 points)** **(max. 10 points)**

Maximum score: 50 points

### **Funding decision**

Based on national evaluations in Austria and in Bosnia, a joint shortlist will be prepared. The **funding decision** will be taken by the Austrian – Bosnian-Herzegovinian Joint Commission on Scientific and Technological Cooperation and **announced presumably by** end of December 2024.

### **Reporting and publications**

In Austria scientific and financial reporting on the project is obligatory:

- **Brief project progress report after one year** via the OeAD online tool as a precondition for further funding!
- **Final scientific and financial report** no more than 3 months after the end of the project incl.:
  - Output of the projects compared with the objectives and aims of the application
  - Short, concise summary comprehensible to lay persons<sup>5</sup>

Joint publications resulting from these cooperation projects have to mention the support from the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research and the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### 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 before **8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – 12 noon** to be eligible for funding.

### Further information

In Austria	In Bosnia and Herzegovina
OeAD - Austria's Agency for Education and Internationalisation  <b>Ms Isabella Scheibelreiter</b> Ebendorferstraße 7 A-1010 Vienna Tel. +43 (0)1/ 53408-472 Email: <a href="mailto:wtz@oead.at">wtz@oead.at</a> Website: <a href="http://www.oead.at/wtz">www.oead.at/wtz</a>	Ministry of Civil Affairs Division of Science and Culture Trg Bosne i Hercegovine 3 71 000 Sarajevo <b>Ms Mirjana Nikolić</b> Email: <a href="mailto:Mirjana.Nikolic@mcp.gov.ba">Mirjana.Nikolic@mcp.gov.ba</a> Tel: +387 33 49 2 614 Website: <a href="http://www.mcp.gov.ba">www: mcp.gov.ba</a>

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<sup>5</sup> This short report will be distributed to researchers within OeAD's Wtz-funding programme in similar disciplines to increase networking in the sector of international cooperation.