

**iv2splus**  
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Strategieprogramm Intelligente  
Verkehrssysteme und Services plus

## Open Call

# IV2Splus Trans-National Program appendix – explanation in English

**Information for Interested Participants**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals, 3<sup>rd</sup> period**  
**2010 – 2011**

**Proposal Submission Deadline Dates: 17.10.2011**

Datum: 01.04.2011

English Text Date: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011

Thank you for your interest in this call for proposals.  
This document contains information about procedures  
and submission of project applications under  
the 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for proposals "IV2Splus transnational".

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An initiative of the  
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in cooperation with the  
Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)



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# 1. Executive Summary

This document summarizes important information regarding the IV2Splus Trans-National Call for Proposals organized by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology (BMVIT). Additional more detailed information is available in German at: <http://www.bmvit.gv.at/innovation/verkehrstechnologie/index.html>

## Research Program Target Groups

- **Private businesses:** industry, consulting firms, service companies, retailers, operators
- **Scientific institutions:** universities and colleges, as well as independent research institutes.
- **Competence centres, clusters, associations**

## Topics of the calls

BMVIT's Trans-National Research Program includes the following three on-going research program lines (for details see chapters 3-5):

- **A3plus (4th call)**
  - Alternative propulsion systems for road, rail, and waterborne transport
  - vehicle electronics for energy-efficient control systems & system management
  - Innovative storage concepts
  - Alternative fuels
  - Development of fuelling / recharging infrastructures for operating alternatively propelled vehicles
- **I2V (4th call)**
  - Innovative technologies in intermodal freight transport
  - Intelligent logistics in intermodal transport chains
  - Interoperability between modes of transport and traffic systems
  - Innovations in rail transport
- **ways2go (3rd call)**
  - Mobility solutions and infrastructure for future society
  - Motivation and lessons for more sustainable transport systems and lifestyles
  - Innovative tools and methods for transport planning, analysis and technology

## Types of Projects

The trans-national research program consists of co-operative research and development (R & D projects) in the categories of basic research, industrial research and experimental development. The project types refer to the definitions of the Community framework for state aid for research and development and innovation (refer to [http://ec.europa.eu/invest-in-research/policy/state\\_aid\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/invest-in-research/policy/state_aid_en.htm)) and national adoptions.

## Calendar

The IV2Splus Trans-National Call consists of two separate proposal periods. Important dates for both periods are shown in the table below.

<b>16.07.2010</b>	Opening of 1st Call for Proposals
<b>26.09..2011</b>	Last day to obtain a non-binding proposal review from the FFG staff (Pre-Proposal-Check)
<b>17.10.2011 12:00 noon</b>	<b>Submittal Deadline (Cut-Off Dates)</b> Deadline for submitting project proposals to the project manager (FFG)
<b>November 2011</b>	Evaluation of the project proposals by an international jury of experts.
<b>December 2011</b>	Evaluation results and funding offers provided to selected research proposals.
<b>January 2012</b>	Contract signed and estimated start date for selected projects

## Funding

Approximately € 500,000 per proposal period in funding is available for the “IV2Splus Trans-National Projects” Call .

Note that this funding is available for Austrian resident research organizations and companies only. International partners are expected to be funded from national research programs in their home country.

## Evaluation Criteria

Project proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Quality of the project
2. Relevance of the project in relation to the program line
3. Qualifications of the project coordinator and participants
4. Economic potential, benefits and value

An additional criteria used in evaluating proposals for funding under the IV2Splus Trans-National Call is the added value generated by cooperation with foreign partners.

## 2. IV2Splus Program Goals and Call Contents

### 2.1. General IV2Splus Program Goals

IV2Splus – “Intelligent Transport Systems and Services plus” - is a strategic initiative designed to promote innovative transportation technologies. IV2Splus builds on the BMVIT’s successful predecessor IV2S program (2002 - 2006), while updating the research topics and areas of concentration.

The program focuses on strengthening the excellence of research and development by encouraging greater integration of successful national R & D efforts into international industrial value chains. This will enable Austria to fully contribute to development of future transport and mobility solutions at the European and international levels.

Rapidly changing social, economic and technological developments are creating increasingly complex demands on the transport system and significantly impacting its performance. New technologies and innovations can make a major contribution to shaping a viable, intelligent and sustainable mobility for the future, thus providing significant new economic opportunities for transport industry developers and suppliers. Not only does the economy benefit from a more efficient transport system, but also due to the development and production of new products and services. Transport technologies are therefore an essential element in for improving local economies and increasing their competitiveness in the world marketplace.

The IV2Splus program consists of four closely integrated program lines, each focusing on a different set of priorities, that together form the cornerstone for BMVIT’s transport research program. Three of the program lines are included in the IV2Splus Trans-National Call and are described in chapters 3-5 below.

### 2.2. Trans-National Call Goals

Trans-national research cooperation in the transport sector strengthens innovation networks and opens new market opportunities for the Austrian transport sector. The IV2Splus strategic program helps to achieve these goals by stimulating and enhancing new and existing trans-national research collaboration in its specific program lines.

In 2004, 13 countries organized the ERA-NET TRANSPORT<sup>1</sup> cooperation platform to encourage research funding information exchange and to develop cooperation procedures for funding trans-national research collaborations between national research programs in the transport sector. Since then ERA-NET TRANSPORT partner countries have organized several trans-national calls and obtained a good understanding of process related implications for trans-national research funding cooperation.

Experience from the ERA-NET TRANSPORT process clearly highlights the barriers to effective collaboration between national R & D funding programs of member states, specifically:

- It is difficult to coordinate the timing of individual national research programs to encourage effective trans-national participation. The diversity of approval and process requirements for different countries makes it extremely difficult to efficiently coordinate call timing internationally. This problem constitutes one of the main restrictions on trans-national research in the transport area!

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<sup>1</sup> [www.transport-era.net](http://www.transport-era.net)

- Producing comprehensive thematic harmonization of program priorities (research agendas) for program-specific, trans-national calls or tenders is a difficult and long-term task. When taken together with timeline related problems (see above) this restriction significantly impacts the ability to support trans-national projects.

The goal of the BMVIT's IV2Splus Trans-National Call is to eliminate these barriers by developing a separate program designed to compliment the national program lines that increases the flexibility for trans-national research cooperation. The trans-national program expands temporally and thematically the ability to support trans-national research projects.

BMVIT's specific objectives for this program are to:

- Establish new trans-national research cooperation that makes a demonstrable contribution (e.g. knowledge synergies, opening new markets) to the development of transport technologies in Austria within the framework of IV2Splus;
- Increase the participation of Austrian organizations in trans-national research projects by increasing program flexibility (i.e. help create "windows of opportunities");
- Create linkages to foreign research funding sources (both public and private);
- Reduce the coordination effort needed to support trans-national research; and,
- Create a critical mass of funding for research in IV2Splus-related topics.

## **2.3. Requirements for trans-national projects**

### **General note on procedural provisions**

In contrast to "Joint Calls" the IV2Splus Trans-National Call has no automatic schedule, thematic or administrative relationships with funding agencies of other countries. These different national procedures can cause difficulties for those proposing projects.

In all cases meeting the different regulations and requirements is the responsibility of the organization proposing the project and must be carefully considered both when submitting a proposal and in completing the project.

### **Eligible thematically framework**

The proposed trans-national project must

- address one of the IV2Splus program line themes (based on the most recent call for proposals guidelines – see below); or
- relate to a complementary announced topic for a specific proposal submission period (see below).

In all cases proposals must clarify the added value of addressing the topic within a trans-national project in comparison to a pure national project. should clearly state which IV2S program line they are addressing.

### **Funding budgets**

The approximately 1 million Euros available for the IV2Splus Trans-National Call is available for Austrian organizations only. International partners are expected to be funded from national research programs in their home country.

Since the BMVIT is not funding the international partners it has no ability to guarantee the quality of these partners' work or their adherence to project schedules; therefore, foreign partners must be funded by a governmental body or by a designated agency that can legally provide this quality and schedule control (i.e. withhold payments if contractors fail to perform).

## Grant requirements

The IV2Splus Trans-National Call will only accept proposals that include trans-national cooperation. A minimum of 10% and a maximum of 90% of the total project (i.e. project related costs) must be provided by foreign partners.

All project proposals must clearly describe what benefits are provided through the cooperation with foreign partners compared to a consortium made-up of only Austrian partners.

The maximum grant award from the Austrian government is € 150,000 (VAT excluded) per project. Funding is only provided to Austrian organizations.

## Schedule

The IV2Splus Trans-National Program call for proposals is based on two consecutive proposal periods, each with its own calendar and deadlines (see above). From the perspective of those proposing projects, this quasi-continuous sequence consists of a “standing invitation” for proposals.

A national evaluation will be held at the end of each proposal submission period. To allow a better timeline coordination of proposal with other countries, approximately three submission deadline dates (“cut-off dates”) per year will be provided.

If there is insufficient funding available to support all proposed projects, organizations are free to resubmit their proposals if they wish them to be considered in the next period. Re-submitted proposals are then evaluated with the new proposals (there is no automatic re-submission of rejected proposals from one period to another).

## Additional Project Requirements

Proposals must include all the information required for regular projects proposed under the specific IV2Splus program. The following additional requirements must be included with proposals under the Trans-National Program:

- Written cooperation agreement (eg LOI) with foreign partners;
- Complete funding proposal (fully describing both national and foreign contributions) as well as providing a full overview of the project costs;
- Evidence showing that the foreign partner has the necessary financial support from their respective national funding body;
- Consortium Agreement (CA) that clearly defines property rights (IPRs) as part of the Grant Agreement.

## 2.4. Call for Proposals: Topics

The topics of the tender are based on the topics for cooperative projects in recent Calls for Proposals carried out in the following three IV2Splus program lines:

- A3plus – 4th Call
- I2V – 4th Call
- ways2go – 3rd Call

The proposal should state precisely which program line and topic it addresses. The proposal must also fulfil all requirements and stipulations of the particular program line it addresses (and/or the particular program line’s Call for Proposals)!

Depending on current funding opportunities for research cooperation in other countries, the BMVIT may define specific trans-national cooperation proposals for deepening or investigating complementary topics to the IV2Splus program themes, specifically:

- Deepening consists of refining existing IV2Splus program topics to better fit within the relevant research themes included in calls for projects in other countries.
- Complimenting consists of broadening existing IV2Splus program topics in the direction of new trans-national research priorities.

If no deepening or complimentary themes are announced in a given proposal submission period, then all proposals should focus only on the topics described in the most recent calls for proposals in the A3plus, I2V and ways2go programs.

Note that the Accompanying Study (Begleitstudienthemen) projects described in the IV2Splus program line's calls for proposals are no eligible topics for this Trans-National Call.

More detailed information about the IV2Splus programs are available in the relevant guidelines. All documents can be found in our "Download Center":

<http://www.ffg.at/content.php?cid=714>

An overview of the previously funded IV2S and IV2Splus projects can be found on the BMVIT's website at: <http://www.iv2splus.at>

### 2.4.1. A3plus Program Overview and Project Themes

A3plus spans a broad thematic arc ranging from development of highly efficient drive units to innovative storage concepts for alternative fuels to advanced automotive electronics for energy efficient control and vehicle system management. In parallel to these vehicle-based technologies, the program also considers alternative energy including research on alternative fuels as well as the infrastructure systems needed to efficiently create and distribute these new energy sources. The A3plus program line seeks technological solutions that contribute to increased social and environmental compatibility of all surface transport modes (road, rail, and water-borne).

The A3plus program line supports cooperative research projects between industry, university and extramural research through the entire R & D cycle. The program line is designed to encourage innovation and strengthen the competitiveness of Austrian industry in the area of vehicle propulsion technologies both through specific research projects and the interdisciplinary exchange that takes place in cooperative research programs.

The A3plus program line objectives are consistent with the European Union's transport and energy policy (which places a limit on average new car emissions of 120g CO<sub>2</sub>/km by 2012) and also makes an important contribution to meeting the Austrian government's, in some cases stronger, environmental targets.

In today's difficult economic environment, the A3plus program line focuses R & D investments to stimulate research capacity and innovation that will help Austrian industry maintain and enhance its strategic advantages in this important sector after the crisis is over.

The A3plus program line's 3<sup>rd</sup> call for proposals<sup>2</sup> requests projects in the following five themes:

1. Alternative propulsion systems for road, rail, and waterborne transport
2. vehicle electronics for energy-efficient control systems & system management
3. Innovative storage concepts
4. Alternative fuels
5. Development of fuelling / recharging infrastructures for operating alternatively propelled vehicles

Development of fuelling / recharging infrastructures for operating alternatively propelled vehicles  
NOTE: projects on the theme of combining classical petrol or diesel engines with a conventional gasoline (petrol) or diesel fuel are **not eligible** for funding. However, projects based on using the principle of a petrol or diesel engine in combination with alternative fuels are allowed. In addition, all types of alternative drives and hybrid drives such as those that combine a petrol or diesel engine with an alternative propulsion system are allowed.

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<sup>2</sup> The A3plus 3rd Call for Proposals described here is open until 20 July 2009. However, qualifying projects can be submitted to the IV2Splus Trans-National Call described in this document following the IV2Splus Trans-National Call calendar.

### **2.4.2. I2V Program Overview and Project Themes**

The I2V program line focuses on development of intermodal and interoperable transport solutions, intelligent freight logistics and reducing the environmental impacts of transport. Two especially important priorities in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Call for Projects is research on ways to shift freight flows from road to rail and/or waterway transport, and research on improving freight transport logistics by considering the entire transport logistics chain including both external and internal to the firm freight flows.

An important goal of the I2V program is to transfer the results of successfully completed R & D studies into demonstration projects and implementation-oriented projects thereby providing convincing reference applications. The I2V program line's focus and themes were developed as part of a broad consultation among stakeholders, experts, interest groups and other actors. International priorities were incorporated by including ideas from the European Intermodal Research Advisory Council (EIRAC).

The I2V program line's overall objective is to increase overall transport system efficiency through the development and testing of new technologies and systems, in particular by:

- making intermodal transfers easier and more efficient;
- increasing the use of more environmentally friendly modes of transport; and
- making more efficient use of existing infrastructure.

One way the program seeks to achieve these objectives is by developing elements of an integrated intermodal transport system that can help overcome the current lack of coordinated planning. Examples include clarifying technical standards and considering new infrastructure applications (e.g. Galileo). Central to the success of this effort is the involvement of system users including transport and logistics companies, but also individual transport operators in helping develop new solutions. The I2V program believes that this type of input is critical and therefore involving stakeholders and user groups in the research process is a key requirement.

Finally, the program aims to promote specific, collaborative R & D projects with high degree of innovation, e.g. to develop key system components that will ultimately lead to new technological possibilities.

The I2V program line's 3<sup>rd</sup> call for proposals<sup>3</sup> requests projects in the following five themes:

1. Innovative technologies in intermodal freight transport
2. Intelligent logistics in intermodal transport chains
3. Interoperability between modes of transport and traffic systems
4. Innovations in rail transport

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<sup>3</sup> The I2V program line's 3<sup>rd</sup> Call for Proposals described here is open until 4 November 2009. However, qualifying projects can be submitted to the IV2Splus Trans-National Call described in this document following the IV2Splus Trans-National Call calendar.

### 2.4.3. ways2go Program Overview and Project Themes

The ways2go program focuses on passenger transport. The program aims to increase knowledge on future mobility and transport issues in order to encourage development and testing of sustainable, demand-oriented transport systems and mobility solutions. The program particularly welcomes interdisciplinary research projects that integrate ideas from outside subjects (e.g. sociology, cultural studies and social anthropology, economics, demography, psychology, spatial and transport planning, (social) medicine, cognitive science, information technology and telematics, vehicle and environmental engineering, etc.) with transport research addressing current and future transport challenges. The ways2go program includes a broad range of projects from technical research to development of non-technical products and applications (services).

The products of ways2go projects can be designs for innovative individual components, and technical systems, ideas for new organizational forms, operational processes and planning tools - as well as approaches and methods for awareness-raising aimed at supporting and promoting sustainable mobility for all members of society. The program focuses on current and future user needs, especially with respect to changing demography (e.g. aging of society), transport system safety, socially inclusive transport systems and environmental sustainability.

Particularly welcome are research projects that contribute to realization of accessible transport systems in line with the Disability Equality Act (e.g. projects that develop innovative solutions for consistent implementation of the "multi-sense principle", or technologies that reduce transport system physical and/or information-related barriers). A focus on advanced design concepts like "universal design" or "design for all" is welcome.

In addition to projects for improving future transport and mobility systems, the ways2go program will support projects that develop new methodologies for transport planning and analysis, coordinated transport-spatial planning, and decision-making processes. This effort will support integration of transport technology, spatial planning and transportation planning leading to new and improved approaches for planning future transport systems.

The ways2go program line's 3<sup>rd</sup> call for proposals<sup>4</sup> requests projects in the following four themes:

1. Mobility research for future mobility solutions
2. Motivation and learning for sustainable mobility and lifestyles
3. Innovative tools and methods for spatial planning, transport planning and transport technology

Project proposals submitted for the ways2go program must focus on at least one of the main themes, but projects that consider several of the program themes are especially welcome. All proposals should describe how project results can be used to develop implement-able products or ideas to address future transport needs (i.e. describe how the research will contribute to developing a commercial product).

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<sup>4</sup> The ways2go program line's 2nd Call for Proposals described here is open until 6 October 2009. However, qualifying projects can be submitted to the IV2Splus Trans-National Call described in this document following the IV2Splus Trans-National Call calendar.