

W|W|T|F

WIENER WISSENSCHAFTS-,  
FORSCHUNGS- UND TECHNOLOGIEFONDS

VIENNA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FUND

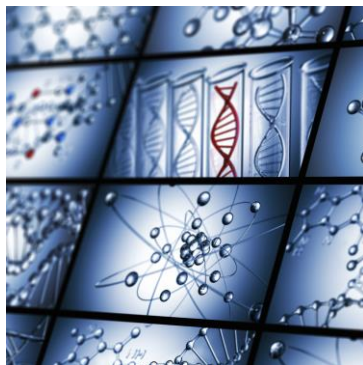
**STRENGTHENING VIENNA'S  
EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH**

CHEMICAL BIOLOGY

COOPERATION PROJECTS  
between  
VIENNA & LOWER AUSTRIA  
more information:  
[www.wwtf.at/noe](http://www.wwtf.at/noe)

# Life Sciences

## Call 2021



### Proposers' Day

Grace Liu

Michael Strassnig

# Agenda

---

- ▶ Introduction to WWTF
- ▶ Life Science Call 2021
- ▶ Using the online Submission System
- ▶ Q & A

# Introduction to the WWTF

# WWTF: Key facts

---

- ▶ The only larger Austrian private non-profit organisation established to promote science and research
- ▶ Founded in 2001 | Funding since 2003: over € 165 Mio. have been awarded (Private foundation, City of Vienna)
- ▶ WWTF Mission:
  - ▶ We fund top scientific research in Vienna
  - ▶ We provide substantial funding for larger research projects and international research group leaders coming to Vienna
  - ▶ We run competitive calls according to highest international standards

# WWTF: Overview programmes and instruments

## Thematic programmes



**Life Sciences (\*2003)**



**Information- and Communication  
Technology (\*2008)**



**Cognitive Sciences (\*2011)**



**Environmental Systems Research  
(\*2017)**

## Instruments

**Projects**

Vienna Research  
Groups

Supplementing  
Measures

# The frame of the current call

---

- ▶ Focus on long-term funding of Life Sciences in Vienna
- ▶ Regular competitive calls with thematic focus

Molecular Mechanisms and Methods	€ 15.5 Mio.   29 funded projects	2003; 2005; 2009
Linking research and patients' needs	€ 15.6 Mio.   23 funded projects	2007; 2011; 2018
Food and Nutrition	€ 3.0 Mio.   8 funded projects	2012
New Ventures Beyond Established Frontiers	€ 5.1 Mio.   7 funded projects	2013
(Multimodal) Imaging	€ 8.5 Mio.   14 funded projects	2014; 2019
Precision Medicine	€ 9.7 Mio.   5 + ? funded projects	2016; 2020
Chemical Biology	€ 4.7 Mio.   8 funded projects	2017, <b>2021</b>

# Details of the Life Sciences 2021 Call



# Details of the LS21 call

---

- ▶ 2 - stage selection process:
  - ▶ Short proposal deadline: 13.04.2021
  - ▶ Full proposal deadline: 24.08.2021
- ▶ Funding range: € 200,000 – € 700,000\*
- ▶ 2 - 4 year research projects on cutting-edge research
- ▶ Total budget: € 4.5 Mio

# Scope of the Chemical Biology call

---

- ▶ Research that embraces interface between chemistry and biology
- ▶ Aims to understand or manipulate biological systems with molecular precision

May include:

- ▶ Development or application of new tools and techniques
- ▶ Studies to probe mechanism, interaction or structure of biological macromolecules, compartments and systems
- ▶ Leads to solutions in life sciences, biotechnology and human health
- ▶ Do not have to include translational/clinical aspect
  
- ▶ Go beyond classical molecular biology or genetics methods

# Scope of the Chemical Biology call

---

- ▶ Substantial contributions from both biology and chemistry
- ▶ Expertise may be covered within research group
- ▶ Bring together researchers from diverse disciplines

Brought forward by:

- ▶ Biologists interested in understanding and manipulating biological processes at the molecular level, or
  - ▶ Chemists applying the principles and tools of organic and/or physical chemistry to biological questions
- 
- ▶ NB: a researcher may appear in two proposals at most

# WWTF Gender Policy

---

Our objectives are to:

- ▶ to implement gender-neutral processes
- ▶ raise awareness of gender bias (applicants, reviewers, panels)
- ▶ encourage balanced teams & more female researchers to apply as PIs
- ▶ use evaluation criteria that account for career breaks and atypical career paths e.g. due to family circumstances
- ▶ Inclusion of potential sex-specific or gender-related aspects in the respective parts of the proposal (details in “[Including sex and gender considerations in WWTF proposals and research teams.doc](#)” online)

# WWTF Projects

---

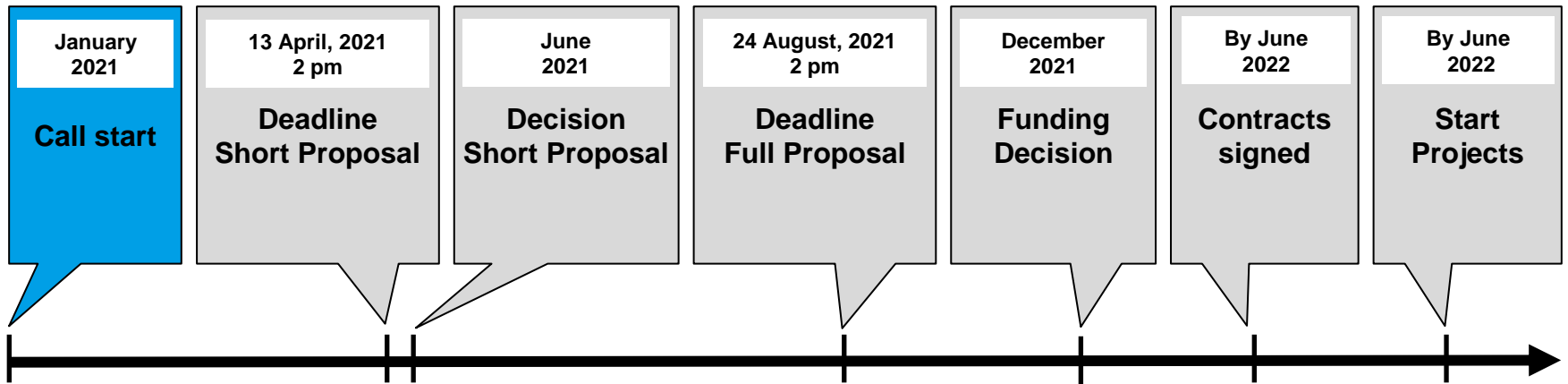
- ▶ Up to 3 researchers per project core team (Short Proposal)
- ▶ One designated coordinator (PI)
- ▶ Coordinator must be affiliated to a university or non-university research institute in Vienna
- ▶ Project partners (co-PIs) can be based worldwide. Up to 20% of funding for researchers may be allocated outside Vienna

# Joint Projects: since 2020

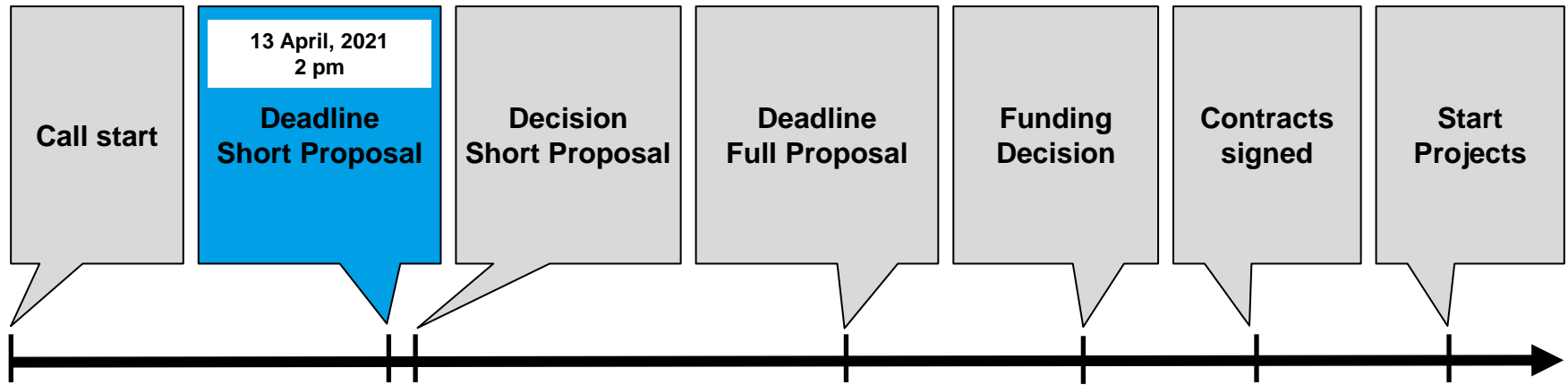
---

- ▶ Collaboration between researchers in Vienna and Lower Austria
  - ▶ PI in Vienna, co-PI in Lower Austria
  - ▶ Vienna: min. 51% budget
  - ▶ Lower Austria: 20% – 49% budget
  - ▶ Optional: other partners up to 20% budget
- ▶ Funding: up to extra € 70,000 per project (total maximum € 770,000)
- ▶ Regional branches of Viennese institutions located in Lower Austria are considered Viennese partners

# Schedule & process of Chemical Biology call



# Schedule of the Chemical Biology call

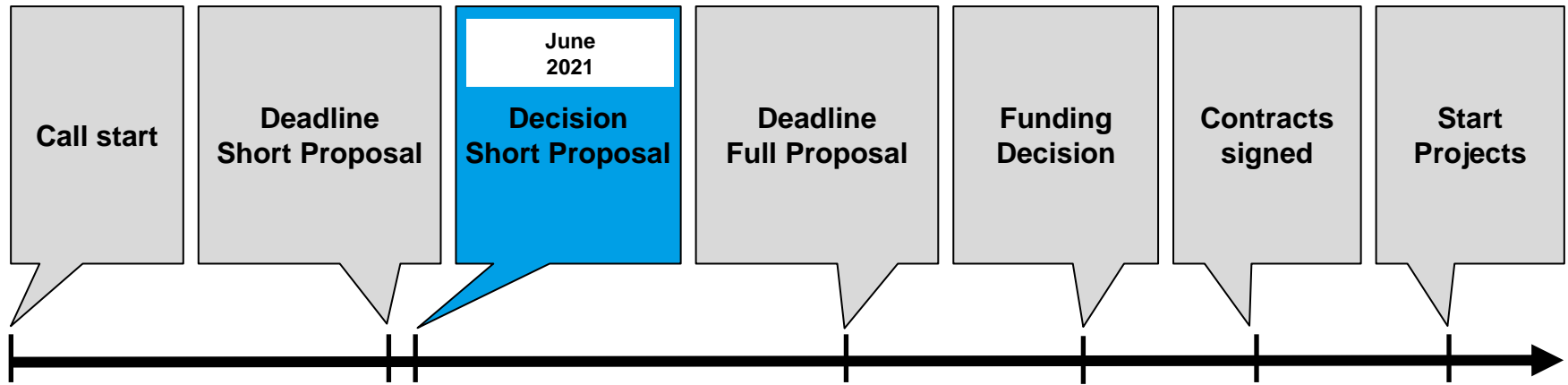


## Submission via WWTF Online Submission System

- Strict deadline (**13<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm**)
- Submission only possible when all parts and uploads are complete
- No data or figures at this stage (only Gantt chart)
- WWTF office performs formal eligibility check
- Proposals then sent to jury for pre-assessment



# Schedule & process of the Chemical Biology call



## Evaluation by Jury

- 6 international scientists with range of expertise relevant to the call

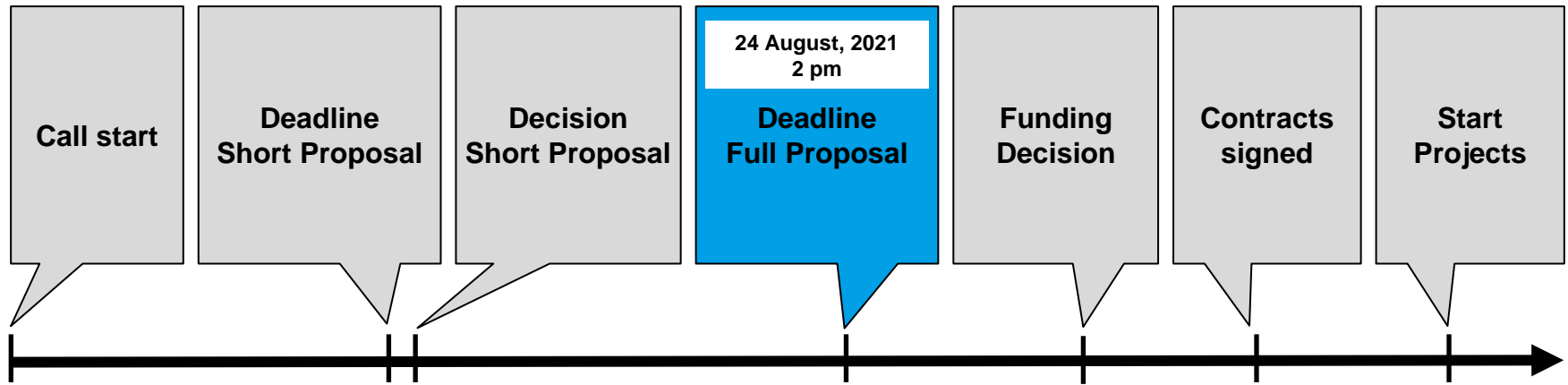
Independently assessed by several members:

- Scientific originality and excellence
- Fit to scope of call
- Potential of applicants

## Decision Short Proposal

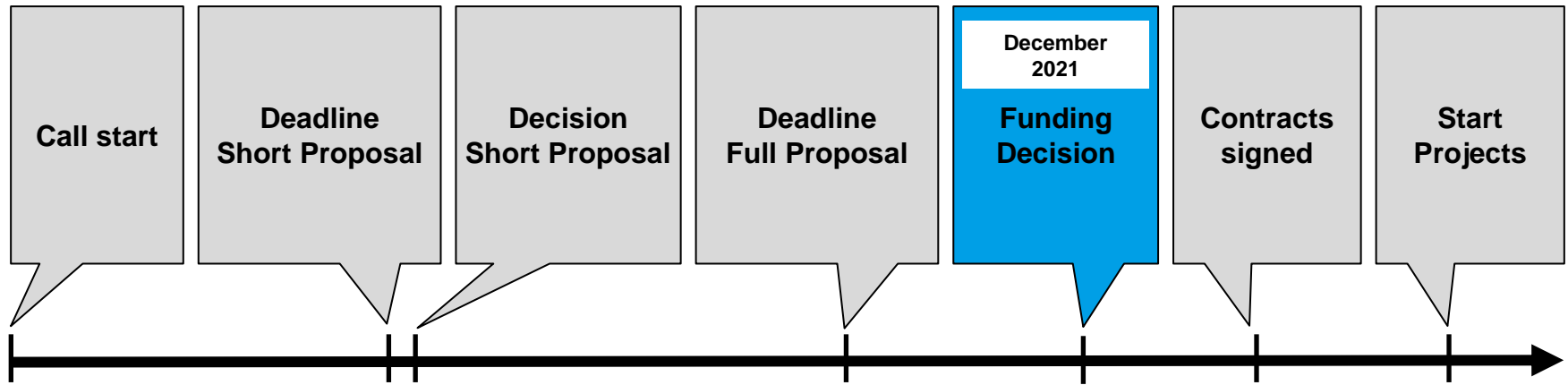
- Projects will not go on to the next stage if they are outside the scope of the call or do not meet international quality standards.
- Between 20-25 proposals invited to the full proposal phase
- Applicants will be informed immediately in both cases.

# Schedule & process of the Chemical Biology call



Full Proposal Submission	Peer Review-Process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Via the online Submission System</li><li>• Extension of short proposal</li><li>• Detailed budget</li><li>• Additional team members</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Applicants must suggest 5 reviewers</li><li>• Applicants may exclude up to 3 reviewers</li><li>• A minimum of 3 reviews per proposal</li><li>• Only international reviewers</li><li>• Reviews form the basis of the jury discussion</li></ul>

# Schedule & process of the Chemical Biology call



## Jury recommendation

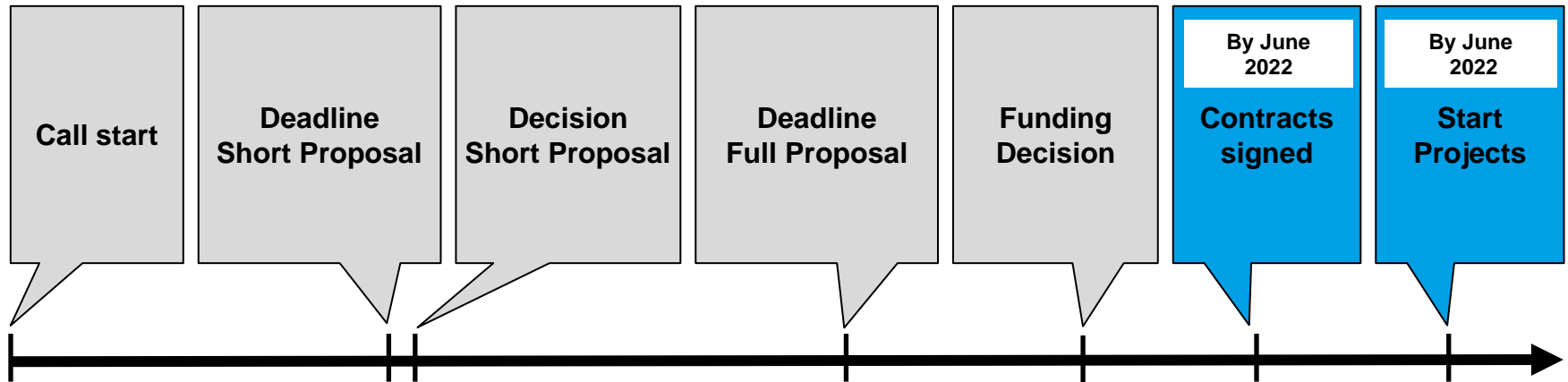
Main evaluation criteria:

- Scientific quality and innovativeness
- Scope and relevance of the project
- Appropriate approach to address clear research question
- Feasibility of proposal, considering resources and timeframe
- Interdisciplinarity, collaboration, expertise and team composition
- Consideration of sex-specific or gender-related aspects

## Decision

- Formal decision by the board of directors
- All applicants will receive a decision letter (acceptance or rejection) with anonymous reviews

# Schedule & process of the Chemical Biology call



- Funding contract is between WWTF and the coordinator's host institution (according to § 27 of the 2002 University Law)
- Coordinator has scientific and financial responsibility for the project
- Project start by June 2022 at the latest

# Using the Submission System

---

- ▶ Register with name and e-mail address at <https://funding.wwtf.at>
- ▶ Login, “my proposals”, select the call and click on “create a new proposal”
- ▶ Complete the proposal, upload necessary documents, and submit (a PDF file with a project number will be generated automatically)
  - ▶ Submission is only possible after the form has been completed in its entirety
  - ▶ No amendments can be made after the submission
- ▶ Write in English: precise, address criteria, provide sufficient detail
- ▶ No diagrams or pictures, except for Gantt chart

# Short Proposal Structure

---

The short proposal consists of **8 parts**:

1

Type of  
Project

2

Core Team  
Information

3

Basic  
Information

4

- ▶ Project summary
- ▶ Introduction, background and state of the art
- ▶ Objectives & hypotheses
- ▶ Expected results, novelty & relevance
- ▶ Methods & feasibility
- ▶ Role of team members & interdisciplinarity
- ▶ Key references

5

Gantt chart  
(PDF)

6

Ethical  
Aspects

7

Budget &  
Explanation

8

Affirmation/  
Authorization

# Submission system: Type of project

1

Type of Project

Is this a Joint Project with substantial funding going to partners in Lower Austria? \*

- Yes (Joint Project)
- No (WWTF Project)

## WWTF Projects

- Funding volume: max. **€ 700,000**
- PI in Vienna
- Budget distribution:
  - Vienna: min. 80%
  - Other (incl. Lower Austria): max. 20%

## Joint Projects

- Funding volume: max. **€ 770,000**
- PI in Vienna
- At least 1 co-PI in **Lower Austria**
- Budget distribution:
  - Vienna: min. 51%
  - Lower Austria: 20% - 49%
  - Other: max 20%

Regional branches of Viennese institutions (e.g. BOKU, VetMed, AIT) located in Lower Austria are considered Viennese partners.

# Submission system: Researcher's Information

2

Core Team Information

Please use **autocomplete** or use **exact** institution name

## Principal Investigator and Coordinator

Title: *	First/given name(s): *	Last name/surname: *
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Highest academic title: *	Staff category *	Employment at current institution by the time of submission of the proposal: *
<input type="text"/>	Senior personnel <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Year of birth:	Date of doctorate: (dd.mm.yyyy)	ORCID/Researcher ID:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Affiliation *		
Region * <b>Joint Project</b> <input type="radio"/> Vienna <input type="radio"/> Lower Austria <input type="radio"/> Other <input type="radio"/> Vienna <input type="radio"/> Other <b>WWTF Project</b>		
Institute/Department/Research Group: *		
<input type="text"/>		
Address: *		
<input type="text"/>		
Zip code *	City *	Country * <input type="text" value="please choose"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Telephone: *		
<input type="text"/>		
E-mail: *		
<input type="text"/>		
Homepage of Institute/Research Group: *		
<input type="text"/>		
Personal Scientific Website:		
<input type="text"/>		
Scientific Expertise (max. 80 characters) *		
<input type="text"/>		

## Upload CV

(max. 2 pages: 1 page personal details + 1 page publications, please use our template (Download: [WWTF\\_CVtemplate.docx](#), 18KB))

CV of *	<input type="button" value="Datei auswählen"/> Keine ausgewählt	<input type="button" value="perform upload"/>
---------	---	---





# Submission system: Researcher's Information

2

Core Team  
Information

Partner Institution(s)

 add Partner Institution

Partner Institution 1 

Partner institution: *	<input type="text"/>		
Region *	<input type="radio"/> Vienna <input type="radio"/> Lower Austria <input type="radio"/> Other	<input type="radio"/> Vienna <input type="radio"/> Other	<input type="text"/>
Institute/department/group:	<input type="text"/>		
Address:	<input type="text"/>		
Zip code/city/country:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	please choose ▼

# Submission system: Basic Project Information

3

Basic Information

## Basic Information

Project ID:	will be set automatically after submission
Project title: *	<input type="text"/>
Acronym: *	<input type="text"/>
Keywords: *	<input type="text"/>
Estimated duration in months: *	<input type="text" value="0"/> ▾
Indicative budget: (in k€):	Will be calculated below

Scientific disciplines relevant to the project: At least one category; sum must equal 100 %; Updated version of August 2019. \*

Main scientific discipline: *	%	Other scientific discipline:	%	Other scientific discipline:	%
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>

Type key words and suggestions will appear  
Refer to "[List of scientific disciplines.doc](#)" on Submission System

# Submission system: Actual Short Proposal

---

4

Project  
Proposal

- ▶ Project summary
  - ▶ Introduction, background and state of the art
  - ▶ Objectives & hypotheses
  - ▶ Expected results, novelty & relevance
  - ▶ Methods & feasibility
  - ▶ Role of team members, interdisciplinary collaborative aspects
  - ▶ Key references (max. 10)
- 
- ▶ Text box input fields, character number limited (incl. spaces)
  - ▶ If applicable: consider sex-specific or gender-related aspects
  - ▶ Keep applications short and precise
    - ▶ use language aimed at the scientific community
    - ▶ be ambitious
    - ▶ in English

# Submission system: Additional Information

---

5

Gantt  
Chart

- ▶ PDF upload, max. one page
- ▶ Include WP and responsibilities
- ▶ No data allowed

6

Ethical  
Aspects

- ▶ If the project requires approval by the ethics committee or has already been approved, provide a brief statement (include approval #)
- ▶ It is the researcher's responsibility to comply with ethics regulations
- ▶ Refer to guide for details and deadlines

# Submission system: Budget

---

7

Budget

- ▶ Overhead costs: up to 20% of the direct costs
- ▶ No funding of companies or industry partners
- ▶ Self-funded business partners are possible
- ▶ Project relevant services from companies can be calculated as non-personnel costs (if these services cannot be provided with reasonable effort by the team itself)
- ▶ Non-personnel costs should not exceed 40% of the total budget
- ▶ Budget changes in the full proposal stage are permitted, but require justification

# Cost Planning Tool



7

Budget

- ▶ Spreadsheet download to help calculate the budget:
  - ▶ Per institution and per year calculations
  - ▶ Personnel costs
    - ▶ in-kind and WWTF funding, use FTE/100% salary
    - ▶ Includes automatic 3% annual salary increase
    - ▶ WWTF policy regarding senior staff: up to 20% in case there is less than 40% basic institutional block funding
  - ▶ Non-personnel costs (consumables, third-party services, travelling, publishing costs)
- ▶ *Do not submit the spreadsheet*
- ▶ *Use the derived numbers to fill in the table online*
- ▶ *Insert numbers in € k (€ 100,000 = € 100 k)*

# Submission system: Budget

7

Budget

## Budget

Institution	Personnel costs	Non-personnel costs	Total direct costs	Overheads	Funding applied for	% per institution
Institution of Person 1	0.00 k€	0.00 k€		0.00 k€	0.00 k€	0.00 %
Institution of Person 2	0.00 k€	0.00 k€		0.00 k€	0.00 k€	0.00 %
Institution of Person 3	0.00 k€	0.00 k€		0.00 k€	0.00 k€	0.00 %
Partner Institution 1	0.00 k€	0.00 k€		0.00 k€	0.00 k€	0.00 %
Partner Institution 2	0.00 k€	0.00 k€		0.00 k€	0.00 k€	0.00 %
<b>Total funding applied for per cost category</b>	0.00 k€	0.00 k€	0.00 k€	0.00 k€	0.00 k€	
<b>% of total direct costs</b>	- %	- %				

- ▶ % personnel and non-personnel costs of total direct costs will be displayed
- ▶ % of budget per institution will be displayed
- ▶ Institutions of the Core Team are added automatically
- ▶ Up to 5 institutions in can be listed in total

# Submission system: Budget per region

7

Budget

- ▶ Budget per region
  - ▶ Funding per region in k €
  - ▶ % of budget per region will be displayed

WWTF  
Project

Budget per region		
Region	Funding applied for	% per region
Vienna	0.00 k€	- %
Other	0.00 k€	- %

Joint  
Project

Budget per region		
Region	Funding applied for	% per region
Vienna	0.00 k€	- %
Lower Austria	0.00 k€	- %
Other	0.00 k€	- %

## WWTF Projects

- Funding volume: max. € **700,000**
- Budget distribution:
  - Vienna: min. 80%
  - Other (incl. Lower Austria): max. 20%

## Joint Projects

- Funding volume: max. € **770,000**
- Budget distribution:
  - Vienna: min. 51%
  - Lower Austria: 20%-49%
  - Other: max 20%



# Submission system: Budget

---

7

Budget

- ▶ Explanation of cost planning:
  - ▶ Describe main expenses planned within the project

Explanation of cost planning\* (up to 750 characters including spaces)

# Submission system: Signatures

---

8

Affirmation/  
Authorization

- ▶ WWTF-projects are § 27-projects (for universities)
  - ▶ A commitment from the involved universities or research institution is necessary since the coordinator's institution will be the official contract partner
  - ▶ **Affirmations:** Signature of the PIs / Core team members
  - ▶ **Authorization:** Signature of the authorized person from the involved institutions of the PIs / Core team members
  - ▶ Be aware of internal regulations of the respective institutions
  - ▶ Contact the research services unit/grant managers in advance

# Submission system: Signatures

8

## Affirmation/ Authorization

- ▶ PDFs will be generated automatically using the information about the core team and hosting institutions
- ▶ “Download Part I as PDF document”
- ▶ Regular or electronic signatures permitted
  - ▶ Print page, sign, scan and upload OR
  - ▶ Save individual page, insert e-signature and upload as PDF: do NOT afterwards alter PDF in any form (e.g. merge, edit)
- ▶ Up to 6 files, max. 6 pages

### Affirmations

In signing the application form, all persons involved (project manager, partners) undertake that the information provided in the application form is, to the best of their knowledge and belief, accurate and complete. They confirm the following:

- All relevant material changes will be promptly communicated to WWTF.
- All persons agree not to exploit intellectual property as individuals, but, if in any way possible, within the set of rules of their Home institutions. All publications have to mention WWTF as a funding institution.
- The persons involved will ensure compliance with all legal and procedural requirements regarding safety, ethic issues, notification requirements and any other relevant regulations.
- The persons involved confirm that the work plan submitted for WWTF funding is currently not subject to third party funding (like FWF, EU-funding, any other regional, national or international funding).
- The persons involved pledge to disclose if they intend to apply / have applied for funding for the same work plan at other funding sources.

Name	Institution	Date, signature
N N	.xxx	

### Authorization

In signing the application form, the institution (i.e. the institutional level authorised and responsible for signing, if not legally identical with principal applicant) undertakes that the information provided in the application form, is to the best of their knowledge and belief, accurate and complete. It is hereby confirmed that

- The institution agrees to the use of space, equipment, personnel and other resources as stated in the application. The institution agrees to provide its own contribution as described in the application.
- The institution is willing to co-operate with WWTF, in an appropriate way, and its chosen partners regarding the application and protection of intellectual property arising from the project to be funded.

Institution	Signing person	Date, stamp, signature
.xxx		


save changes

### Signatures

Please provide one PDF file containing (only) the scanned sheets with all the required signatures!  
You can generate the signature sheet at the bottom of the page after the team data (PI, etc.) and proposal title has been provided.

Signatures (max. 6 pages)\*:  Keine Datei ausgewählt.

We only accept PDF-format (preferable pdf version 1.4 without any encryptions) for your upload.

 Download Part I as PDF document

# Submit!

---

The Online Submission System will close automatically  
**at 2pm on 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2021**

# Contact

---

All documents available at [wwtf.at](http://wwtf.at)

Contact:

Grace Liu | [grace.liu@wwtf.at](mailto:grace.liu@wwtf.at) | T: 01/ 402 31 43 – 12

WWTF

Schlickgasse 3/12

1090 Wien

