



Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

**EXPLORING NEW FRONTIERS**

**CULTIVATING TALENTS**

**REALISING NEW IDEAS**

**FUNDING  
THE WAY FORWARD**

# The FWF in a nutshell

## FWF – contact points

Today for you from the FWF office

- **Sabine Haubenwallner**
  - Programme Manager, Strategy Department National Programmes
- **Christian Maszl-Kantner**
  - Scientific Project Officer, Specialist Department Natural and Technical Sciences
- **Thomas Tallian**
  - Operational Project Officer, Specialist Department Biology and Medical Sciences
- **Johannes Winkler**
  - Scientific Project Officer, Specialist Department Strategy – Career Development

# Content of the presentation

- What does the FWF stand for?
  - Mission statement, positioning, principles
- What are the instruments?
  - The FWF funding portfolio
- How does the FWF implement this?
  - The FWF procedures
- What has been achieved, what remains to be done?
  - Current developments and plans

# What does the FWF stand for?

Mission Statement – Positioning – Principles

# The FWF's corporate policy

## Objectives

- Strengthening basic research in Austria across all disciplines at an international level
- Develop Austria's human resources for research based on the principle of research-driven education
- Promote interaction between scientists/scholars and all other areas of culture, the economy and society

## Position

### The FWF supports basic research \*...

The FWF understands this as “*experimental or theoretical work that primarily leads to new knowledge about the fundamentals of phenomena and observable facts without aiming at a specific application or implementation.*”

### ... but is open for your application-oriented aspects:

Support for knowledge transfer and science/scholarly communication are an integral part of FWF’s work.

\* According to the definition in the *Frascati Manual* (<http://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/Frascati-Manual.htm>)

## The FWF stands for

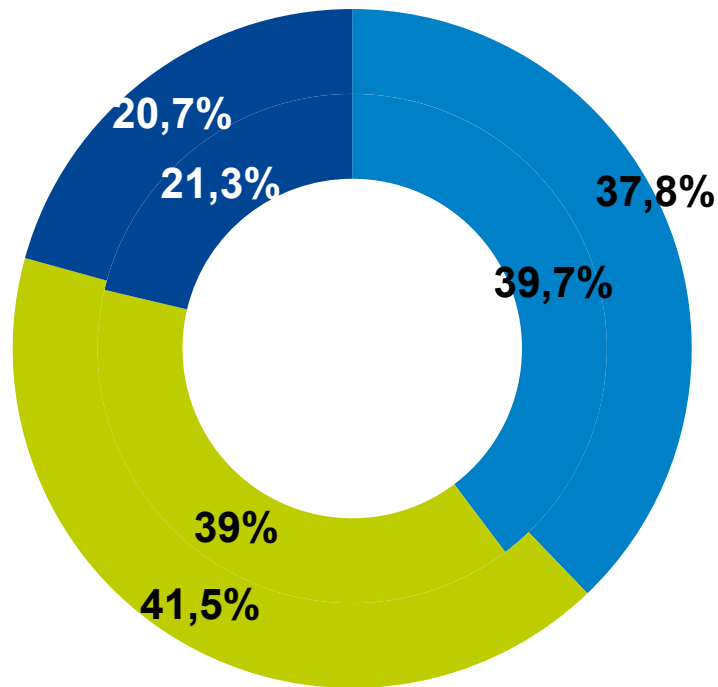
- More **basic research** in Austria
- More **competition** in the research system
- More **quality** in the research system
- More **internationality** in the research system
- More excellent **junior researchers** in the research system

**The FWF supports the expansion of the research potential in Austria towards *innovation leadership* and is thus a major location factor for the research and economic system.**



# Approvals by scientific discipline

(Outside: 2018 / Inside: Ø 2013 – 2017)



- **Biology and medicine**
- **Natural sciences and engineering**
- **Humanities and social sciences**

## The FWF at the Vienna University of Technology (2014-2018)

- 1138 applications
- 310 projects approved
- € 101,5 million in total funding
- In average, 9,83 % of the annual FWF approval amount
- 435 project staff, 264 of whom are doctoral students
- Selection of funded projects:
  - 136 Stand-alone projects
  - 59 International projects
  - 24 Special Research Programmes (SFB)
  - 6 START Grants
  - 4 Doctoral Programmes (DK)

## FWF Gender Mainstreaming Strategy in Research Funding

- Equal opportunities for female and male researchers
- Integration of gender dimension into the research programme

### Mainstreaming:

Gender equality standards for all decision-making processes

### Special Programmes:

Two-tier career development programme for women

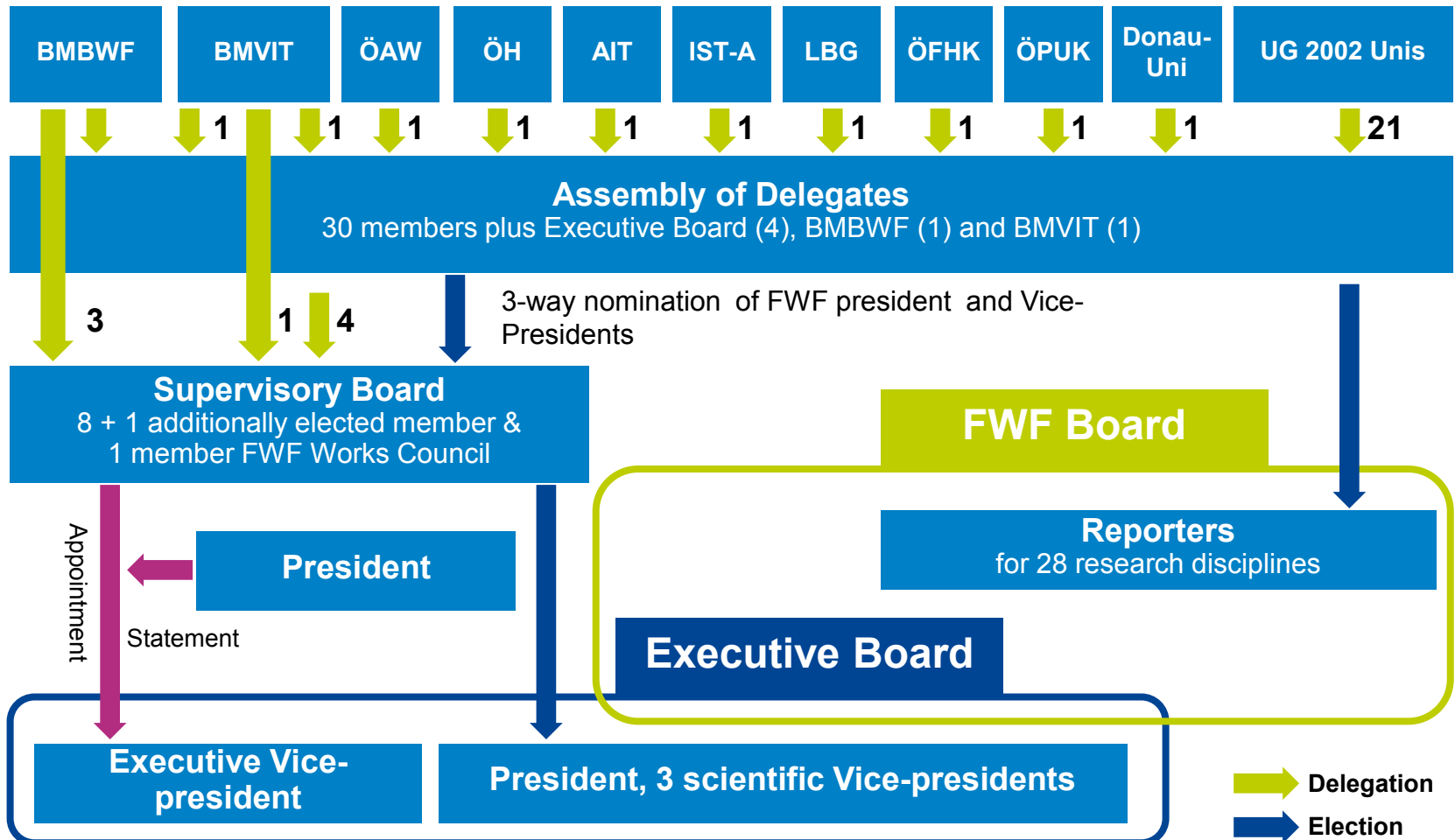
### Governance:

FWF monitors gender-disaggregated data (participation, success rates, etc.)

### FWF Organisation:

Gender training for FWF employees and researchers, FWF intranet page providing information, national cooperation within the genderAG, European cooperation D-A-CH

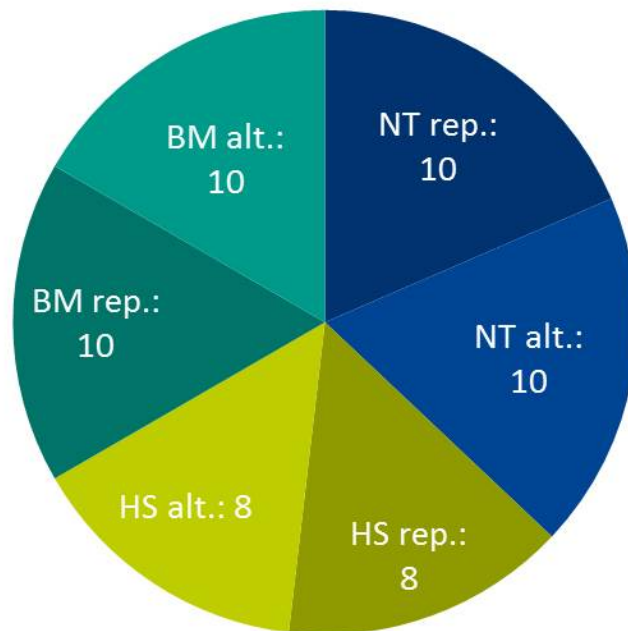
# Decision-making bodies under the FTFG



# The "heart" of the FWF funding machine

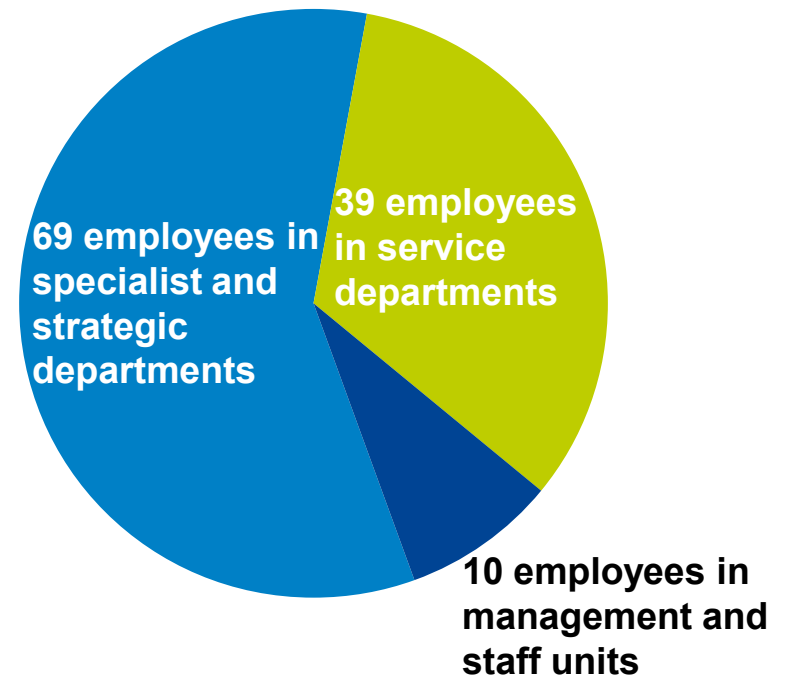
## FWF Board

28 reporters,  
28 alternates  
(all university professors)



## FWF Office

118 Employees – about 2/3 for direct project support



**NT:** Natural sciences and engineering; **HS:** Humanities and social sciences; **BM:** Biology and medicine

# The FWF Funding Portfolio

# The FWF funding portfolio



## Exploring new frontiers – Funding of top-quality research

- Stand-Alone Projects
- International Programmes
- Special Research Programmes (SFBs)
- Research Groups
- START Programme
- Wittgenstein Award
- 1000-Ideas-Programme



## Cultivating talents – Development of human resources

- Doc.funds
- Schrödinger Programme
- Meitner Programme
- Firnberg Programme
- Richter Programme/Richter PEEK
- Young Independent Researcher Groups



## Realising new ideas – Interactive effects between science and society

- KLIF
- PEEK
- Support for Scientific Publications
- Science Communication Programme
- Top Citizen Science

# FWF funding categories by career stage

## Established researchers

- Wittgenstein Award

## Researchers with post-doc experience

- Independent applicants
- Elise Richter Programme (+Elise Richter PEEK)
- START Programme
- Lise-Meitner-Programme

## Post-doctoral work

- Post-docs
- Erwin Schrödinger Programme
- Hertha Firnberg Programme
- Lise-Meitner-Programme
- Independent applicants
- 1000-Ideas Programme

## Ph.D. candidates

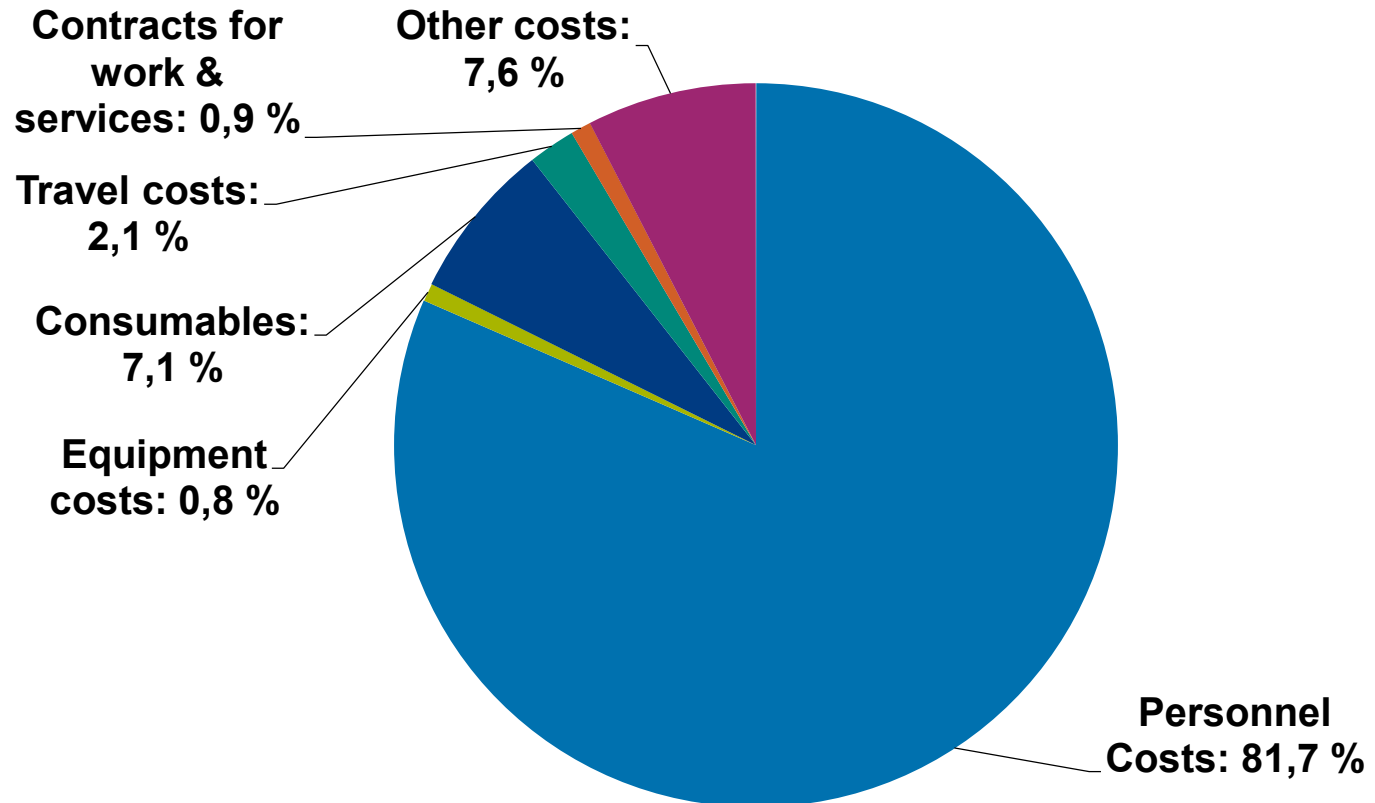
- Ph.D. student positions
- Ph.D. students in DK programmes
- Ph.D. students in doc.funds

## University students

- Student employees

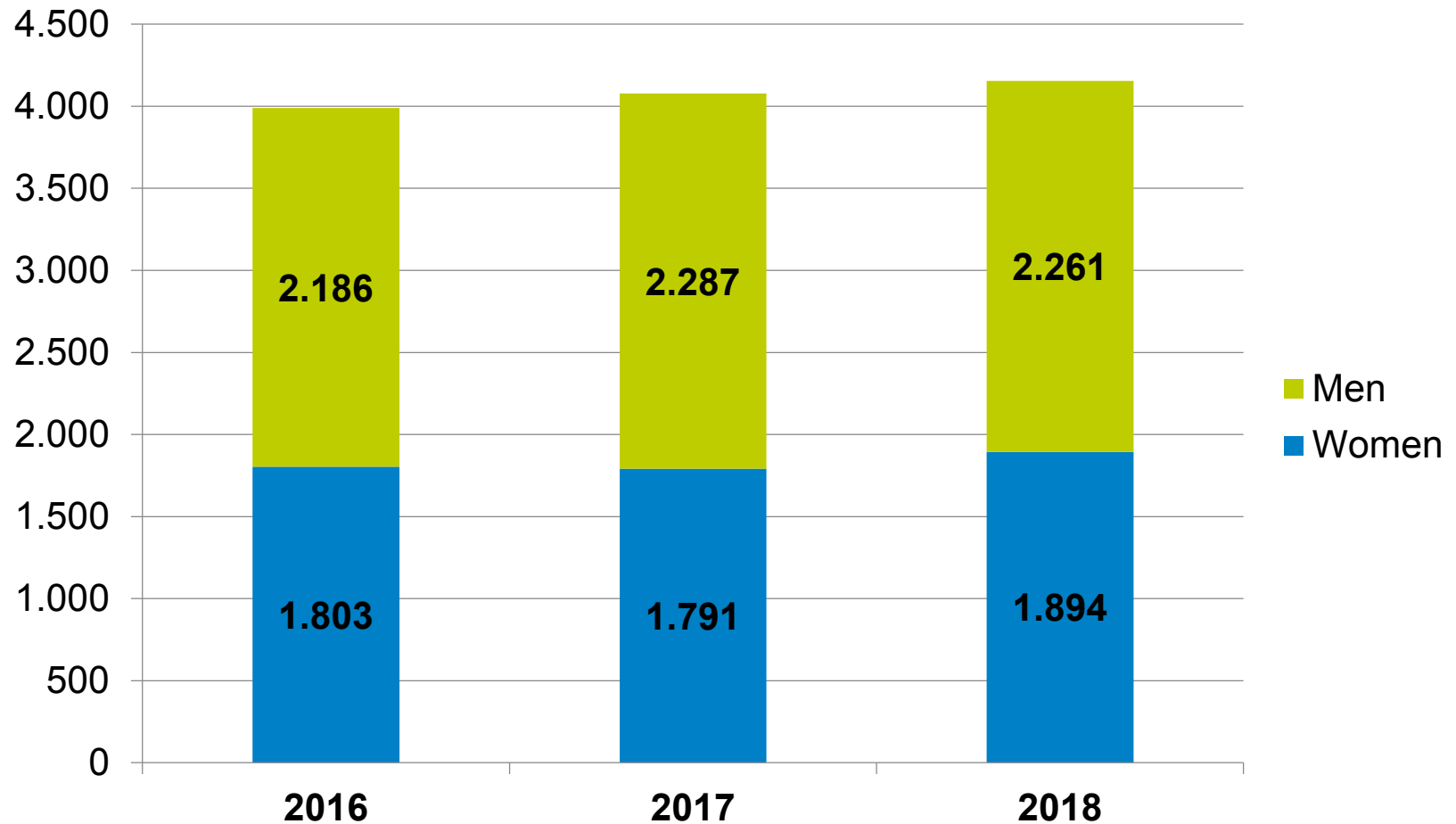


## Total funding by cost type (2018)



# Research Personnel funded by the FWF

Status: 31.12.2018



# The FWF Procedures

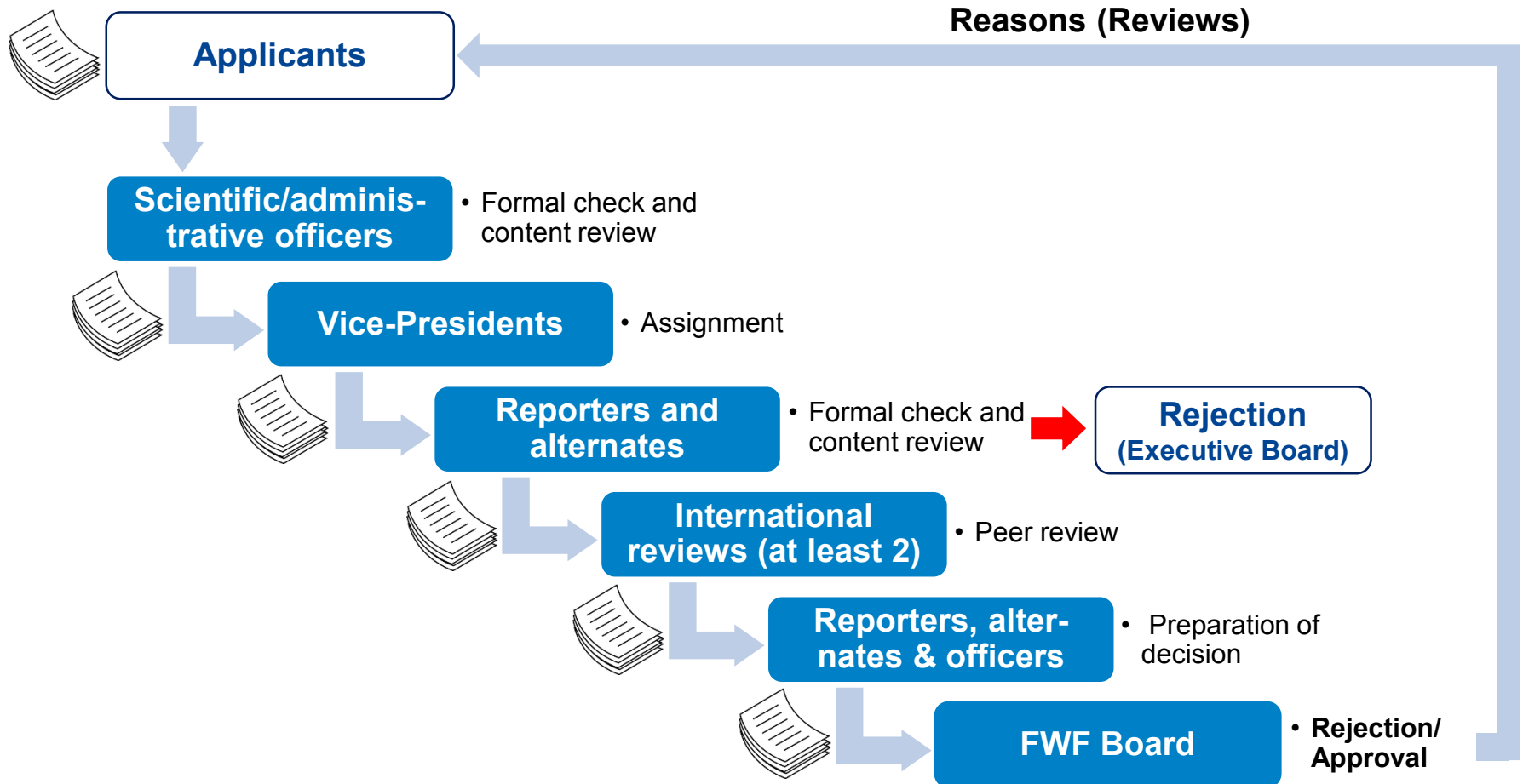
## Key features of the FWF decision procedure

- Strictly bottom-up approach: no prescribed research topics, no quotas, no preference for specific researchers
- Multiple-party checks in all steps of procedure and decisions
- Close interaction with applicant to maximise transparency
- Independent, international peer review as the basis for quality assurance
- Text of reviews as most important basis for decisions (ratings treated as mere indicators)
- Discussion of and decisions on all projects from all disciplines during an FWF Board meeting with representatives from all disciplines

## Application basics

- Choice of topic: Bottom-up (i.e. determined by applicants)
- Type of research: Scholarly research designed to generate new knowledge
- Eligibility: Based on residence (Austria); scientific qualification (publications)
- Quotas: None
- Processing time: Ø 4.8 months (in programmes with no application deadlines)

# The FWF Decision-Making Procedure



## Reviewer profile in the peer review procedure

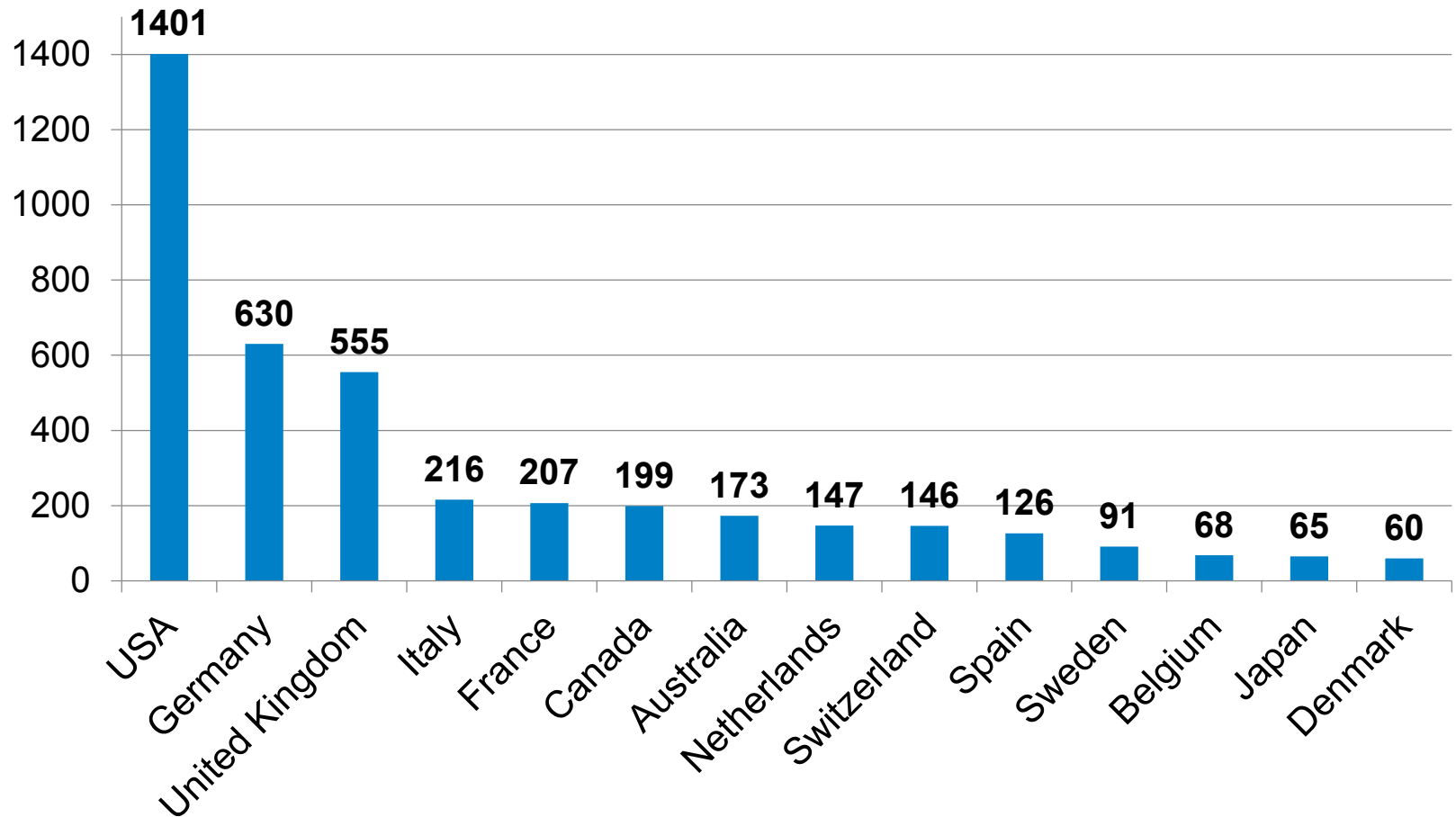
- Reviewers must be experts based outside of Austria who are still active in the field and have attained at least the same scholarly/scientific level as the applicant.
- Specific for each application, no fixed pool of reviewers (90% of reviewers are new; never more than 2 reviews per year)
- Mix of reviewers: selection of reviewers based on the researchers' career status
- Regional distribution according to share of scholarly/scientific output
- Continuous increase of female reviewers
- In smaller disciplines, "generalists" may also be called upon

## Basic principles for the selection of reviewers

- “Negative list” (i.e. applicants can exclude up to three reviewers)
- Responsibilities check: forwarding of the abstract
- Checking of conflicts of interest by FWF Secretariat
- Non-conflict-of-interest declaration by reviewers



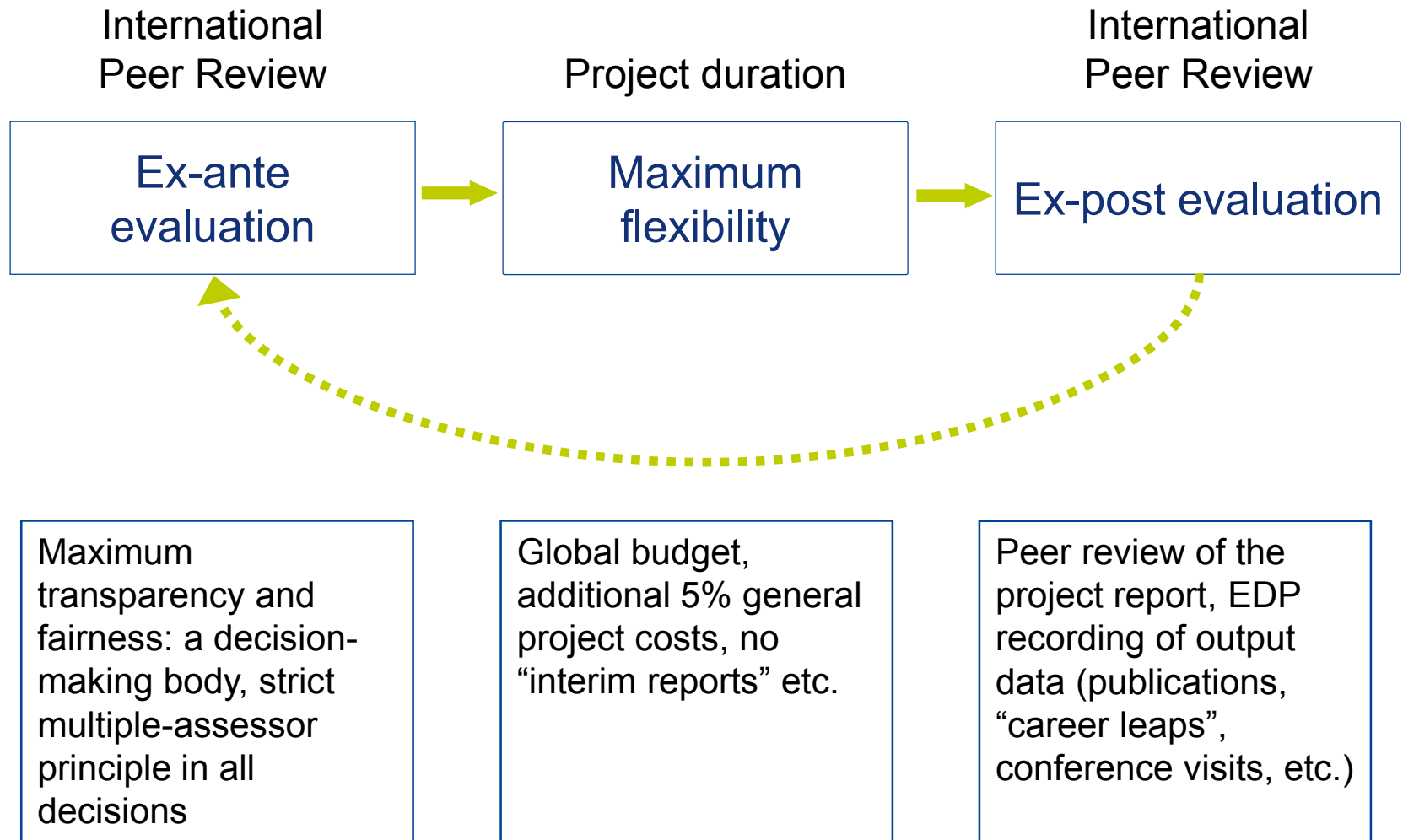
# Reviews received by country (2018)



## Principles of the decision

- Quality benchmark → International research community
- Peer Review → All reviewers based outside Austria
- Number of reviews → At least 2
- Decisions → Issued by FWF Board on basis of reviews
- Reasoning → Communication of the complete review to applicants
- Checks and Balances → Comparative discussion of all projects of all disciplines
- Decision meetings → 5 per year

# Controlling (quality control)



# Current developments and plans

# #Connecting.Minds

## In development

- Promotion of excellent collaborative research projects addressing real, complex problems with a strong societal positioning of the research idea (= transformative research)
  - active contribution (solution-oriented approach) to social change processes
  - focus on societal utilization of scientific results
- Integration of knowledge from outside the science system (e.g. stakeholders, "practitioners"), other approach in knowledge production (= transdisciplinary research)
- Duration: 3 years + 2 years extension
- First call for proposals in Q1/2020

# PROFI

## Project funding through research institutions

- Conversion from *ad personam* funding to PROFi: Grant agreement is concluded with the research institution of the project leader
- Autonomy of the project leaders on research content and the use of the project funds is guaranteed.
- Project application and processing via PROFi will be introduced in stages:
  - Coordinated funding programs (*SFBs*, *Zukunftskollegs*, research groups, *doc.funds*) from 2018/19 via PROFi
  - Stand-alone projects and related programmes as well as career programmes from 2020/2021 on (with exceptions, e.g. Schrodinger outgoing phase)

# Services of the FWF

## Interactions

- **FWF Newsletter**

Registration at: [www.fwf.ac.at/de/service/newsletter/](http://www.fwf.ac.at/de/service/newsletter/)

- **FWF Information Events**

Information on dates and venues can be found in the calendar on the FWF website

- **FWF Coaching Workshops**

The working methods and procedures of the FWF as well as critical points of application and project management are made transparent in a practice-oriented manner

Further information:

<http://www.fwf.ac.at/en/research-funding/information-events/>

Information and Registration: [nina.thomann@fwf.ac.at](mailto:nina.thomann@fwf.ac.at)



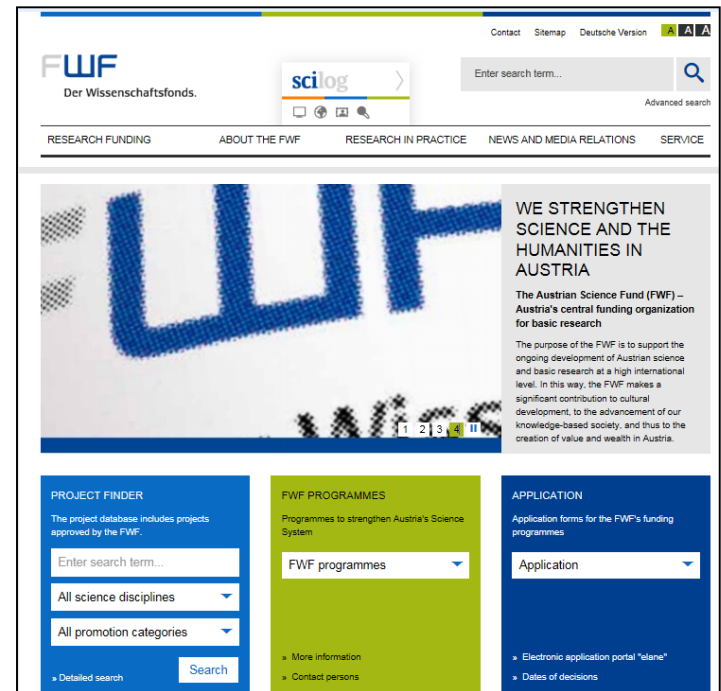
## Our next Information Events and Coaching Workshops in Vienna

- **Information Event on the Application Process for the 1000 Ideas Programme**
  - 13 December 2019; 10:30-12:30; English
- **Coaching Workshop for Female Scientists and Scholars**
  - 25 March 2020; 9:00-17:00; English
- **Coaching Workshop**
  - 19 June 2020; 9:00-17:00; English
- **Coaching Workshop on the START Programme and ERC Grants**
  - 30 June 2020; 9:00-17:00; English

# The FWF website

## The information resource

- **FWF-Website: [www.fwf.ac.at](http://www.fwf.ac.at)**
- **Funding programmes overview**
- **Application documents**
- **Principles of the decision-making process**
- **Contact directory**



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# Part I

## Cooperative Programmes & Development of Human Resources

# Comparison of SFB & FG & YIRG

	<b>Special Research Programme (SFB)</b>	<b>Research Groups (FG)</b>	<b>Young Independent Researcher Groups (YIRG)</b>
<b>Research Approach</b>	inter-/multidisciplinary	inter-/multidisciplinary	interdisciplinary
<b>Researchers</b>	5 – 15	3 – 5	3 – 5
<b>Research Experience as Post doc</b>	≥ 2 years of experience	≥ 2 years of experience	1-5 years of experience
<b>Programme Goals</b>	Building up of extremely productive, tightly interconnected research establishments through autonomous research concentration at a single university location; long-term research work should be done to in mixed teams	A medium-term research cooperation on a complex research topic between researchers (in mixed teams) at smaller locations or in certain scientific / scholarly disciplines	A medium-term research cooperation on a complex, current and interdisciplinary topic is to be deepened or newly consolidated by researchers in mixed teams
<b>Location of research</b>	50% at one single university location	throughout Austria	throughout Austria; 2 research organisations or at least 2 organisational units of one research org.
<b>Duration</b>	2x4 years	1x5 years	1x4 years

# Special Research Programmes

## Objectives

- **Target group**
  - Groups of researchers from all disciplines
  - Austrian universities or non-profit, non-university research institutions
  - Application by the research organisation(s) (PROFI)
- **Objectives**
  - To establish research networks on par with international standards through autonomous research concentration at a single university location (or multiple locations, subject to certain conditions)
  - To develop extremely productive, tightly interconnected research units for generally long-term and interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary work on complex research topics

# Special Research Programmes

## Basic Information (I)

- **Submission**
  - one call per year (September)
- **2-stage procedure**
  - approval rate approx. 15% (projects approved in the 2nd stage of the procedure vs. outline proposals)
- **Funding**
  - roughly €1,000,000 per year for project-specific personnel, material, equipment, and other costs
- **Duration**
  - 8 years; interim evaluation after 4 years

# Special Research Programmes

## Basic Information (II)

### ▪ Applications

- Via the FWF's electronic application portal
- Approval via the lead research organisation by 30 September 2020 at the latest
- in English
- English guidelines will be published End of March 2020 at the latest

### ▪ Allocation

- Once a year during the last board meeting by the FWF Board based on an international review process



# Special Research Programmes

## Basic Information (III)

### ▪ **Requirements**

- The core group of applicants must be of sufficient size and be qualified to establish and run a research programme of high international standing in line with the profile of the participating research institution(s)
- At least 5 and at most 15 researchers for sub-projects (including coordinator); 30% target ratio of the underrepresented gender; gender balance of the team is a decision-making criterion of the evaluation
- At least 50% of the researchers in the sub-projects must be based at one research location

### ▪ **Programme-specific requirements**

- Structural support from the applying and participating research institution(s)
- One funding contract with the applying research institution

# Research Groups

## Objectives

- Funding of cooperation projects between researchers at locations with more limited research infrastructure or in certain scientific/scholarly disciplines that cooperate on smaller scales
- Medium-term research cooperation (up to five years) on a complex, current topic in mixed teams of at least three and no more than five researchers
  - at least one third of the team members should be from the underrepresented gender as the gender ratio of the team is a decision-relevant criterion
- Innovative interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary research cooperation that examines a topic in more depth or breadth
- Integration of junior researchers in a leading role
- Description of an internationalisation strategy to connect to the international research community

# Research Groups

## Target Group

- A team of three to five internationally outstanding researchers from all scientific/scholarly disciplines, in particular from the humanities, social sciences and cultural sciences, form a research group at Austrian research institutions.
- Participation in a maximum of one research group is possible in addition to the currently applicable project number restriction of three FWF projects.
- Researchers who have a 25% affiliation with an Austrian research institution can participate in a research group.
- One researcher acts as coordinator of the research group.
- The formal application is submitted by the Austrian research institution; all Austrian research institutions are eligible; there is no limit on the number of applications that can be submitted by a research institution. A research institution can thus submit several applications.

# Research Groups

## Basic Information (I)

- **Duration**
  - Maximum five years
- **Amount**
  - Maximum €1,500,000; these funds cover personnel costs for one's own position as well as colleagues (PhDs, postdocs), materials, equipment, travel, other expenses and five percent of general project costs
- **Applications**
  - Via the FWF's electronic application portal
  - Approval via the lead research organisation by 30 September 2020 at the latest
  - English guidelines will be published in March 2020
  - in English
- **Allocation**
  - Once a year during the last board meeting by the FWF Board based on an international review process

# Research Groups

## Basic Information (II)

### ▪ Requirements

- Innovative, multi-/interdisciplinary research programme, common research questions, coherent research approach
- At least 3 and at most 5 researchers for individual project areas (including coordinator); 30% target ratio of the underrepresented gender; gender balance of the team is a decision-making criterion of the evaluation

# Young Independent Researcher Groups

## Target group

- An outstanding international team of young researchers in all scientific disciplines, especially in the humanities and social and cultural sciences, form a Young Independent Researcher Group at Austrian research institutions.
- One researcher acts as the coordinator for the Young Independent Researcher Group; each researcher may take part in only one proposal for a Young Independent Researcher Group.
- There is no limit on the number of proposals that can be submitted by a research institution. Each research institution can thus submit several proposals or participate in several proposals.
- If there are any questions regarding the connection to a suitable research institution, potential applicants can contact members of the Executive Board of the FWF or the Austrian Academy of Sciences personally and seek the relevant advice.

# Young Independent Researcher Groups

## Objectives

- Promotion of young postdocs (min. 1 year to max. 5 years after doctorate).
- Medium-term research cooperation (4 years) on a complex, current topic in mixed teams of at least 3 to max. 5 researchers.
- Research cooperation should be interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary on innovative subjects.
- The research question is to be deepened or newly consolidated at at least two research institutions or two organisational units of a research institution.

# Young Independent Researcher Groups

## Basic Information (I)

- **Duration**
  - Maximum four years
- **Amount**
  - Maximum €2,000,000; these funds cover personnel costs for one's own position as well as colleagues (PhDs, postdocs), materials, equipment, travel, other expenses and five percent of general project costs
- **Applications**
  - English guidelines will be published Spring 2020 at the latest
  - in English
- **Allocation**
  - International jury will discuss the individual projects either on the basis of written reviews or after discussion with individual YIRG teams
  - Once a year during the last board meeting by the FWF Board based on the recommendation of the international jury



# Young Independent Researcher Groups

## Basic Information (II)

### ▪ Requirements

#### Research programme

- State-of-the-art in research on which the Young Independent Researcher Group is based
- Presentation of shared goals, questions and concepts in the Young Independent Researcher Group
- Interdisciplinary<sup>5</sup>, innovative<sup>6</sup> research approaches in the Young Independent Researcher Group's research programme
- Concise presentation of the innovative and cutting-edge character of the research topic
- Description of the thematic coherence and the expected value of innovation through cooperation

#### Research team

- Description of the individual qualifications and contribution as well as internal and international cooperations

## *doc.funds* Programme

- **Target group**
  - Austrian research institutions that are entitled to award doctoral degrees (NB: A single institution can submit multiple applications.)
  
- **Objectives**
  - To promote outstanding education and training for scientific and arts-based doctoral students within the framework of structured doctoral programmes that have been in operation for at least two years (see requirements below)
  - To reinforce the research orientation and sustained consolidation of existing education and training structures for highly qualified junior researchers

# *doc.funds* Programme

## Basic information (I)

### ▪ **Requirements**

- Structured doctoral programme in existence for at least two years, based at one research location and fulfilling clearly specified requirements
- At least five researchers (including the coordinator) as faculty members involved
- All faculty members demonstrate outstanding research qualifications and have proven experience in the supervision of doctoral students
- The research institution commits to provide all necessary infrastructure, ensures the integration of the doctoral programme into the institution's regular operations, and makes a plausible contribution of its own through its own funds and/or third-party funds, i.e. in addition to the positions for which FWF funding is requested.

### ▪ **Duration**

- 48 months

# *doc.funds* Programme

## Basic information (II)

- **Funding amount**
  - Personnel costs for 5 to 10 PhD candidates
  - Education and training costs of up to €5,000 per year for each PhD position requested
  - 5% general project costs
- **Applications**
  - Start of call for applications: 6 February 2020
  - Submission deadline: 30 April 2020
  - in English
- **Allocation**
  - Final funding decisions will be made by the FWF Board based on the recommendations of the international *doc.funds*-Jury
  - Recommendations are based on an international review procedure (3 reviews) and presentations (hearings) before the international *doc.funds*-Jury.
- **Number of grants**
  - about 4-6 *doc.funds*-projects



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## Part II

### **Stand-Alone Projects, International Programmes, 1000 Ideas Programme**

# Stand-Alone Projects

## Basic information (I)

- **Programme**
  - Research projects limited to 4 years' duration with an average of €120,000 per year (generally 1 postdoc + 1 Ph.D. candidate + 10-15% other costs)
- **Submission**
  - On a rolling basis
- **Principal investigator**
  - is employed at an Austrian research institution → international publications commensurate with their career stage
- **Independent applicants (“FWF fellows”)**
  - personnel costs for principal investigator are financed from the project budget
  - Prerequisite: fulfilment of territoriality principle, that is, the applicant's main place of residence must have been in Austria for at least 3 of the last 10 years, or the applicant must have been working in research in Austria for at least 2 consecutive years prior to submitting the application

# Stand-Alone Projects

## Basic information (II)

- **Salaries**
  - Independent applicant (FWF fellow): postdoc or senior postdoc employees
- **Project participants**
  - Postdocs, Ph.D. student employees, student assistants, BMA, CTA, and TF
- **Number of reviews**
  - At least 2 reviews, depending on the individual project-specific costs
- **Processing time**
  - 3–6 months, on average 4.3 months



# Stand-Alone Projects

## Content of project descriptions (I)

### 1. Scientific/scholarly aspects

- Clearly defined aims and hypotheses or research question(s) of the project
- Description of the project's anticipated level of originality or scientific/scholarly innovation
- Relevance to international research in the field (international state of research)
- Methods
- Intended cooperation arrangements (national and/or international)
- Work plan and timeline
- All potential ethical, safety-related, or regulatory aspects
- All potential sex-specific and gender-related aspects

# Stand-Alone Projects

## Content of project descriptions (II)

### 2. Human resources

- Research-related qualifications of the researchers involved

### 3. Financial aspects (use template structure)

- Information on the research institution and those of the national research partners
  - Available personnel (not financed by the FWF)
  - Available infrastructure
- Information on the funding requested
  - Concise justifications for the personnel requested
  - Concise justifications for non-personnel cost

# International Programmes

## Objective

- **Target group**
  - Researchers from all scientific & scholarly disciplines in Austria
- **Aim**
  - Funding of closely integrated, bi- or multilateral cooperative projects (partly thematically focused calls)

# International Programmes

## Basic information (I)

- **Submission**
  - On a rolling basis or with submission deadlines, depending on the specific call
- **Approval rate**
  - 15-27% (depending on the programme and call)
- **Funding**
  - Project-specific costs according to the Guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects or the Clinical Research Programme (personnel, material, travel, equipment, and other costs)
- **Duration**
  - Varies, but no more than 4 years

# International Programmes

## Basic information (II)

### ▪ Prerequisites

- International project partners with complementary expertise
- International publications
- High research quality measured on an international scale

# International Programmes

## Programme types

- **Joint Projects & Joint Seminars**
  - Parallel proposals submitted to the FWF and to the international partner organisation (in accordance with national rules)
- **Joint Projects – Lead Agency procedure**
  - One joint proposal submitted to Lead Agency only (either the FWF or intl. partner organisation) in accordance with its rules
- **ERA-Net Calls**
  - Joint proposals for multilateral projects, to be submitted to the respective call secretariat in accordance with the rules of the respective call

# International Programmes

- **Criteria for project descriptions**
  - Added value created by international cooperation arrangements
  - Work plan and schedule for overall project
  - Lead agency applications: separate budgets for each country
- **Formal criteria**
  - Submission to the FWF
    - Subject to Guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects or Clinical Research Programme
    - Additional requirements: project partner's CV and publication list
  - Submission to the partner agency or joint call secretariat
    - Additional FWF requirements: Administrative and financial data as well as project abstracts (in accordance with FWF guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects or Clinical Research Programme)

# 1,000 Ideas Programme

## Objectives of the programme

- Promotion of radically new and risky as well as particularly original research ideas that are beyond the current scientific understanding.
- Research ideas or research hypothesis should have a high potential to transform a field of research and/or to fundamentally question established paradigms in science and research.
- Provision of seed funding for research ideas not yet supported by existing funding programmes. The exploratory phase is expected to provide initial evidence of the feasibility of the idea and the underlying research hypothesis.
- By designing a double-blind selection procedure, the FWF aims to identify projects worthy of funding exclusively on the basis of the project idea and the conclusive description of their realisation.



# 1,000 Ideas Programme

## Who is eligible to apply ?

- All Austrian research institutions are eligible to apply. There is no limit to the number of proposals that can be submitted by a research institution.
- The principal investigator (PI) must be employed at least 50% time at an Austrian research institute for the duration of the project.
- Only one project proposal per principal investigator. Application does not interfere with limit on the number of FWF projects.
- The principal investigator must show that he/she possesses the basic (arts-based) research qualifications by means of publication record
  - At least two publications, peer-reviewed and internationally visible with a substantial and independent contribution on the part of the principal investigator → programme-specific form

# 1,000 Ideas Programme

## What types of funding can be requested?

- Project-specific costs are eligible for funding
- Minimum of € 50,000,- and maximum of € 150,000,-
- Duration: 6 months to maximum 24 months
- Personnel costs
  - personnel costs of the principal investigator (max. 50 %)
  - Post-docs or senior post-docs (up 100 %)
  - No doctoral candidates
- Other costs
  - Equipment costs
  - Material costs
  - Travel costs
  - Cooperation arrangements
  - Other eligible costs
- General project costs → 5 %

# 1,000 Ideas Programme

## Contents of the project description

**Research approach (3 p.)** - all of the following items must be addressed:

- Arts-based research or scientific/scholarly foundation,
- Originality and/or risk involved,
- Novelty and (especially) innovative elements,
- Transformative potential (related to the research area / field).
- All potential ethical, safety-related, or regulatory aspects as well as sex-specific and gender-related aspects must be described briefly

**Project implementation (2 p.)** - the following items must all be explicitly addressed:

- Description of the methodological approach for verifying the hypotheses or working on the research questions,
- Coherent plan for implementation adjusted to the planned duration of the project.

**Risk assessment (1 p.)** - to be addressed

- Risk assessment,
- Learning potential in the case of failure.

**References (1 p.)**

# 1,000 Ideas Programme

## Rejection without review

All applications that deviate from the specified form requirements/formats, e.g.

- page numbers (total & in the subsections)
- font sizes & line spacing
- character limit for abstract
- required parts of the application etc.

and other requirements

- minimum requirement for publication performance
- anonymity
- structure or sections of the project description
- specifications for headings and content points to be addressed
- cost justification etc.

**are subject to rejection without review with no exception.**

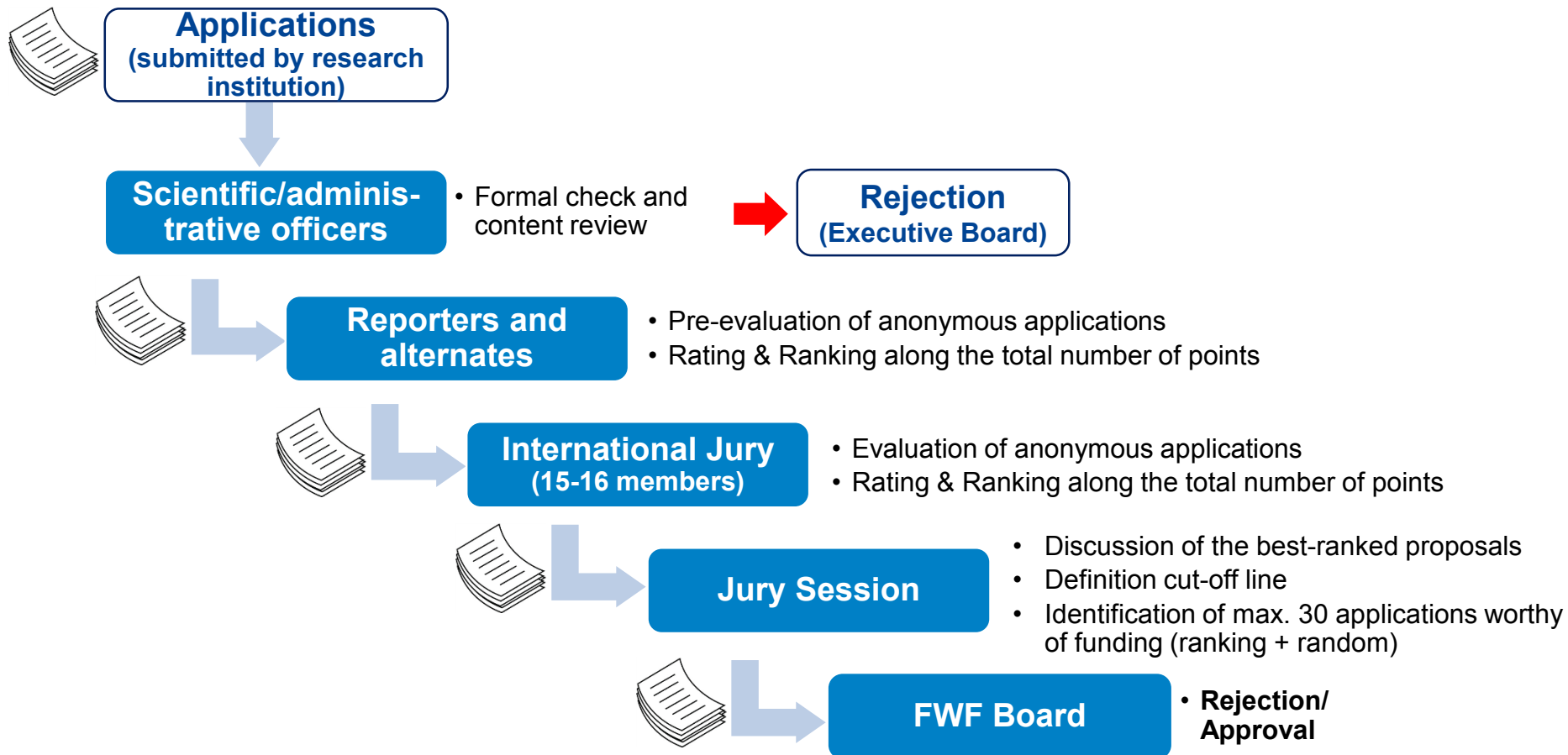
# 1,000 Ideas Programme

## Submission process

- Applications must be submitted exclusively online via the ELANE electronic application portal.
- Principal investigator & research institute must be registered in the electronic application portal
- PI: choose PROFI first, subsequently 1000-Ideas programme; select respective research institution as soon as possible; documents to be uploaded as pdfs.
- Principal investigator creates and uploads files – no cover sheet required as in ad personam programmes
- Responsible person at research institute submits application by
- **Deadline: 15 January 2020 (2 p.m. Vienna local time).**

# 1,000 Ideas Programme

## Decision-making process



# 1,000 Ideas Programme

## Rejections

- No written comments will be sent to the rejected applicants.
- All non-funded applications in the pool worthy of funding can be submitted again in the next call (rejected with C1 status).
- All other applications will be set to C5, i.e. cannot be submitted in the next round.

# 1,000 Ideas Programme

## Recommendations for applicants

- Register at Elane and ensure your research institution is registered
- Connect to your research institution early enough if you suspect difficulties with your 50% employment confirmation
- The research institution is doing the submission - finish your application part early enough to give the institution sufficient time to check your application





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# Part III

## Career Programmes

# START Programme

## Objectives

- **Target group**
  - Young, outstanding researchers from all disciplines, no quotas
- **Individual responsibility**
  - Creation, development, and management of a working group
- **Qualification**
  - For a leading position in the science and research system in Austria or abroad

# START Programme

## Basic information (I)

- **Call**
  - From early July to mid-September; decision in June next year
- **Approval rates**
  - Approx. 7-12%
- **Funding**
  - Personnel and non-personnel costs (min. €800,000 to max. €1.2M)
- **Duration**
  - 72 month (3 + 3 years), interim evaluation after 3 years
- **Prerequisites**
  - Ph.D. completed (certificate received): at least 2 and at most 8 years since completion of Ph.D. as of the application deadline
  - Outstanding scientific/scholarly track record, including several international publications in top journals
  - Innovative research carried out in Austria or under the aegis of an Austrian research institution

# START Programme

## Basic information (II)

- **Programme-specific requirements**
  - Parts of the territoriality principle do not apply (incoming programme)
  - Parallel submission: ERC StG
  - Parts may be submitted as Elise Richter proposals
  - Decision: international jury (renowned scientists from outside of Austria, <http://www.fwf.ac.at/en/about-the-fwf/organisation/start-wittgenstein-jury/>)
- **Criteria for formal requirements**
  - Letter of recommendation from head of institution or group leader at relevant institution
  - No changes after submission of the application
  - Competitive third-party funds already obtained independently
  - Amount requested at least €800,000 to at most €1.2M for 6 years

# Erwin Schrödinger Programme

## Objectives

- **Target group**
  - Young, highly qualified postdocs from all disciplines
- **Objective**
  - To enable scientists/researchers to work at leading research facilities abroad and to acquire international experience during the postdoc phase
  - To explore new scientific/scholarly approaches for Austrian science and research

# Erwin Schrödinger Programme

## Basic information (I)

- **Submission**
  - On a rolling basis
- **Approval rate**
  - Approximately 40% (highest approval rate at FWF)
- **Grant amount**
  - €34,100–46,400 per year (tax-exempt); travel costs (up to €1,500 depending on destination); lump sum for children accompanying researcher (up to €4,200 per year); conference attendance (up to €2,000 per year); pension insurance contributions
- **Return phase**
  - To Austria with senior postdoc salary plus €12,000 per year in project-specific costs; of those costs, up to €2,000 per year for coaching or career development
- **Duration**
  - 10 to 24 months (abroad) + 6 to 12 months (return phase)

# Erwin Schrödinger Programme

## Basic information (II)

### ▪ Prerequisites

- Completion of doctorate
- Fulfilment of the territoriality principle
- International publications
- Invitation from a foreign research institution

### ▪ Programme-specific requirements

- Reasons for selecting the research institution abroad
- Information on career development and knowledge transfer to Austria
- Recommendation letter from the Austrian research institution, including consideration of the return option and/or the requested return phase
- Declaration from host institution and declaration regarding ethics (incl. questionnaire)



# Lise Meitner Programme

## Objectives

- **Target group**
  - Highly qualified researchers from all disciplines from abroad
  - Incoming: postdocs from abroad
  - Reintegration: post-doctoral researchers who have left Austria and wish to return to an Austrian research institution
- **Objectives**
  - Cooperation with Austrian research institutions to strengthen the quality and the scientific know-how of the Austrian research community
  - Introduction of new research approaches to Austria
  - Promotion of international cooperation
  - Career development

# Lise Meitner Programme

## Basic information (I)

- **Submission**
  - On a rolling basis
- **Approval rate**
  - Approximately 25%
- **Grant amount**
  - Postdoc or senior postdoc salary, removal allowance, lump sum for children accompanying researcher, travel costs, project-specific costs up to €12,000 per year; of those costs, up to €2,000 per year for coaching or career development
- **Duration**
  - 24 months
- **Prerequisites**
  - Completion of doctorate
  - International publications
  - Invitation from an Austrian research institution

# Lise Meitner Programme

## Basic information (II)

### ▪ Prerequisites

- **Incoming:** post-doctoral researchers from abroad who do **not** meet either of the criteria related to residence in Austria (these criteria are fulfilled if: a) the applicant's main place of residence has been in Austria for at least three of the previous ten years at the time of application, and/or b) the applicant has been continuously working in research in Austria for at least two consecutive years prior to submitting the application)
- **Reintegration:** post-doctoral researchers whose main place of residence has been outside of Austria for at least four years at the time of application (regardless of whether they fulfil one of the residence-related criteria) and who seek to re-establish themselves at an Austrian research institution through the Lise Meitner Programme

# Lise Meitner Programme

## Basic information (III)

- **Programme-specific requirements**
  - Co-applicant at the Austrian research institution (= host), whose suitability and qualification is evaluated as well
  - Justification of the co-applicant for selecting the applicant (“What kind of additional or new input can be expected from the collaboration?”)
  - Career plan of the applicant
- **Criteria for project descriptions**
  - Justification of the selection of the Austrian research institution and the expected added value for research of this collaboration
  - Importance of the project for the academic and research reputation of the applicant and his or her career development

# Promotion of Female Scientists

## ▪ Advantages

- No age limits
- Flexible programme design (Elise Richter Programme)
- Funding for coaching or career development
- Annual networking workshops
- Child allowance of €9,600 (before taxes) per child per year until the third birthday of the child for principal investigators employed full-time (100%)
- PR measures to enhance the visibility of successful women in research (ceremonial awarding of grants)

## Career development for women in research

- In this two-stage career development scheme, the FWF provides outstanding female scholars who wish to pursue an academic career with an opportunity to apply for a total of six years of funding.
- The FWF's career development programme for women in research is divided into two parts:
  - **Hertha Firnberg** postdoc programme to support women at the beginning of their academic careers
  - **Elise Richter** senior postdoc programme to help women gain the qualifications necessary for a professorship in Austria or abroad

# Hertha Firnberg Programme

## Objectives

- **Target group**
  - Postdocs from all disciplines; applicants must not already hold a permanent position at a research institution
- **Objectives**
  - To provide as much support as possible at the beginning of a female scholar's academic career or upon her return from maternity leave
  - To enhance career opportunities for women in science and academia
  - To enhance the integration of women in research

# Hertha Firnberg Programme

## Basic information (I)

### ▪ **Calls**

- 2 calls per year (spring & autumn); decisions announced in November/June

### ▪ **Approval rate**

- Approx. 25%

### ▪ **Grant amount**

- Postdoc salary + €12,000 per year, including €2,000 for coaching or career development

### ▪ **Project duration**

- 3 years, including the possibility of 12 months abroad (with the employer's consent ("*Entsendung*"); reasons and invitation must be enclosed with the application)



# Hertha Firnberg Programme

## Basic information (II)

- **Prerequisites**
  - Completion of doctorate
  - Fulfilment of the territoriality principle
  - International publications
- **Programme-specific requirements**
  - Co-applicant (mentor) at the host research institution, whose suitability and qualification is evaluated as well
  - Recommendation letter (and CV) of the co-applicant
  - Career plan
  - Letter of support from the university rector regarding funds for teaching
  - Invitation from a research institution abroad (if applicable)

# Elise Richter Programme

## Objectives

- **Target group**
  - Highly qualified female scientists and scholars from all disciplines
- **Objective**
  - To support outstanding women researchers in the development of an academic career with a view to gaining the qualifications necessary for a professorship
- **Prerequisites**
  - Relevant postdoc experience (at least two years)
  - International publications
  - Preparatory work for the planned research project or venia docendi project

# Elise Richter Programme

## Basic information

- **Calls**
  - 2 calls per year (spring & autumn); decisions announced in November/June
- **Approval rate**
  - Approx. 25%
- **Grant amount**
  - Senior postdoc salary, project-specific costs up to €15,000 per year, including €2,000 for coaching or career development, plus 5% general costs
- **Part-time work possible** (minimum employment: 50%)
- **Project duration**
  - 12 to 48 months
- **Programme-specific requirements**
  - Career plan, letter of recommendation, letter of support from the research institution

## Reorganisation of the FWF career programmes\*

- **Early Stage Postdoc Program** (Meitner/Firnberg, open to all)
  - Development of a personal research profile based on an independent project
  - Acquiring skills to succeed in the highly competitive global research sector
  - Promotion of women
  - Ongoing submission; at least 50% of the funds are reserved for women
  
- **Advanced Stage Postdoc Programme** (Richter/START, open to all)
  - Consolidation of independent researchers through innovative projects and long-term career prospects
  - Profile building and internationalisation of research institutions in Austria
  - Promotion of women
  - Call for proposals; at least half of the grants are allocated to women; at least 50% of the funds reserved for women

\* currently in the process of consultation



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