

**SCIENTIFIC & TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION (WTZ)
AUSTRIA / SLOVENIA
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR JOINT PROJECTS 2023-2024**

CLOSING DATE: 5 May 2022 – 12:00 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 priority areas

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

Target group

AUSTRIA:

- **Researchers** at universities, universities of applied sciences and non-university research institutions in areas of basic research (minimum requirement Dr./PhD degree)
- **PhD/Doctoral students** (Bachelor and Master graduates are not eligible for funding)

Minimum requirement for the Austrian Principal Investigator: PhD/doctoral degree

Project applications submitted by early-stage researchers¹ as well as project applications with involvement of PhD/doctoral students and/or female researchers will be prioritized².

Please note: Only new project partnerships can be funded under this programme³.

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 Act on research and development and on the basis of the regulations of the Slovenian Research Agency.

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.

Funding

Funding will be provided for the **mobility of researchers to carry out bilateral research projects**. In addition up to EUR 2,000.- per project of the granted funding may be applied for project-related material costs in Austria.

Project duration: 1 January 2023 until 31 December 2024.

Funding mode: The basic funding of the cooperation project must be provided on both sides.

¹ *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).*

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

³ *(Follow-up-) Applications of bilateral partnerships whose Principal Investigators already received funding from this programme to carry out a joint project are not eligible.*

Please note: Research stays in both countries are obligatory as long as the COVID-19 situation allows travelling. Funding will be provided for activities within the scope of these guidelines only.

AUSTRIA:

Funding amount: *max.* EUR 7,000.- per project

Eligible costs:

- **Travel expenses:** Travel costs (economy class) will be reimbursed based on submitted invoices.⁴
- **Accommodation expenses:**
 - Researchers: **EUR 100.- per working day for up to 14 days OR EUR 1,400.- per month** for long-term stays **between 14 days and 3 months** maximum
 - PhD/Doctoral students: **EUR 100.- per working day for up to 12 days OR EUR 1,250.- per month** for long-term stays **between 12 days and 3 months** maximum.
- **Project related material costs:** *max.* EUR 2000.- as part of the granted maximum budget based on submitted invoices.⁵

SLOVENIA:

- **Travel expenses:** For visits of Slovenian scientists and experts in Austria international travel costs will be reimbursed.
- **Accommodation expenses:** for stays of Austrian researchers and experts in Slovenia the accommodation costs will be covered by the hosting institution that will also provide per-diems according to national regulations.
- ***For short-term stays of up to 14 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€).

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 Slovenia to the Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS). Only applications submitted in time in both countries are eligible for funding.

⁴ 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.

⁵ 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.

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

Content: (in PDF format)

- Brief academic CV of each project member from the Austrian side including their academic status (early stage researchers, PhD/doctoral students)
- 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 Slovenian)
- 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 has to be submitted to the e-mail address and sent in printed form.

Content:

- CV of principal **Slovenian** investigator
- Other Slovenian Collaborators (condition: the involvement of doctoral students and post-doctoral students (up to 5 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

Evaluation criteria:

- **Scientific quality** of the proposed research project incl.
 - Feasibility of the joint research plan
 - Adequacy of the scientific method
 - Qualification of the scientists/research teams involved **(max. 25 points)**
- Perspective for **further joint cooperation activities** **(max. 15 points)**
- Project applications will receive up to 10 points additionally,
 - Either if **submitted by early-stage researchers**² (+10 points)
 - Or if **involving doctoral students/early-stage researchers**² (+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 Slovenia, a joint shortlist will be prepared. The **funding decision** will be taken by the Austrian-Slovenian Joint Commission on Scientific and Technological Cooperation and **announced presumably by** December 2022.

Reporting and publications

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 persons⁶

Joint publications resulting from these cooperation projects 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 before **5 May 2022, 12:00 noon** to be eligible for funding.

Further information

In Austria	In Slovenia:
OeAD - Austria's Agency for Education and Internationalisation	Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS) Department of Research Infrastructure and International Cooperation
Ms Isabella Scheibelreiter Ebendorferstraße 7 A-1010 Vienna Tel. +43 (0)1/ 53408-472 Email: wtz@oead.at Website: www.oead.at/wtz	Mrs. Frančiška Rožič Novak Bleiweisova cesta 30, Si- 1000 Ljubljana Tel. +386 (01) / 400 5950 Email: fani.rozic-novak@arrs.si Website: www.arrs.si

⁶ 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.