



1ST CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR AUSTRIA-JIANGSU JOINT R&D AND INNOVATION PROGRAMME

Table 1: Call Timeline

Call Opens	22 June, 2022
Submission Deadline	12 October, 2022
Bilateral Funding Decision	End of November, 2022

Austrian Research Promotion Agency (“FFG”) and Jiangsu Science and Technology Department (“JSTD”) have announced the call for proposals for joint R&D and Innovation projects between Austria and Jiangsu.

This joint call follows the MoU signed between the two government entities in March 2022. It aims to establish connection among enterprises and research institutions from Jiangsu Province and Austria, to promote win-win S&T cooperation between them in the spirit of mutual equality and benefits, and to share knowledge in intellectual property management and technology transfer.

Interested companies from Austria and Jiangsu are invited to submit their joint project proposals in the research and development of innovative products and applications with a strong market potential.

1 PROJECT PRIORITIES

This call for proposals gives priorities to Novel and Climate-Friendly Solutions for the Mobility Transition, including:

- **Cities and Regions:** R&D and Innovation-projects addressing novel and climate-friendly solutions for intermodal and resource-efficient mobility & logistics in/between urban and rural areas
e.g. People Mover, personal rapid transit (PRT) /bus rapid transit (BRT) systems, micro-mobility and micro-delivery, hubs and means of transport for interurban mobility and logistics, urban access management; integrated planning/transport management concepts, etc.
- **Digitalization:** R&D and Innovation-projects addressing the potential of privacy-respecting digital technologies for efficient and climate-friendly operation of infrastructure, mobility and logistic services
e.g. integration of automated and connected mobility, transport models and intermodal transport information, digital construction of transport

infrastructure (Building Information Modelling – BIM) over the entire life cycle, integration of environmentally friendly modes of transport into mobility and logistic chains, etc.

- Technology: R&D and Innovation-projects addressing the optimization of batteries & automated, connected and autonomous driving in the context of climate-friendly mobility
e.g. new battery technologies (solid state, 4th gen battery design, processes & strategies for recycling (3rd and 4th generation batteries)), optimization of battery management and diagnostics, thermal management; technological solutions for predictive data management, linking hardware and software solutions as well as optimization of human-machine-interactions for automated, connected and autonomous driving, etc.

2 ELIGIBILITY

2.1 A consortium must be formed by the partners both from Austria and Jiangsu to develop a project proposal.

- The consortium must involve at least one company from Austria and one company from Jiangsu as lead organizations. Both organizations must be independent from each other.
- Academic/research entities and additional companies are welcomed as additional cooperation partners according to each country's funding regulations.
- Individual enterprises of the project consortium account for a maximum of 70% of the eligible project costs with shares of affiliated companies counting as one enterprise.
- The research institutions together of the project consortium account for a maximum of 50% of the eligible project costs.
- In addition to that, a collaboration with other non-commercial institutions is possible. In this case, the requirements to the consortium still have to be fulfilled.

For Austrian Companies

In addition to one Austrian company as the lead applicant, the project consortium must include:

- At least 1 small or medium-sized enterprise (SME) (details see SME definition)
OR
- 1 research and knowledge dissemination organisation (research organisation – see GBER 2014)

For Jiangsu Companies

- The lead organization must be a R&D performing company, registered and operating in Jiangsu.
- The lead organization must be registered in Jiangsu before 31 January 2021.

Interested Jiangsu-based companies should refer to JSTD's notice on its website (<http://kxjst.jiangsu.gov.cn>) for more information regarding eligibility criteria.

2.2 The project proposals have to comply with the following guidelines:

- The cooperative R&D and Innovation projects must be highly innovative and business oriented.
- The project should have an obvious advantage and differentiated value proposition resulting from the cooperation between participants from the two countries (e.g., increased knowledge base, commercial leads, access to R&D infrastructure, new fields of application, etc.).
- The proposals should demonstrate the applicants' resources for international collaboration, in case of the Austrian applicants especially capacities for follow-up technology export to China.
- The proposal should demonstrate the contribution of the participants from both countries and the project must be balanced between participants and be significant to all partners.
- The project partners should agree in advance on the IP rights and on the commercialization strategy of the product or process with a draft Consortium Agreement.
- The duration of submitted projects should be 6-24 month.
- Contract research and research services are not considered as collaborative R&D and Innovation Projects.

Any partners whose joint R&D and Innovation project is consistent with the aforesaid criteria can apply to the current call for proposals in accordance with the national laws, rules, regulations and procedures in effect.

3 FUNDING AVAILABLE

3.1 For Austrian Companies

Austrian funding is intended for Austrian companies registered in Austria.

- The [FFG funding principles for cooperative R&D and Innovation projects](#) apply.
- For cooperative R&D and Innovation Projects the available funding is max. EUR 600.000 per project. Total Funding available from Austria for this Call is EUR 1.2 Mio.
- The funding rate for enterprises is based on the research category and company size.
- The funding rate for research institutions and other institutions is based on the research category only, provided that the contribution involves a non-commercial activity.
- If the contribution to the project of a research institution or other institution involves a commercial activity, the funding rates are the same as those for enterprises.
- The funding ratio depends on the type of organization and research category and must not exceed 85% for industrial research and 60% for experimental development.

3.2 For Jiangsu Companies

Projects will be funded through JSTD's International S&T Cooperation Programme. The total grant amount will not exceed 1.5 million RMB per approved project, and will not exceed 50% of the total eligible and approved budget of the R&D costs, in accordance with the national laws and regulations in Jiangsu, China.

4 SUBMISSION

Both Austrian and Chinese sides must both submit their respective applications to their own countries and funding organizations. One side application only is not valid. Furthermore, both sides should also fill in *FFG-Jiangsu Bilateral Cooperation Form 2022* including general details of the project. ("*FFG-Jiangsu Bilateral Cooperation Form 2022*" template must be used, which can be found in Annex).

4.1 For Austrian Companies

Austrian applicants should submit their proposals through FFG's submission system [eCall](https://ecall.ffg.at/) [<https://ecall.ffg.at/>]

- Reference data requested in call for applications
- Bilateral Cooperation Form must be attached to the application

4.2 For Jiangsu Companies

Interested Jiangsu companies will be required to submit the Jiangsu application form in accordance with JSTD's notice on its website (<http://kxjst.jiangsu.gov.cn>), along with signed *FFG-Jiangsu Bilateral Cooperation Form 2022* (with a Chinese version) and other supporting documents.

Jiangsu companies should note that the application portal will be open for submission from 13 September 2022, 0830 CST to 12 October 2022, 1730 CST.

5 EVALUATION OF PROJECT PROPOSALS

All applications are assessed against the eligibility criteria of the call before being put forward for the national assessment according to the national evaluation criteria.

FFG and JSTD will carry out independent national assessments and will select the eligible projects to be financially supported in accordance with their national laws and regulations. Only projects that are selected and approved by both FFG and JSTD will receive funding support under this call.

6 BILATERAL FUNDING DECISIONS

The bilateral funding decisions are expected to be made by the end of November 2022.

7 MAIN CONTACT POINTS

For further queries regarding this joint call, please contact the representatives below:

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8 ANNEX

FFG-Jiangsu Bilateral Cooperation Form 2022