

Call for Joint Proposals

Guangdong Austria Research Cooperation Programme

Call Fiche

1st Call

Cooperative R&D Projects

The Guangdong Austrian Research Cooperation Programme is jointly supported with funding managed by the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) and Guangdong Science and Technology Department of the Government of Guangdong Province of the People's Republic of China.

Deadline:

FFG eCall:

31st August 2017, 12:00 Central European Time (C.E.T.)

Guangdong China:

31st August 2017, 18:00 Beijing Time

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1 Aim of the funding measure

The aim of the Call for Cooperative R&D Projects (later referred to as Projects) is to support the jointly identified research topics with mutual interests and scientific excellence based on the existing cooperation agreement between the Guangdong Science and technology Department of the Government of Guangdong Province (GDST) and the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG). It is purposed that this Call will foster the joint research cooperation between Austria and the Province of Guangdong and improve the visibility of the successful collaboration between the two parties.

Projects funded in the framework of this Call are intended to intensify scientific and applied research cooperation between Austrian and Chinese research organisations and companies of the Chinese province of Guangdong in order to trigger new impulses for excellent research between the two countries.

The special focus of the projects lies in the expected scientific and applied research achievements, know-how transfer, as well as in the promotion of excellent young scientists, post-docs and PhD students in the framework of the projects. The participation of female scientists is particularly welcome.

2 Subject of funding

This call shall bring together research capacities from **one or more research organisations or companies from the province of Guangdong and one or more Austrian companies** thus creating excellence with international standing and attractiveness to researchers in a key area of research. The **Austrian consortium can involve also research organisations in addition to the obligatory Austrian company partner.**

The thematic focus of the Cooperative R&D Project has to refer to at least one of the following topics:

1. ICT for smart cities (智慧城市相关的 ICT 技术)

Examples for topics are:

- Research on smart devices
- Developing Web-based Applications and e-Services
- Ambient assistant living

2. Green and sustainable buildings for Smart Cities

(智慧城市相关绿色可持续建筑)

Examples for topics are:

- Innovative technologies and services for buildings to ensure their modernisation
- Buildings which contribute to energy resilience and are able to adjust to interruptions in the supply of energy e.g. from PV, solar thermal sources and others
- Digitalization of buildings focusing on Building Information Modelling and its applications

3. Smart energy systems (智慧能源系统)

Examples for topics are:

- New or improved photovoltaic and wind energy systems
- New or enhanced biomass and biogas applications

4. Smart mobility (智能交通技术)

Examples for topics are:

- new services and technology for innovative urban mobility to address the needs of citizens and to reduce energy consumption
- electric mobility and applications
- energy storage for mobility applications

- Researchers of both countries should contribute equally to the competence of the partnership. In the partnership researchers of the participating organisation work on a defined research project which is divided into coordinated work packages designed to reach a common research goal. The Joint Proposal provides sufficient level of skill, equipment and manpower capabilities necessary to work on the defined research project.
- The project shall be managed jointly by an Austrian and a Guangdong-Applicant. These two leading scientists shall be announced as the spokespersons (individual national coordinator) responsible for the joint external representation of the project.
- The results of the research shall be shared by the participating Austrian and Chinese researchers. All Austrian and Chinese partners involved in the project have to conclude a consortium agreement on issues such as intellectual property rights, liability and confidentiality. This consortium agreement has to be provided to FFG via eCall and to the headquarters of GDST before the respective national funding contract is signed.

3 Scope of funding

- FFG is prepared to provide each selected Cooperative R&D Project with financial support for a maximum of 3 years.

The total call budget for the Austrian project partners is 1 Million EURO. Funding applied for an individual project has to lie between 100.000.- EURO and 0,5 Million EURO Austrian partners within the joint project.

The budget provided by FFG can only be used to cover costs linked to the implementation of the project parts executed by the Austrian project partners. Rules for funding of the Austrian project partners are laid down in the call documents.

- GDST is prepared to provide each selected Cooperative R&D Project with an annual support.
- A minimum of 10% and a maximum of 80% of the eligible total project costs have to be carried by research organisations (no matter if Austrian and/or Chinese research organisations). Companies share is a minimum of 20% and a maximum of 90%.
- Individual enterprises account for a maximum of 70% of the eligible project costs with shares of affiliated companies counting as one enterprise.
- The Austrian and Guangdong research organisations must have the right to publish the results of their work that has been conducted in the course of the project.

4 Conditions for funding

- For each project a joint proposal in English language (and Chinese) has to be submitted to FFG and the Headquarters of GDST. The proposal must indicate all Austrian and all Chinese project partners and clearly lay down the division of work between the partners as laid down in the call documents. The submitted versions of the Joint Proposal have to be identical. Non identical versions are not eligible.
- The Austrian project partners have to submit an Austrian Annex and a cost plan in addition to the Joint Proposal via FFG eCall in due time.
- The Guangdong project partners should also prepare and submit in parallel an additional application form in Chinese language to GDST (see also below, “Submission of applications”).
- The joint proposals must meet the following goals and criteria:

The goals of this call are to:

1. Strengthen the innovation potential of national real assets manufacturing by improving the industry’s access to research competences at universities and research organisations,
2. Built up research competences in at least one of the relevant topics in the thematic area stated in section 2 of this document ,
3. Increase European and international collaborations and networks and foster cooperations to solve interdisciplinary challenges in research,

The criteria of this Call for Austrian Proposals are:

Table 1 Funding criteria

Quality of the project	Points	Threshold
	30	18
1.1. How well are the state of the art (level of knowledge/technology) and/or the commercially available products and services described and how plausible is the assessment?		
1.2. What is the level of innovation beyond the state of the art and/or existing products and services and how high is the associated risk?		
1.3. What is the quality of planning based on the following criteria? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transparent structure of work packages ○ Transparent presentation of costs ○ Transparent description of work packages according to the scope of work ○ Adequate relationship between costs and work plan ○ Adequate scope of project management ○ Provisions for risk management ○ Realistic implementation of plan (duration, deadlines, milestones, results) ○ Clarity and coherence of cooperative relationships ○ Efficient distribution of tasks among the consortium partners 		
1.4. If the project relates to people ¹ : To what extent have gender-specific topics been taken into account in project planning? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quality of the analysis of gender-specific topics ○ Integration in the methodical approach of the project 		
Suitability of the applicant / project partners	20	12
2.1. Does the consortium have the scientific, technical, economic and management skills required to achieve the project goals?		
2.2. To what extent do the consortium partners have the required qualifications and resources to ensure successful implementation of the cooperative project?		
2.3. Is the composition of the project team gender-balanced?		

¹ If (groups of) persons are the research object or persons will be affected by the research results, this must be reflected in the research design.

Benefit and exploitation	30	18
<p>3.1. What is the benefit for those applying the project results and the exploitation potential? Different dimensions are relevant depending on the project category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Knowledge increase in the relevant scientific-technical target group (IR) b. Planned communication of benefits to the relevant target group has been documented in a transparent manner (IR, ED) c. Benefits, advantages or USPs have been described quantitatively and qualitatively and are plausible (IR, ED) d. Users, markets and market segments have been specified and substantiated by turnover figures (ED) e. Turnover potential of the innovation or added value of market growth in relation to the planned project costs (ED) f. Resources required to bring the results to the market (ED) 		
<p>3.2. What is the impact or strategic significance of the project results for the organisations involved? For example by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. increasing R&D capacities on a long-term basis b. securing or extending their R&D position c. expanding existing R&D activities to include new fields of application d. development of R&D platforms e. opening up new business fields etc. 		
<p>3.3. How complete and transparent is the exploitation strategy based on the following criteria?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Quality of exploitation and dissemination strategy for the scientific results b. Quality of exploitation strategy for the economically relevant results c. If persons are concerned: gender-fair exploitation of economic potential d. Adequate protection strategy or strategy for ensuring a competitive edge e. Exploitation skills – either in house or via existing contacts and collaborations in relation to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. dissemination and exploitation of project results (IR) ii. marketing to the planned users (ED) 		
Relevance to the Call	20	12
<p>4.1. To what extent does the project address the call topics?</p>		
<p>4.2. To what extent does the project contribute to achieving the goals of the call?</p>		
<p>4.3. To what extent does the funding influence the project positively in one or more of the following dimensions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Implementation: the funding enables the project to be implemented in the first place b. Acceleration: the funding accelerates implementation c. Scope: the funding increases the scope of the project d. Range: the funding makes the project more ambitious through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. a more radical innovation approach ii. higher risk iii. new or extended collaborations iv. long-term strategic orientation 		

- A consortium agreement between all involved Austrian and Guangdong partners has to be provided to FFG via eCall and to GDST before the respective national funding contract is signed.
- Funding contracts will be concluded between the FFG and Austrian project partners for the Austrian side and by GDST and the Guangdong Institutions / companies for the Chinese side.

5 Submission of Joint Proposal applications

- **Application in Austria at FFG:**
Joint Proposal Template Austrian Guangdong Cooperative R&D Projects and supporting documents must be submitted electronically via FFG eCall:
<https://eCall.ffg.at>

Deadline: 31 August 2017, 12:00 Central European Time (C.E.T.)

- **Application in China at Guangdong Science and Technology Department (GDST):**
Joint Proposal Template – Austrian – Guangdong Cooperative R&D Projects must be submitted electronically to GDST to

Email:

xypt@ste.gd.cn

wuww@ste.gd.cn

gengy@ste.gd.cn

Details for the Call in Chinese:

<http://bit.ly/2p0yaE8>

Website of GDST

www.gdstc.gv.cn

Deadline: 31 August 2017, 18:00 Beijing Time

- The Joint Proposal must be **written in English language**.
- In addition applications must **fulfill all the respective national and/or general formal conditions** for funding in order to be admitted to the evaluation procedure (amendments are not possible).
- The final decision of the selected proposals will be announced November/December 2017.

6 Contact Information

Austria – FFG:

FFG website related to the call:

www.ffg.at/1-Call-guangdong

www.ffg.at/guangdong

eCall submission of application:

<https://ecall.ffg.at>

FFG contact persons:

Mr Robert Schwertner, programme manager, Thematic Programmes

E: robert.schwertner@ffg.at, T: +43 (0) 57755-5045

China – Guangdong Science and Technology Department:

GDST Website:

www.gdstc.gov.cn

Call Webseite:

<http://bit.ly/2p0yaE8>

GDST Contact person:

Ms. XU Zhe (Stella), project officer, Division of Exchange and Cooperation

E: xuz@gdstc.gov.cn

T: +86-20-83163861