

ICT26

Digital Humanism

Information Session

11th March 2026

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Agenda

- ▶ Introduction to WWTF
- ▶ ICT26 Digital Humanism
 - ▶ Key facts and important considerations for the proposal
 - ▶ Timeline
- ▶ Using the WWTF Funding Portal
- ▶ Q & A
- ▶ Matchmaking opportunity

ICT26 Digital Humanism | Call Information in our Wiki



- All call specific Information in our WIKI
- <https://wiki.wwtf.at/books/ict26-digital-humanism>



→ Your proposal must be submitted via our [Funding Portal](https://fundingportal.wwtf.at): fundingportal.wwtf.at

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- ▶ Using the WWTF Funding Portal
- ▶ Q & A

WWTF | Key facts

- ▶ Largest private non-profit research funder in Austria
- ▶ Since 2002: approx. € 280 Mio in funding (private foundation, City of Vienna)
- ▶ Funding per year: € 15-20 Mio.
- ▶ WWTF's mission:
 - ▶ Funding top scientific research in Vienna
 - ▶ Providing substantial funding for larger research projects and international research group leaders coming to Vienna
 - ▶ Running competitive calls according to highest international standards

WWTF | Funding schemes

Thematic programmes

Life Sciences (*2003)

Information & Communication Technology (*2008)

Environmental Systems Research (*2017)

Environmental Systems Research (*2017)

Funding instruments

Projects

Vienna Research
Groups

Additional Funding
Measures

Agenda

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ICT26 | Key facts

- ▶ Dedicated budget for this call: € 5 Mio
- ▶ Interdisciplinary research projects in Digital Humanism (ICT + SSH)
- ▶ 2-stage selection process:
 - ▶ **Short proposal deadline: April 15, 2026 – 2pm CET**
 - ▶ Full proposal deadline: July 30, 2026 – 2pm CET
 - ▶ Expected funding decision: Late December 2026
- ▶ Funding range: € 350,000 – € 700,000
 - ▶ For Joint Projects: up to € 750,000
- ▶ 24 – 48 month research projects

ICT26 | Scope of call

- ▶ This call invites research teams from ICT and SSH to submit proposals in the field of Digital Humanism. Projects should **draw upon SSH** knowledge **to lay scientific foundations for digital technologies** that promote human values
- ▶ Collaboration between ICT and SSH is central. Both areas should contribute substantially. Plans for collaboration must be demonstrated throughout **all critical stages of the project.**

ICT26 | Scope of call

- ▶ Open to **all topics related to digital technologies and practices**; topics underrepresented in Vienna (e.g., platform economics) are especially encouraged
- ▶ Research must **demonstrate relevance to democratic societies and the promotion of human values**
- ▶ Projects should reflect the **principles of Digital Humanism**: bringing together social and technological progress on a level playing field
- ▶ Goal: **comprehensive understanding of digital technologies** through insights from both ICT sciences and SSH

ICT26 | Scope of call

- ▶ Projects may emphasize methods development, theoretical/conceptual work, or real-world cases – but must always **address fundamental social and human aspects** of digital technologies
- ▶ **Theoretical contributions** that expand Digital Humanism as a conceptual space are especially welcome (rooted in ICT or SSH, but interdisciplinary in approach)
- ▶ Development of new interdisciplinary **methods** is encouraged, as established methods are often lacking
- ▶ *Out of scope:*
 - ▶ pure Digital Humanities / Computational Social Sciences (i.e., primarily using computational methods for SSH research questions)
 - ▶ Development of new tools/applications is possible, but only as a means to address fundamental research questions – not as the main project output

WWTF Projects

- ▶ Up to **3 researchers** per project in Core Team
 - ▶ Coordinating PI: must be affiliated to a Viennese research institution
 - ▶ Co-PIs: can be based worldwide
- ▶ Maximum of two proposals per researcher allowed (as Core Team member)

Budget

- ▶ Maximum **30% non-personnel costs**
- ▶ Up to **20% overhead costs**
- ▶ Up to **20%** total budget may be allocated **outside of Vienna**

What is a Joint Project?

- ▶ Collaborations between researchers from Vienna and Lower Austria
 - ▶ Coordinating PI: affiliated to a Viennese research institution
 - ▶ Co-PI: at least one based in Lower Austria
- ▶ Different total budget and geographic distribution
 - ▶ Total funding volume: up to € 750,000 per project (i.e. extra € 50,000)
 - ▶ Vienna: Min. 50% Budget
 - ▶ **Lower Austria:** 20% - 49% Budget
 - ▶ Optional: Other partners up to 20% Budget

WWTF | Gender Equality Plan

W|W|T|F

WWTF aims to:

- ▶ play an active role in closing the gender gap in science and research
- ▶ further improve processes and conditions to increase the proportion of female scientists, their resources and career opportunities
- ▶ implement measures internally and for researchers, their home institutions and external evaluators (jury members and reviewers)

W|W|T|F
Vienna Science
and Technology Fund

WWTF
Gender Equality Plan & Strategy
Version 30.09.2022

WWTF | Gender Equality Plan

WWTF:

- ▶ Encourages gender-balanced teams and more female researchers to apply as PIs of research projects
- ▶ Uses evaluation criteria that account for career breaks
- ▶ Strives for gender balance in jury panels and reviewer pools

Applicants:

- ▶ Consider gender and specific roles in research team composition
- ▶ Address sex and/or gender in research content
- ▶ See [„Gender aspects in the application phase“ in Call Specifications](#)

Open Science Policy (I)

WWTF aims to:

- ▶ fund research guided by principle “as open as possible, as closed as necessary”
- ▶ provide funds related to the cost of OA publication and data management
- ▶ place more emphasis on Open Data by adoption of FAIR principles

→ <https://wwtf.at/funding/our-principles/downloads/open-access-and-open-science-policy>



Vienna Science
and Technology Fund

WWTF
Open Science Policy
Version 09.03.2022

Open Science Policy | Access to Publications (II)

- ▶ Costs to cover Open Access (OA) publications can be requested in budget
- ▶ Types of OA: **Gold, Green** and Hybrid (problematic)
- ▶ Estimated publication costs need to be stated in Full Proposal phase
- ▶ We encourage other types of OA publications such as monographs, book chapters, conference proceedings, grey literature, reports etc.
- ▶ Post-project: max. € 10,000, up to 30 months after project end

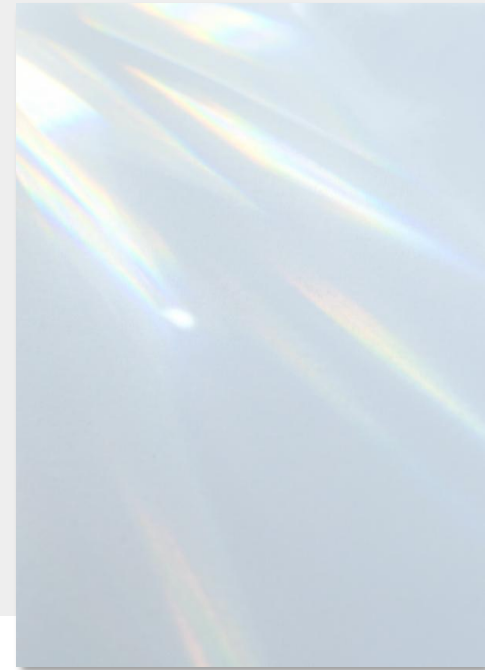
Open Science Policy | Access to Research Data (III)

- ▶ Brief explanation in Full Proposal regarding how data and/or code generated in project will be managed and made available
- ▶ After Funding: Data management plan should consider
 - ▶ Documentation and metadata that accompanies data
 - ▶ Ethical and legal aspects
 - ▶ Process to store, preserve and share data

Short vs. Full Proposal

An appropriate level of scientific detail should be provided at each stage to allow evaluation of the proposal by the respective audience.

- ▶ **Short proposal** is intended for a jury panel with expertise covering a range of proposals
- ▶ **Full proposal** is primarily aimed at specific experts in the topics of the proposal



Good Scientific Practice and Ethics

If an ethical approval from the ethics committee/institutional review board is required for the planned project this must be clearly stated at the short proposal stage. The approval (“Votum”) must be submitted online with the full proposal.

- ▶ For institutions without an ethics commission/IRB, the Austrian Academy of Sciences offers assessments:
 - ▶ <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/en/mitglieder/kommissionen/kommission-fuer-wissenschaftsethik>
- ▶ We highly encourage you to use this service

Use of GenAI in the application process !

WWTF emphasizes the importance of human responsibility for the content submitted at all stages of the application process.

- WWTF recognizes that use of genAI tools to support proposal writing
- **“Substantial use” of genAI must be declared** as such for the sake of transparency. “Substantial use” defined in line with the European Commission’s definition:
“[...] using generative AI as a basic author support tool is not a substantial use. However, interpreting data analysis, carrying out a literature review, identifying research gaps, formulating research aims, developing hypotheses, etc. could have a substantial impact.” (EC 2024: Living Guidelines on the responsible use of generative AI in research.)
- This mainly concerns critical parts of scientific relevance, such as hypothesis formulation and the scientific project plan.
- **The applicants have full responsibility over the content of the proposal!**

Also: This is a Digital Humanism Call → Use AI responsibly!

Things to Consider

- ▶ Check the scope of our call
- ▶ Get to know your institution's research office
- ▶ Read the guidelines → [Evaluation criteria](#)
- ▶ Don't assume specific expertise of our Jury, especially in the first selection round
- ▶ Polish your CV, use our template
- ▶ Pay more than lip service to gender equality & open science
- ▶ Think realistically about the budget of your project (feasibility!)

nature

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[nature](#) > [career column](#) > article

CAREER COLUMN | 01 September 2023

A funding adviser's guide to writing a great grant application

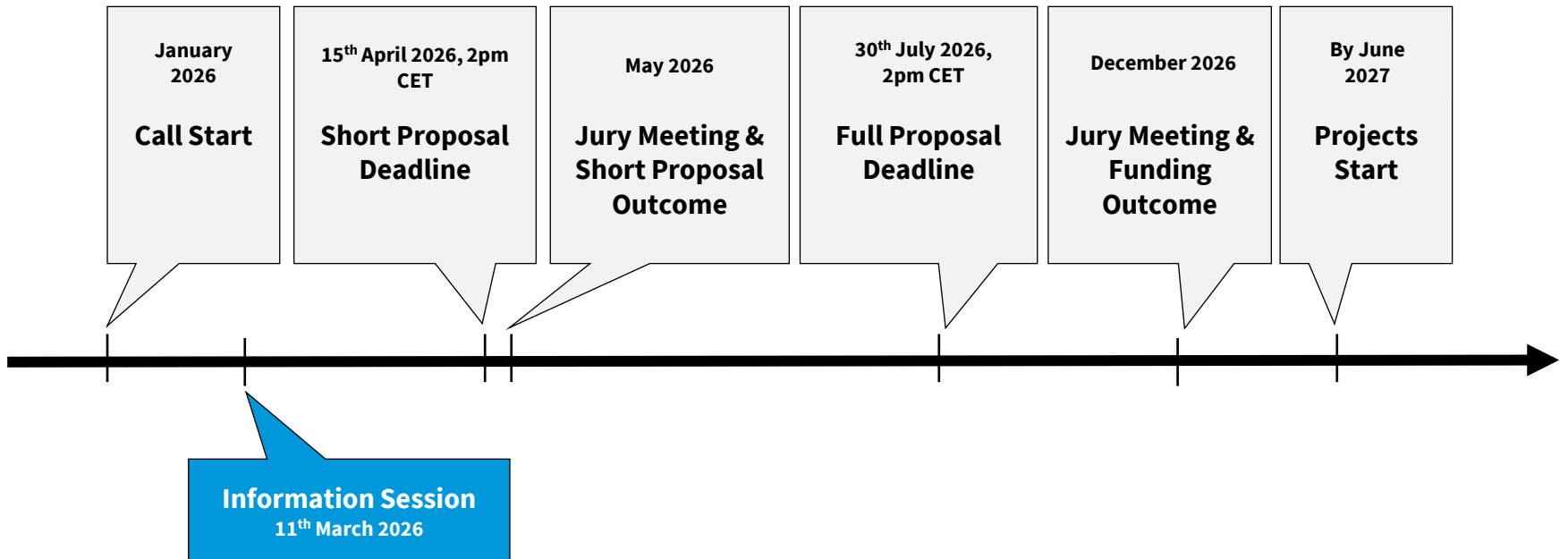
Mireille Consalvey draws on years of experience to present a 13-step checklist for success.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-023-02756-6>



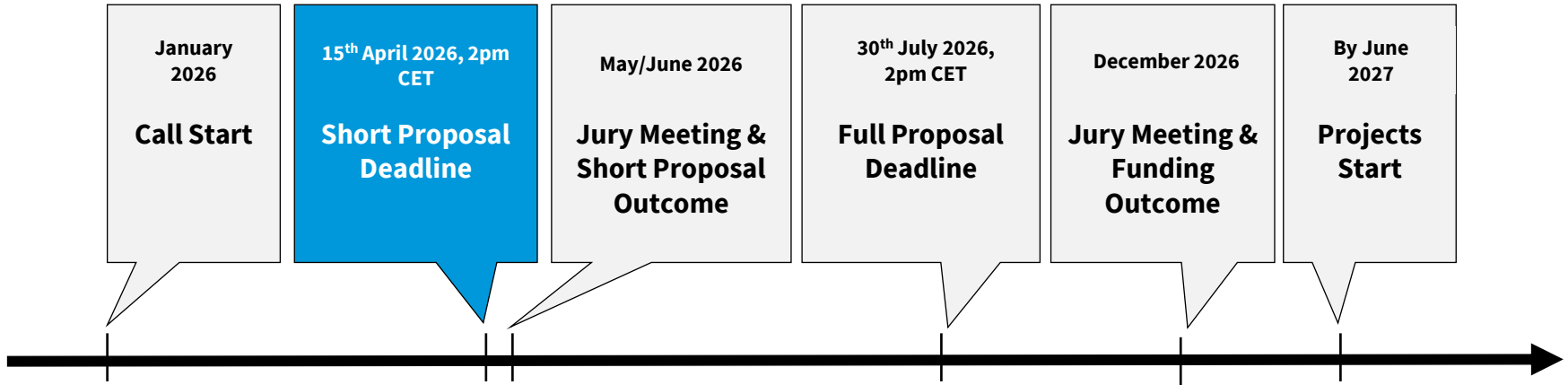
ICT26 | Call Timeline

W|W|T|F



ICT26 | Call Timeline

W|W|T|F



Submission via WWTF Funding Portal

- Strict deadline
- Submission only possible when all parts and uploads are complete
- No data or figures at this stage
- WWTF office performs formal eligibility check
- Proposals then sent to jury for assessment

fundingportal.wwtf.at

ICT26 | Call Timeline

W|W|T|F



Evaluation by Jury

- Fit to scope of call
- Scientific excellence and academic potential
- Innovative character of the proposed research
- Team composition
- Relevance and Impact
- Feasibility
- Gender aspects

Short Proposal Outcome

- Projects will not go on to the next stage if they are outside the scope of the call or judged to be less internationally competitive
- About 20 proposals will be invited to the full proposal phase
- All applicants will be informed of outcome shortly after meeting

ICT26 | Call Timeline

W|W|T|F



Full Proposal Submission

- Upon invitation
- Via the online Funding Portal
- Extension of short proposal
- Detailed budget
- Additional team members

Peer Review Process

- A minimum of 3 reviews per proposal
- Applicants must suggest 5 reviewers
- Applicants may exclude up to 3 reviewers
- Only international reviewers, we check COI with core team members of the proposal
- Reviews form the basis of the jury discussion

ICT26 | Call Timeline

W|W|T|F



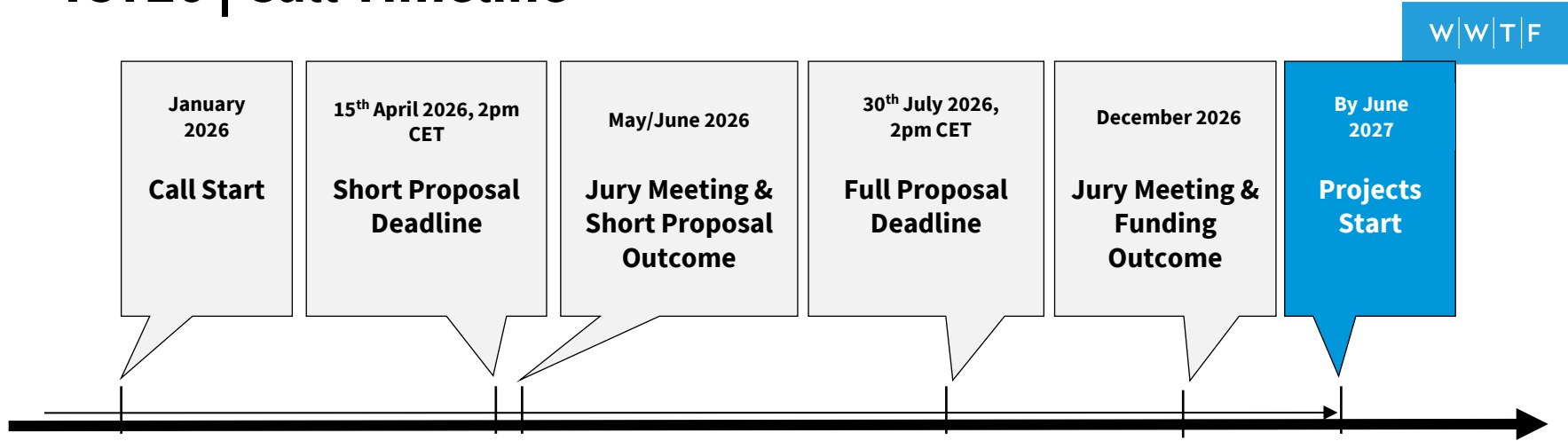
Evaluation and Recommendation by Jury

- Scientific excellence and academic potential
- Innovative character of the proposed research
- Team composition
- Relevance and Impact
- Feasibility
- Gender aspects

Funding Decision

- Formal decision by WWTF Board of Directors
- All applicants will receive a decision letter (acceptance or rejection) with anonymised reviews

ICT26 | Call Timeline



Important:
Please be aware that projects should start as soon as possible.

Funding Contract

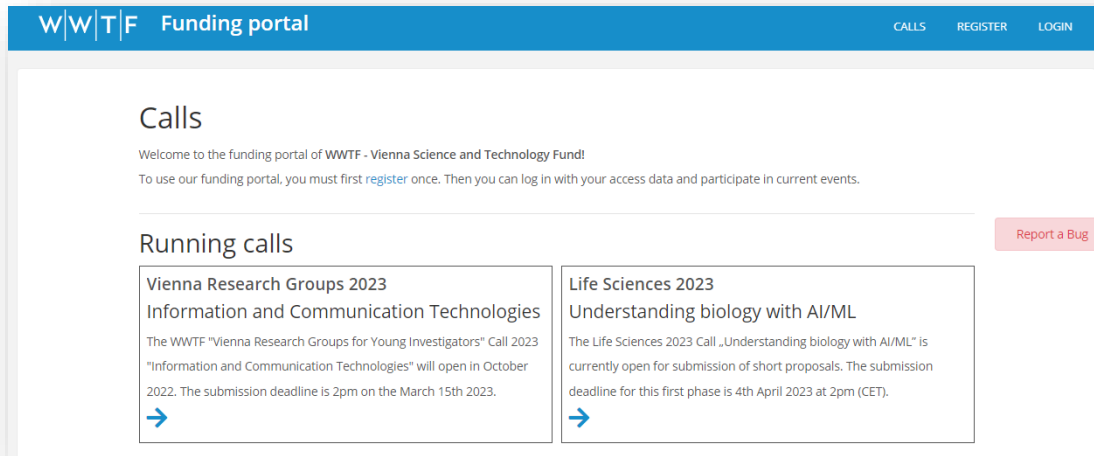
- Funding contract is between WWTF and the host institution of the coordinating PI (according to § 27 of the 2002 University Law)
- For Joint Projects, the host institution of the co-PI in Lower Austrian is an additional contract partner
- Coordinating PI has scientific and financial responsibility for the project
- **Project should start by June 2027 at the latest**

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WWTF Funding Portal

- ▶ New Funding Portal launched in 2022
- ▶ Old Submission System will be phased out



Bug or feature!?

<https://fundingportal.wwtf.at/>

WWTF Funding Portal | What's new?

- ▶ All core team members can contribute to and edit proposal
 - ▶ Only coordinating PI can submit proposal
- ▶ External parties can create a proposal and invite core team members
- ▶ Personal information is managed independently of proposals and can be re-used across proposals
- ▶ Signatures from core team members no longer necessary
 - ▶ Authorising signatures from institutes still required!
 - ▶ Please check with your grant service early: Who needs to sign your proposal?

WWTF Funding Portal | Steps to submission

- ▶ Register or login
- ▶ Choose call and create proposal
- ▶ Invite coordinating PI and co-PIs
- ▶ Complete “My Profile” and “My Roles”
- ▶ Fill out short proposal
 1. Basic information
 2. Personnel and institutions
 3. Project
 4. References
 5. Budget
 6. Signatures
- ▶ **Submit proposal (only possible by coordinating PI)**

Register & login

- ▶ First register at <https://fundingportal.wwtf.at/register/>

W|W|T|F Funding portal CALLS REGISTER LOGIN

Registration

My data

First name * Last name *

Institution

E-mail * Re-enter email *

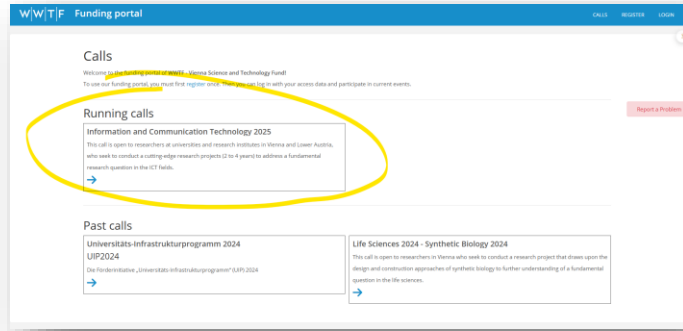
Password * Re-enter password *

Anti-SPAM code *
Please enter the code as shown
Illegible?

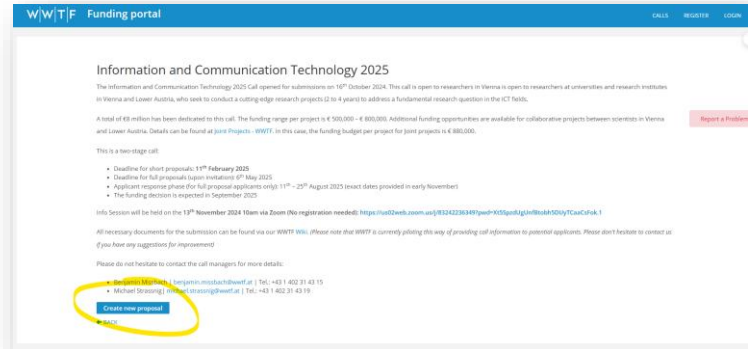
Report a Bug

- ▶ If you have an account in the old system, you can re-use these credentials to register

Choose call and create proposal



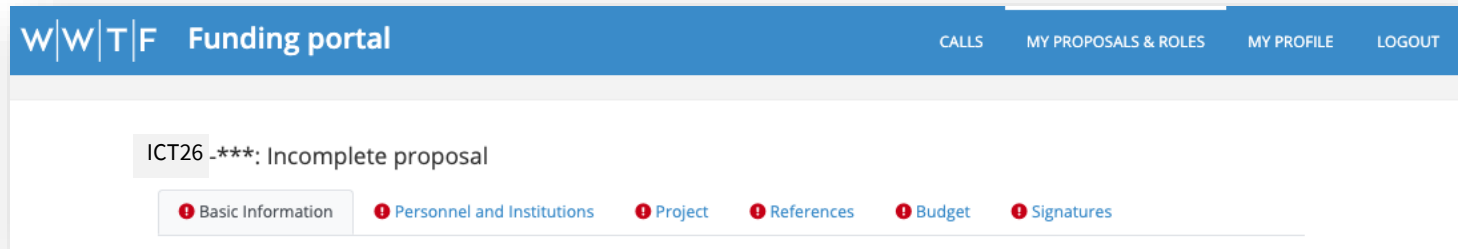
1. Choose call



2. Click → “Create new proposal”

Choose call and create proposal

- ▶ Proposal divided into six chapters under tabs
- ▶ Click and scroll through chapters to see proposal requirements



Invite coordinating PI and co-PIs

Personnel and Institutions

Notice
Please note that you can create only five elements in this section (PI + CoPI(s) + Institution(s) ≤ 5).

Principal Investigator and Coordinator

Principal investigator - invitation

Invite a Principal Investigator. You will be notified when this person accepts or declines your invitation.

I am the Principal Investigator

First name * Last name *

Email address * Status: new

invite

Co-Principal Investigator(s)

Co-Principal Investigator

- ▶ All core team members must be registered on Funding Portal and invited to project
- ▶ Coordinating PI
 - ▶ *Either* click “I am the Principal Investigator”
 - ▶ *Or* enter details to send invitation to the PI
- ▶ Co-PIs
 - ▶ Also invite with name and email

Add further partner institutions

- ▶ Up to 2 additional partner institutions
- ▶ Automatically added to budget
- ▶ Names of collaborators can be provided in the full proposal phase

Further Partner Institution(s)

Other institutions participating in the project apart from those of PI and Co-PI.

+ Partner Institution

Partner Institution

Search affiliation Affiliation * Region *

i Please try to find and select your affiliation in our database

Institute/Department/Research Group * Address *

Zip * City * Country *

You need to complete your Profile!

W|W|T|F Funding portal CALLS **MY PROFILE** CALLMANAGER ADMIN LOGOUT

Profile

My login credentials

E-mail address *

■ If you want to change your e-mail address, a confirmation link will be sent to the new e-mail address.

Change password

New password Re-enter new password Current password

My data - CallManager

Gender * female male non-binary

Degree First (given) name * Last name * Degree, appended

ORCID ID

■ <https://orcid.org>

Search affiliation
■ Please try to find and select your affiliation in our database.

Job title * Street address * Zip *

City * Country * Phone *

[Report a Bug](#)

Use the correct CV template

✓ CV Upload

Available CV Templates:

Please use the CV template for the call in which you intend to submit your proposal

VRG: [wwtf_cvtemplate_vrg.docx](#)

all other calls: [wwtf_cvtemplate_project.docx](#)

Complete “My roles” in proposal

W|W|T|F Funding portal - Supportsystem

CALLS MY PROPOSALS & ROLES MY PROFILE LOGOUT

My proposals

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

ICT26 ***: Test Project #1

Created on Oct 12th, 2023 Reference ID: 010324

[Report a Bug](#)

My roles

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

ICT26 ***: Test Project #1

as **Principal Investigator and Coordinator** (approved, but incomplete)

updated: Oct 12th, 2023

Complete “My roles” in proposal

ICT26 .***: Test Project #1

Principal Investigator and Coordinator

Principal Investigator

You may update the information found here (including CV), by changing the relevant section in your [profile](#) and clicking “Refresh from profile”, as long as the proposal is not submitted.

Refresh from profile

Gender female male non-binary

Degree First name Last name Degree

Highest academic title Staff category Year of birth Date of doctorate

Address Zip City Country

Phone E-mail address Personal scientific website

Scientific expertise

Role and responsibilities within the project

B *I* U ~~X~~ [^] _v **B** **I** **U** **X** **^** **v**

0 of max. 500 characters

**Data will be transferred from
“My Profile”**

**Enter specifically for each
proposal:**

1. Role and responsibilities within the project
2. Specific competencies for the project

Short Proposal | Basic Information

✓ Basic Information

✓ Personnel and Institutions

! Project

! References

! Budget

! Signatures

- ▶ Title and acronym
- ▶ Scientific disciplines (must add up to 100%)
- ▶ Keywords
- ▶ Project duration
- ▶ WWTF Project or Joint Project?

WWTF Funding Portal | Error

! Basic Information

✓ Personnel and Institutions

! Project

! References

! Budget

! Signatures

Basic Information

✓ ID, Title and Acronym

Proposal ID

LS23-***

! Will be generated after proposal submission

Project title *

Test project 1

! Scientific Disciplines

This will help to categorize your proposal. Please use the [ÖFOS](#) categories.

! Provide at least one category; sum must equal 100 %

Main scientific discipline *

106052 - Cell biology

Share *

60 %

Other scientific discipline *

102019 - Machine learning

Share *

30 %

Other scientific discipline *

106002 - Biochemistry

Share *

5 %

Sum of shares should equal 100%

- ▶ Within the flagged chapter, click on the red symbol beside the section title
- ▶ Help text in red will explain problem

Short Proposal | Project

W|W|T|F

✓ Basic Information

✓ Personnel and Institutions

✓ Project

! References

! Budget

! Signatures

1. Abstract (max. 2,000 characters)
2. Proposal / Scientific Work Programme (max. 17,500 characters)
 1. Introduction and background
 2. State-of-the-art including theoretical considerations
 3. Research questions, hypotheses, objectives
 4. Methodological approaches (novelty, feasibility)
 5. Relevancy and innovativeness of the proposed project
 6. Expected scientific and societal impact
3. Relevancy to Digital Humanism
4. Interdisciplinary collaboration and promotion of younger researchers
5. Ethical considerations (max. 1,000 characters)

Gender aspects should be considered throughout and explained where appropriate

Short Proposal | References

W|W|T|F

✔ Basic Information

✔ Personnel and Institutions

✔ Project

✔ References

! Budget

! Signatures

References

! Key References

Key Reference 1 *

! please enter up to 15 key references. Use only numbers, no prefix.

- ▶ Up to 18 key references for proposal (not publication list of applicant)
- ▶ Please use uniform referencing style

Short Proposal | Budget

✓ Basic Information

✓ Personnel and Institutions

✓ Project

✓ References

✓ Budget

! Signatures

- ▶ Personnel + non-personnel costs = direct costs
- ▶ Overhead costs (= indirect costs): up to 20% of direct costs
- ▶ Salaries \geq minimum wage according to Kollektivvertrag or FWF standards
 - ▶ <https://www.fwf.ac.at/en/research-funding/personnel-costs>
- ▶ Non-personnel costs should not exceed 30% of total budget
- ▶ No funding of companies or industry partners
 - ▶ Self-funded business partners are possible
- ▶ Budget changes in the full proposal stage require justification



Short Proposal | Budget

✔ Basic Information

✔ Personnel and Institutions

✔ Project

✔ References

✔ Budget

❗ Signatures

Budget

✔ Budget per Institution

Institution	Personnel costs	Non-personnel costs	Total direct costs	Overheads	Funding applied for	% per institution	
Institution 1	240,000 €	135,000 €		20.00 %	75,000 €	450,000 €	56.82 %
Institution 2	190,000 €	95,000 €		20.00 %	57,000 €	342,000 €	43.18 %
Requested funding per cost category	430,000 €	230,000 €	660,000 €		132,000 €	792,000 €	
Requested funding per cost category (%)	65,15 %	34,85 %					

- ▶ Institutions of core team members and partner institutions added automatically
- ▶ Cost distributions are automatically checked and verified
- ▶ Provide brief explanation of cost planning

Short Proposal | Signatures

W|W|T|F

✓ Basic Information

✓ Personnel and Institutions

✓ Project

✓ References

✓ Budget

✓ Signatures

- ▶ Signatures from core team members no longer necessary
- ▶ Signatures from authorising persons at institutions of core team members still required
 - ▶ **Check with research support, grant offices, etc.**
 - ▶ **Allow ample time**
- ▶ Signature sheet can be generated once the project title and core team members' institutes have been entered
- ▶ All signature forms are accepted

Short Proposal | Signatures

✓ Basic Information

✓ Personnel and Institutions

✓ Project

✓ References

✓ Budget

✓ Signatures

✓ Authorization

In signing the application form, the institution (i.e., an individual authorised and responsible for signing UG §27 projects) certifies that the information provided in the application form is, to the best of their knowledge and belief, accurate and complete. We hereby confirmed that

- the institution agrees to the employment of personnel as well as the provision of an adequate workplace, consumables and equipment and other resources, as well as in-kind contributions (if required in the call documents) as stated in the application
- For "joint Projects": The institution in Lower Austria confirms compliance with the "NÖ Kulturförderungsgesetz 1996" and the "Richtlinien für die Förderung nach dem NÖ Kulturförderungsgesetz 1996".

Institution	Signing person *	Date, stamp, signature or electronic signature
Institution 1	<input type="text" value="NN1"/>	
Institution 2	<input type="text" value="NN2"/>	

✓ Signatures

The upload of multiple files is possible.

 You can generate the signature sheet [here](#) after the proposal's title and host institutions of the core team members have been provided.

Signatures *

Choose file

 Upload is possible as soon as the section "Personnel and Institutions" is complete.
We only accept PDF format (preferably PDF version 1.4 without any encryption) as upload.

Already uploaded:

 [Is23_unterschriften.pdf](#) [PDF, 74.10 KB] 

Reference ID: 006470

 PDF

Save



Q & A

All call-specific information available: <https://wiki.wwtf.at/books/ict26-digital-humanism>

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