

**“BEYOND EUROPE”**  
PROGRAMME FOR INTERNATIONALISATION OF RTI PROJECTS  
CALL GUIDELINES, 2<sup>nd</sup> CALL  
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# “BEYOND EUROPE” PROGRAMME FOR INTERNATIONALISATION OF RTI PROJECTS

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# KEY FACTS AT A GLANCE

This Call of the “Beyond Europe“ Programme makes available a total of **EUR 4.6 million** in funding.

OVERVIEW – INSTRUMENTS		
	<b>Exploratory Project</b> Pilot study for R&D project	<b>Cooperative R&amp;D Project</b> Experimental development
	Technical Guidelines Exploratory Projects	Technical Guidelines Cooperative R&D Projects
<b>Funding amount (€)</b>	max. 200,000	min. 100,000 to max. 500,000
<b>Funding rate</b>	max. 80 %	max. 60 %
<b>Duration (months)</b>	max. 12	max. 36
<b>Cooperation required</b>	No, see Guideline	Yes, see Guideline
<b>Target groups</b>	Austrian companies, research and university institutes and other organisations; Project partners from “Beyond Europe” countries may receive direct funding to a limited extent (see Chapter 2.2)	
<b>Project leader</b>	All applications must be submitted by an Austrian company	
<b>Total budget</b>	<b>€ 4.6 million</b>	
<b>Submission period</b>	23 November 2016 to <b>1 March 2017</b> ; 12.00 noon	
<b>Language</b>	English	
<b>Contact</b>	» <b>Maria Bürgermeister-Mähr</b> , Tel +43 (0)5 77 55-5040 » <b>Roland Brandenburg</b> , Tel +43 (0)5 77 55-5090 » Email: <b>beyondeurope@ffg.at</b>	
<b>Information</b>	<a href="http://www.ffg.at/beyond-europe">www.ffg.at/beyond-europe</a>	

## Amendments since 1<sup>st</sup> Call (Dez. 2015)

- » Chapter 1.3:  
In the Beyond Europe Programme it is essential that proposals meet economic criteria for benefits and exploitation. This requirement is rendered more precisely.
- » Chapter 2.2:  
The list of Associated Countries to Horizon 2020 was updated and extended by Armenia, Georgia and Tunisia.

The full set of application documents must be submitted via eCall (<https://ecall.ffg.at>) by the submission deadline.

## INFORMATION ABOUT LANGUAGE OF SUBMISSION

The application, all correspondence and reports must be in English. Please note that the use of two languages (e.g. English and German) in one project proposal is not permitted and will lead to rejection of the proposal for formal reasons.  
All call documents and the contact details of the Beyond Europe team can be found at [www.ffg.at/beyond-europe](http://www.ffg.at/beyond-europe). Other relevant potential funding options are listed in Chapter 5.

# 1. MOTIVATION

## 1.1 | “BEYOND EUROPE” PROGRAMME: BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

International research cooperation has become indispensable for achieving excellent results and strengthening the competitiveness of Austria’s research and economy on the global market.

Austria’s RTI Strategy “Becoming an Innovation Leader”<sup>1</sup>, which was launched by the Federal Government in 2011, defined international positioning as one of its key aims. In 2013, the interministerial Working Group 7a published its strategic recommendations entitled “Beyond Europe”<sup>2</sup>.

In the context of these developments the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWF) considers the expansion and operationalisation of internationalisation activities as a key point to strengthen Austria’s position as a research hub by taking measures designed to meet current challenges and trends.

In concrete terms, the Beyond Europe Programme supports Austrian companies, research and university institutes and other organisations in creating and extending collaborations. The present Call invites proposals for relevant research projects.

The Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) already offers a range of programmes providing for the participation or even funding of international (primarily European) project partners (universities, research institutes or companies). The existing portfolio has now been extended in a first step to include suitable formats for international collaborations, to be able to respond promptly to cooperation requests in a targeted manner.

In the following, the term “international” will always be understood in the context of “Beyond Europe”, i.e. countries and regions outside Europe (see definition in Chapter 2.2).

## 1.2 | CALL OBJECTIVE

The Beyond Europe Programme supports the strategic objective of the Federal Government and the BMWF to encourage international cooperation and networking.

The present Call aims at increasing the international RTI activities and collaborations of Austrian companies and research institutions with partners outside Europe through research projects.

It is assumed that Beyond Europe partners will generally bear their own costs. They may however receive direct funding from the programme budget to a limited extent, depending on the respective funding instrument.

## 1.3 | BENEFITS AND EXPLOITATIONS: SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Proposals must clearly address the economic potential of the planned results and describe the relevant markets and target groups addressed by the proposal in qualitative and quantitative terms. Competing technologies must be identified and USPs of the planned project results must be evident.

Commercialisation strategies (including IPR issues, marketing and sales strategies, business and investment plans) as well as descriptions of the expected economic impact for each partner must be provided. The economic impact for the Austrian companies and for Austria as a business location is essential for a positive evaluation. Proposals must clearly explain why the “Beyond Europe” partners are essential for the project and what advantage the participation of the non-Austrian partners bring as compared to an Austrian organisation.

<sup>1</sup> <http://wissenschaft.bmwf.at/bmwf/forschung/national/strategie-der-bundesregierung-fuer-forschung-technologie-und-innovation>

<sup>2</sup> “Die Internationalisierung Österreichs in Forschung, Technologie und Innovation über Europa hinaus”  
[https://era.gv.at/directory/160/attach/FTI\\_AG7a\\_Brosch\\_re\\_Ansicht.pdf](https://era.gv.at/directory/160/attach/FTI_AG7a_Brosch_re_Ansicht.pdf)

## 2. CALL TOPICS

### 2.1 | THEMATIC RESTRICTIONS

The Call is open for all topics. Funding is available for projects in all technical disciplines. The applicant must ensure that the submitted projects are not aimed at developing **weapons or violence-promoting products**.

The applicant must ensure that the submitted projects are not aimed at **gambling** of any kind (i.e. games in which

the outcome is determined exclusively or predominantly by chance).

**These provisions must be specifically included in the Consortium Agreement.** The payment of funding depends, among others, on compliance with this requirement.

### 2.2 | GEOGRAPHICAL RESTRICTIONS

Partners from all countries of the world can apply for funding under the Beyond Europe Programme with the exception of:

... the other 27 EU Member States  
... the following Associated Countries to Horizon 2020<sup>3</sup>:

- » Albania
- » Armenia
- » Bosnia and Herzegovina
- » Faroe Islands
- » Georgia
- » Iceland
- » Macedonia
- » Moldova
- » Montenegro

- » Norway
- » Serbia
- » Switzerland
- » Tunisia
- » Ukraine

**However, the additional participation of project partners from the countries listed above is possible and welcome, but they are not eligible to receive funding under this Call.**

Although **Israel** and **Turkey** are defined as Associated Countries to Horizon 2020, they are regarded as target countries in the Beyond Europe Strategy and are thus eligible for funding under this Call.

<sup>3</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants\\_manual/hi/3cpart/h2020-hi-list-ac\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/3cpart/h2020-hi-list-ac_en.pdf)

## 2.3 | FUNDING INSTRUMENTS

The FFG Technical Guidelines apply as a matter of principle. Some special characteristics of this Call and deviations from the relevant guidelines are described in the following paragraphs.

### 2.3.1 | EXPLORATORY PROJECT

Exploratory projects are designed to **examine the technical feasibility of innovative ideas and concepts**. They can also be carried out to assess the viability of potential future RTD projects and to provide a basis for concept development for flagship projects. Exploratory projects support the following objectives:

- » more radical innovations in strategic thematic fields
- » mobilising the research community for broadly define system-relevant flagship projects
- » improving project quality through preparatory validation
- » easier integration of external expertise

The application must be submitted by an Austrian company. Exploratory projects can be carried out as individual projects or as cooperative projects with 2 or more project partners. Partners that are not from “Beyond Europe” countries (see 2.2.) can participate but are not eligible for funding.

#### Instrument included in the Call:

Exploratory Projects – for details see:

[Technical Guidelines Exploratory Projects](#)

The Technical Guidelines apply for this Call with the following modifications:

Section 1.2: Applications for both individual and cooperative projects must be submitted by an Austrian company. If the exploratory project is carried out as a cooperative project, at least one partner from a “Beyond Europe” country must be involved in the consortium.

### 2.3.2 | COOPERATIVE R&D PROJECTS

Cooperative R&D Projects are defined as being carried out by **at least 2 consortium partners working together on a common R&D project**. Projects submitted to this Call must have a focus on experimental development (closer to the market; for definition see “guidelines for cooperative R&D projects, V22”). The aim is to

- » develop R&D expertise and improve the innovative capacity in strategic thematic fields
- » expand collaborations within the innovation system, in particular between science and industry
- » contribute to meeting socio-economic challenges (“Grand Challenges”)

The application must be submitted by an Austrian company. The consortium must include at least one “Beyond Europe” partner. Only projects of the category “Experimental Development” may be submitted. Partners that are not from “Beyond Europe” countries (see 2.2.) can participate but are not eligible for funding.

#### Instrument included in the Call (see Table 1):

Cooperative Projects (*Experimental Development*) –

for details see: [Technical Guidelines Cooperative R&D Projects](#)

The Technical Guidelines apply for this Call with the following modifications:

The application must be submitted by an Austrian company. The consortium must include at least one partner from a “Beyond Europe” country.

Section 1.6: The maximum level of funding granted is EUR 500,000.

Section 1.6 (Tab. 1): Only projects of the category “Experimental Development” are eligible for funding.

### 3. CALL DOCUMENTS

Project proposals may **only** be submitted **electronically via eCall** at <https://ecall.ffg.at>. The **Project Description** (scientific proposal) and the **Cost Plan** (financial tables) must be uploaded via eCall as part of the electronic application. Applicants are required to use the specific templates prepared for the chosen funding instrument (see overview below).

The funding conditions, application procedure and funding criteria are described in the relevant **Technical Guideline**. The following table gives an overview of the documents required for the different funding instruments.

#### OVERVIEW OF CALL DOCUMENTS

available for download: [www.ffg.at/en/beyond-europe/Call-2](http://www.ffg.at/en/beyond-europe/Call-2)

<b>Call Guideline (present document)</b>	 Call Guideline “Beyond Europe“ Programme for Internationalisation of RTI projects
<b>Exploratory Projects</b>	 Technical Guidelines Exploratory Projects  Project Description Exploratory Projects  Declaration of Cooperation for Exploratory Projects  Declaration of SME Status (if required)*
<b>Cooperative R&amp;D Projects</b>	 Technical Guidelines Cooperative R&D Projects  Project Description Cooperative R&D Projects  Declaration of SME Status (if required)*
<b>General cost regulations</b>	 Cost Guidelines (eligibility of costs in FFG projects)
<b>Legal basis</b>	 Guideline for the Promotion of Industrial/Technological Research, Technology Development and Innovation ( <i>FTI-Richtlinie 2015 – Themen-FTI-RL</i> )

\* If there is no information available in the Austrian Business Compass (e.g. for associations and start-ups), a Declaration of SME Status must be provided upon submission of the proposal. In the template provided by the FFG, applicants must (as far as possible) categorise their business for the last three years according to the SME definition ([www.ffg.at/sites/default/files/downloads/page/benutzerhandbuch\\_en.pdf](http://www.ffg.at/sites/default/files/downloads/page/benutzerhandbuch_en.pdf)).

## 4. LEGAL BASIS

This Call is based on the RTI Guidelines for the Promotion of Industrial/Technological Research, Technology Development and Innovation ([FTI-Richtlinie 2015 – Themen-FTI-RL](#)) published at [www.ffg.at/recht-finanzen/rechtsgrundlagen](#).

The company size shall be established in accordance with the corresponding SME definition specified in EU competition law. For more information go to [www.ffg.at/recht-finanzen/rechtliches\\_service\\_KMU](#).

All national and EU regulations shall be applicable as amended.

## 5. FURTHER FUNDING AND SUPPORT OPTIONS

### 5.1 | FFG FUNDING AND SUPPORT

The Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) provides a wide range of funding options and support for participation in international programmes and initiatives. For more information go to [www.ffg.at/en/funding](#)

Export Check for technology companies supports innovative companies in European and overseas markets. Eligible expenses are narrowly defined and may include the cost for studies, marketing, travel expenses, participation fees, cost for legal and tax expertise and more. For further information please visit our website [www.go-international.at](#)

### 5.2 | WKO SUPPORT

ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA, with its about 110 offices in over 70 countries, provides a broad range of intelligence and business development services for both Austrian companies and their international business partners. Around 800 employees and 35 consultants around the world can assist you in locating Austrian suppliers and business partners. We organize about 1,200 events every year to bring business contacts together. Other services provided by ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA offices range from introductions to Austrian companies looking for importers, distributors or agents to providing in-depth information on Austria as a business location and assistance in entering the Austrian market.

ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA – Go International  
Contact: Ernst Kopp/Rudolf Obereder  
Tel +43 (0) 5 90 900 4366, [go-international@wko.at](mailto:go-international@wko.at)

### 5.2.1 | GO-INTERNATIONAL

Go-international, the Internationalization Initiative by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWF) and the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber (WKO) comprises subsidies, consultancy and information services. A comprehensive set of measures has been prepared. Regional priorities are overseas markets with strong growth potential while sectoral priorities include exporting know-how and services, ensuring technology networking, and promoting research and innovation.

### 5.3 | AWS FUNDING AND SUPPORT

The Austrian Federal Development bank (AWS) provides additional and supplementary funding options.  
For more information see:

„Guarantees for Internationalisation Projects“  
[www.awsg.at/Content.Node/foerderungen\\_alle/internationale-finanzierung/48272.php](#)  
Contact: Monika Bednarik-Belan  
Tel +43 (0) 1 501 75-333, [m.bednarik@awsg.at](mailto:m.bednarik@awsg.at)

„Tec4Market“  
[www.awsg.at/Content.Node/foerderungen\\_alle/internationale-finanzierung/130835.php](#)  
Contact: Dr. Wilhelm Hantsch-Linhart, Tel +43 (0) 1 501 75-311

### 5.4 | ADA FUNDING AND SUPPORT

The Austrian Development Agency (ADA) provides additional and supplementary funding options. For more information go to [www.entwicklung.at](#)

Contact: Dr. Gunter Schall  
Tel +43 (0) 1 90399-2570, [gunter.schall@ada.gv.at](mailto:gunter.schall@ada.gv.at)

# FFG » YOUR PARTNER FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Innovation and applied research have a strong partner in Austria: the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG). We help Austria's business and science sectors to remain competitive both nationally and internationally.



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