

Austrian Science Fund (FWF) – Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) 2019 Call for Austrian-Taiwanese Joint Projects and Joint Seminars

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1. Introduction

The *Austrian Science Fund* (FWF) and the *Ministry of Science and Technology* (MOST) of Taiwan jointly offer the possibility to apply for bilateral **Austrian-Taiwanese joint projects and joint seminars**.

Joint projects enable the funding of closely integrated bilateral research projects for which funding must be secured in Austria and in Taiwan. **Joint seminars** enable the joint funding of multiple-day workshops/seminars for the purpose of initiating bilateral cooperation projects and preparing applications for joint projects.

2. Call procedure

Project applications must be submitted in parallel to **FWF (Austrian team)** and to **MOST (Taiwanese team)** in accordance with each agency's application guidelines. In cases where a joint project or joint seminar is approved, the two parts of the project are funded separately by FWF and MOST. Applications to FWF must include a **letter of intent** (letter or e-mail) in which the project partner confirms his/her intention to submit a matching parallel application to MOST.

3. Joint projects

FWF/MOST joint projects are basic research projects (including clinical research) in which scientists or scholars from Austria and Taiwan cooperate in pursuing a common research goal. Joint projects must be based on **close interaction between the Austrian and Taiwanese research teams** and should present project goals and a joint work with balanced and substantial contributions from all project partners. The project parts should be closely integrated such that one part could not be carried out without the other. Proposals without strong interaction between the partners should be submitted as separate proposals in the standard funding schemes of FWF and MOST.

3.1. Project duration

Joint projects submitted in response to the FWF/MOST call are limited to **a maximum duration of 4 years**. The proposed project duration of both project parts must be identical.

3.2. Subject areas

The call is open to all fields of basic research, including clinical research¹.

¹ For the distinction between basic research and clinical research (KLIF programme), please see <http://www.fwf.ac.at/en/research-funding/fwf-programmes/programme-clinical-research-klif/>

3.3. Deadline

Proposals for joint projects must be submitted to FWF and MOST by **8 April 2019 (FWF: date of postmark)**.

Note: for proposals in the area of clinical research, the Austrian applicant must submit a positive opinion from the relevant ethics commission or evidence of a fundamental approval/endorsement by that commission **at the latest four months** after the submission of the project proposal.

3.4. Cost calculations/Eligibility

The budgets for the Austrian and Taiwanese project parts must be calculated in line with FWF and MOST guidelines and the two project parts will be funded separately by FWF and MOST, respectively. The costs for the Austrian part of the project are to be calculated in accordance with the January 2019 version of the [FWF Application Guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects](#) or, in case of clinical research proposals, those of the [clinical research programme](#). Only project-specific costs (including general costs) can be requested from FWF. The costs and eligibility criteria for the Taiwanese part are to be calculated in accordance with the MOST guidelines of Add-on Grant for Bilateral Cooperation.

3.5. Proposals preparation

Joint proposals must be prepared and submitted to FWF and MOST with due attention to the regulations and the call deadline. **The titles of the two applications must be identical.**

Proposals submitted to FWF should follow the January 2019 version of the [FWF Application Guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects](#) or, in case of clinical research proposals, those of the [clinical research programme](#), while Taiwanese applicants must follow MOST guidelines.

The Austrian proposal must describe the **entire Austrian-Taiwanese project** in which the connection between the two project parts and the resources to be deployed on each side should be clearly described.

The **project description** (no more than 20 pages) submitted to FWF must include additional information on:

- A **brief description of the project partner abroad** along with an indication of their specific contribution to the project and/or relevant skills
- The **distribution of work** between the Austrian and the Taiwanese project parts, as well as the **resources to be contributed by the partners**
- The **scientific added value** of the cooperation

In order to be considered complete, the application must also include an **academic curriculum vitae (CV)**, a **publication list** and a **description of previous research achievements**, prepared according to FWF standards, for the project team members in Austria and the **project partner abroad**.

The MOST documentation for the call can be downloaded [here](#).

3.6. Submission of applications

Joint proposals must be submitted in parallel to FWF and MOST with due attention to the regulations and the call deadline. Applications submitted by one side only will not be accepted. Applications to FWF must be submitted online at <http://elane.fwf.ac.at> by **8 April 2019 at the latest**.

To submit the application online, applicants are required to register at the address shown above. All the necessary forms must be filled out online; additional documents such as the project description can be uploaded. For additional information, see the “Quick reference” guide at <http://elane.fwf.ac.at>.

When submitting the application, applicants must choose the “**I – International Projects**” programme. Once the application has been submitted, a **PDF cover sheet** will be generated. This cover sheet must be signed by hand and stamped by the responsible representative of the applicant’s research institute before being sent to FWF by conventional mail **by 8 April 2019 at the latest**. The application shall not be considered officially submitted until FWF receives the signed and stamped cover sheet. Alternatively, the signed and stamped cover sheet can be scanned in, signed using the applicant’s qualified electronic signature² (e.g., mobile phone signature), and sent to FWF (office@fwf.ac.at) by e-mail by **8 April 2019 at the latest**. Please note that a scanned signed and stamped cover sheet is invalid if it does not have a qualified electronic signature.

Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be processed.

Please note that the FWF policy on the restriction of the number of ongoing projects and the submission of funding applications applies (cf. [here](#)). For further details on how to submit a proposal, please consult the FWF application guidelines as mentioned before.

The application of the Taiwanese part must be submitted online through the Bilateral Add-on Grant Program in the Academic Research Service Portal. The MOST announcement and relevant regulations for the submission of the Taiwanese applications can be found [here](#).

² For example, <https://www.digitales.oesterreich.gv.at/web/digitales-osterreich/die-burgerkarte>

3.7. Evaluation and funding decisions

FWF and MOST evaluate the applications independently and take their funding decisions separately on the basis of the reviews received. A joint project can be funded only if it is approved by both funding organisations.

4. Joint seminars

FWF/MOST joint seminars are workshops/seminars that focus on specific, well-defined topics for the purpose of initiating bilateral cooperation projects and preparing applications for joint projects.

4.1. Project duration

Joint seminars submitted in response to the FWF/MOST call are limited in duration from 2 to 4 days. The seminars must take place between **1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020**.

4.2. Subject areas

The call is open to all fields of basic research.

4.3. Deadline

Proposals for joint seminars must be submitted at the same time to FWF and MOST by no later than **8 April 2019 (FWF: date of postmark)** with due attention to the requirements of both partners. Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be processed.

4.4. Cost calculations/Eligibility

The budgets for the Austrian and Taiwanese parts of the project must be calculated in accordance with FWF and MOST guidelines respectively. The costs eligible for funding are divided between FWF and MOST on the basis of the **event's location**. The "sending organisation" pays the **international travel costs** for its country's group members, while the "host organisation" covers **local expenses**, including the guests' hotel costs. The FWF generally provides up to **€10,000** in funding for each joint seminar approved. For the Taiwanese project part, the MOST generally provides up to **NT\$400,000** for each joint seminar approved following MOST cost guidelines.

4.5. Proposals preparation

Proposals for joint seminars must be submitted to MOST (Taiwanese team) and FWF (Austrian team) using the forms required by each funding organisation. **The titles of the two applications must be identical.** Applicants to FWF should refer to the [Application Guidelines for Joint Seminars](#) for details. Applicants in Taiwan should refer to the guidelines on the MOST side.

4.6. Submission of applications

Applications to FWF must be submitted on paper (along with files on a CD-ROM or USB stick). Applicants must adhere to the requirements for the submission of joint seminar proposals of the [FWF Application Guidelines for Joint Seminars](#).

4.7. Evaluation and funding decisions

FWF and MOST evaluate the applications independently and take their funding decisions separately on the basis of the reviews received. A joint seminar can be funded only if it is approved by both funding organisations.

5. Additional information

In calls with fixed deadlines such as this one, applicants are given the opportunity to correct proposals that do not meet the FWF's formal requirements. Any necessary corrections must be made within 10 days of notification by the FWF Office. If the proposal still does not meet the FWF's requirements after the 10-day period, the FWF Executive Board can decide to reject the proposal without further review.

Applicants to FWF should also refer to the [Information Sheet on Joint Projects/Joint Seminars](#) for further information.

6. Contact details

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