

NATIONAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR AUSTRIAN PARTICIPANTS IN THE JOINT TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE ECSEL 2015 (CALL 2015-1 AND CALL 2015-2)

Austrian participants need to fulfil the following Eligibility Criteria which are verified by means of an eligibility check:

| GENERAL AND FORMAL REQUIREMENTS |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timely submission as specified in the relevant call for proposals • Submission of a complete proposal as specified in the relevant call for proposals • Registration at the eCall system of the FFG at https://ecall.ffg.at Please consult the tutorial at https://ecall.ffg.at/Cockpit/Help.aspx • Upload of a complete Part C in the FFG eCall. Part C defines details on each partner's budget according to the national rules for cost eligibility. Templates for the "cost plan details by partner" V 2.0 are available at https://www.ffg.at/Kostenplan-Foerderung. • For companies: upload of the balance sheets of the last two years in the FFG eCall. • For businesses not listed in the Austrian Business Compass ("Firmen- Compass", e.g. for associations, start-ups, sole traders, non-Austrian companies), a declaration of the SME Status must be uploaded in the FFG eCall. In the document provided by the FFG the applicant has to categorize its business (as far as possible) for the last three years according to the SME definition¹. |
| LEGAL AND ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ELIGIBILITY OF A PARTNER |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following legal entities are eligible for funding: Legal bodies, private companies and sole traders are eligible to receive funding provided they are not part of the Austrian federal administration². • Financial viability and business soundness is verified by means of an internal check. Companies that are in danger of insolvency cannot be funded. • The project duration is limited to 36 month. • The combined share of Austrian research organizations in project costs as indicated in the Part C cannot exceed 40 % of all Austrian partners within each project. |

¹ With regard to the size of companies, the current definitions of SMEs given in the EU competition law are applicable. (Definition of small and medium-sized enterprises and of independent businesses in accordance with recommendation 2003/361/EC of the Commission dated 6 May 2003, (ABl. L 124 of 20.5.2003, pp. 36-41)
http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/files/sme_definition/sme_user_guide_de.pdf

² Details can be obtained from the "Leitfaden für Kooperative F&E Projekte" Version 1.6, section 1.4.1 from the FFG at
http://www.ffg.at/sites/default/files/dok/il_kooperativfueprojekte_v16.pdf

- To be eligible for funding, contributions of Austrian partners have to address one of the following chapters/topics as listed in the ECSEL Work Plan for 2015 (call 2015-1 and call 2015-2):
 - Smart Mobility
 - Smart Energy
 - Smart Production. Being a national priority for national funding this key application will receive a minimum funding of 4 Mio. €.
 - All essential technologies are open for funding
- Individual Austrian project participations have to be balanced in relation to the total national commitment.

ELIGIBILITY OF COSTS AND FUNDING INTENSITY

- The eligibility of costs is in accordance with the national rules on eligible costs <https://www.ffg.at/recht-finanzen/kostenleitfaden/version-2> (Kostenleitfaden V2.0) and the “Leitfaden für Kooperative F&E Projekte” (Version 1.6, section 1.7) from the FFG http://www.ffg.at/sites/default/files/dok/il_kooperativueprojekte_v16.pdf.
- Funding intensity of national public subsidy:

| | Percentage of the national subsidy to the beneficiaries ³ | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | Large Enterprises, Groups and Associations of Enterprises | Medium Enterprises ⁴ | Small Enterprises ⁴ | Public Research Institutes and Universities |
| Industrial/applied research projects (call 2015-1) | up to 25 % | up to 35 % | up to 40 % | up to 40 % |
| Experimental development projects (call 2015-2) | up to 15 % | up to 25 % | up to 35 % | up to 35 % |

- Industrial/Applied research projects correspond to the category “Research and Innovation Action” in the ECSEL Workplan for the year 2015
- Experimental development projects correspond to the category “Innovation Action” in the ECSEL Workplan for the year 2015
- The center of gravity of Austrian partner’s project participation has to be within TRL 2 to TRL 7 and within the type of action that the overall project addresses (RIA/IA). TRL 8 and above (notably market replication) can not be funded.

³ calculated on national eligible costs

⁴ With regard to the size of companies, the current definitions of SMEs given in the EU competition law are applicable. (Definition of small and medium-sized enterprises and of independent businesses in accordance with recommendation 2003/361/EC of the Commission dated 6 May 2003, (ABl. L 124 of 20.5.2003, pp. 36-41)
http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/files/sme_definition/sme_user_guide_de.pdf

- Please note the eligibility conditions in the ECSEL Work Plan for 2015! In particular: A proposal will only be considered eligible if it complies with the eligibility conditions set out depending on the type of action.
- Public Research Institutes and Universities correspond to research organizations: universities, universities of applied sciences (Fachhochschulen), non-university research institutions and other scientifically oriented organizations (e.g. associations with an appropriate purpose) are considered to be research organisations.
- Public organizations (Gemeinden, usw.) are considered as large companies.

NATIONAL GUIDELINES

- Legal background for funding: Themen-FTI-Richtlinie
https://www.ffg.at/sites/default/files/downloads/page/richtlinie_fti_2015_themen.pdf
- Cost guidelines V2.0: <https://www.ffg.at/recht-finanzen/kostenleitfaden/version-2>
- In addition to the general rules for this call, sections 1.4.1 and 1.7 of the “Leitfaden für Kooperative F&E Projekte” (Version 1.6) apply
http://www.ffg.at/sites/default/files/dok/il_kooperativfueprojekte_v16.pdf

FURTHER INFORMATION

- Over the programme lifetime, Austria intends to provide SMEs, research institutions and universities with the following subsidy from the available national funds:
 - small and medium sized enterprises should receive at least 20% of the total national funding
 - research institutions should not receive more than 20% of total national funding
 - universities should not receive more than 20% of total national funding