



FWF–JSPS

2021 Call for Austrian-Japanese Joint Research Projects and Joint Seminars

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1. Introduction and aim of the programme

The *Austrian Science Fund (FWF)* and the *Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)* jointly offer the possibility to apply for bilateral **Austrian-Japanese Joint Research Projects and Joint Seminars**.

The aim of **Joint Research Projects** is to fund bilateral research projects of high-quality that clearly stand out from on-going national projects, demonstrating great synergy between each country's teams and real integration of joint research. The aim of **Joint Seminars** is to fund theme-based workshops or seminars for the purpose of initiating bilateral research collaborations and preparing proposals for joint projects.

Funding for bilateral Austrian-Japanese Joint Research Projects and Joint Seminars must be secured in Austria and in Japan.

2. Call procedure

Project applications must be prepared and carried out jointly by the Japanese and the Austrian partners and must be simultaneously submitted to **FWF (Austrian team)** and to **JSPS (Japanese team)** in accordance with **each agency's application guidelines**. Applications submitted by one side only will not be accepted. Both project partners should, therefore, make sure that their counterparts submit a matching application.

Applications will be processed independently by both organisations according to their **standard evaluation and decision-making procedures**. Each project is thus evaluated on both sides, and the Joint Project or Joint Seminar may be funded only if both FWF and JSPS approve the respective proposals.

3. Joint Research Projects

Joint Research Projects are cooperation arrangements in which researchers from two countries work together on a single research project. The project parts in Austria and Japan should be **closely integrated and combine complementary expertise** such that one part could not be carried out without the other, and there should be substantial scientific/scholarly contribution from both sides. The applicants should also describe the **added value** of the cooperation, i.e., the special benefit resulting from the cooperation of the Austrian and Japanese groups.

3.1. Project duration

At FWF, joint projects submitted in response to this call may have a duration of **up to three years**. Please note that JSPS will fund only **up to two years**. Applicants to FWF can apply



for a third year provided that the application includes adequate research-related reasons for the extension and a justification of the costs for the third year.

3.2. Subject areas

The call is open to all fields of basic research, including clinical research.¹

3.3. Deadline

Proposals for joint projects must be submitted to FWF by **13 August 2021**.² (FWF: date of postmark). Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be processed.

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

3.4. Cost calculations

Each agency provides funding for the relative expenditure of its own country's team according to its own rules. Thus, the costs for the Austrian part of the project must be calculated in accordance with the [FWF Application Guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects](#) or, in case of clinical research proposals, those of the [clinical research programme](#).

For the Japanese project part, the JSPS cost guidelines apply.

3.5. Proposals preparation

To apply for a joint project, parallel applications to JSPS and FWF are required in accordance with the guidelines specified by JSPS and FWF.

Proposals submitted to FWF should follow the [FWF Application Guidelines for Stand-Alone Projects](#) or, in case of clinical research proposals, those of the [clinical research programme](#), while Japanese applicants must follow JSPS guidelines. Additionally, application requirements as outlined in the respective call documents on both sides have to be considered.

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

² Please note that, in Japan, parallel applications must be submitted to JSPS by 8 September 2021.



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

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

- The **distribution of work** between the partners
- The **added value** of the cooperation

In order to be considered complete, the application on the Austrian side must include:

- All of the necessary **administrative and financial data and forms** as well as an **academic abstract in English; annexes 1–4**, which must be attached to the **project description (proposal.pdf)**; and other **attachments**, to be uploaded individually (in accordance with FWF guidelines)
- The **CV and publication list of the applicants in Austria and in Japan** must be included. In addition, up to three CVs/publication lists can be included (in accordance with FWF guidelines)
- The **PDF cover sheet**, which has to be filled out, signed, stamped, and sent to FWF by conventional mail or as an e-mail attachment **by 13 August at the latest**. The application is not officially considered to be submitted until FWF receives the cover sheet.
- Applications to FWF must include **a letter of intent** (letter or e-mail) in which the project partner confirms his/her intention to submit a matching parallel application to JSPS.

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

3.6. Submission of applications

Joint proposals with **identical titles** must be submitted in parallel to FWF and JSPS with due attention to the regulations and the call deadline. Applications submitted by one side only will not be accepted.

Please note that the FWF policy on the restriction on the number of ongoing projects and the submission of funding applications applies (see [here](#)).

Applications to FWF must be submitted online at <https://elane.fwf.ac.at> **by 13 August 2021 at the latest**. When submitting the application, applicants must choose the **“I – International Projects” programme**. **Please note** that the **signed PDF cover sheet** which is generated **at the end** of the online submission process must be **submitted to FWF by 13 August 2021 at the latest**. An online submission submitted by the deadline but without a signed cover sheet will not be processed. Please note that the cover sheet must bear the original signatures of the applicant and a representative of the host institution.

For the Japanese project part, the JSPS guidelines apply. The regulations for the submission of the Japanese applications can be found [here](#).



3.7. Evaluation and funding decisions

FWF and JSPS evaluate the applications independently and take their funding decisions separately on the basis of the reviews received. A joint project can be funded only if it is approved by both funding organisations. It is expected that the results for the Joint Projects will be available **by March 2022**.

4. Joint seminars

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

4.1. Project duration

Joint seminars submitted in response to the FWF/JSPS call are limited in duration to no more than 1 week. The seminars must take place between **1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023**.

4.2. Subject areas

The call is open to all fields of basic research.

4.3. Deadline

Proposals for joint seminars must be submitted to FWF by **13 August 2021**.³ (FWF: date of postmark). Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be processed.

4.4. Cost calculations

The budgets for the Austrian and Japanese parts of the project must be calculated in accordance with FWF and JSPS guidelines respectively. The costs eligible for funding are divided between FWF and JSPS on the basis of the **event's location**. The "sending organisation" pays the **international travel costs** (including overseas insurance) for its country's group members, while the "host organisation" covers **local expenses**, including the guests' hotel costs. FWF generally provides up to **€10,000** in funding for each joint seminar approved. For the Japanese project part, JSPS generally provides up to **JPY 2,500,000** for each joint seminar approved according to JSPS cost guidelines.

³ Please note that, in Japan, parallel applications must be submitted to JSPS by 8 September 2021.



4.5. Proposals preparation

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

4.6. Submission of applications

Applications to FWF must be submitted online at <http://elane.fwf.ac.at> by **13 August 2021**. When submitting the application, applicants must choose the “**AJS–Joint Seminars**” programme. Applicants must adhere to the requirements for the submission of joint seminar proposals of the [FWF Application Guidelines for Joint Seminars](#). Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be processed.

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

Once the application has been submitted, a [PDF cover sheet](#) will be generated. This cover sheet must be signed by hand and stamped by the responsible representative of the applicant’s research institute before being sent to FWF by conventional mail **by 13 August 2021 at the latest**. The application shall not be considered officially submitted until FWF receives the signed and stamped cover sheet. Alternatively, the signed and stamped cover sheet can be scanned in, signed using the applicant’s qualified electronic signature⁴ (e.g., mobile phone signature), and sent to FWF (office@fwf.ac.at) by e-mail by **13 August 2021 at the latest**.

4.7. Evaluation and funding decisions

FWF and JSPS evaluate the applications independently and take their funding decisions separately on the basis of the reviews received. A joint seminar can be funded only if it is approved by both funding organisations. The processing time of an application for Joint Seminars is at most six months.

⁴ For example, <https://www.digitales.oesterreich.gv.at/web/digitales-osterreich/die-burgerkarte>



5. Additional information

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

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

6. Contact details⁵

Austrian Science Fund (FWF)	Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)
Ms. Beatrice LAVAL Strategy–International Programmes Sensengasse 1 A-1090 Wien / Vienna, Austria Tel: +43 (0)1 / 505 67 40 – 8703 beatrice.lawal@fwf.ac.at http://www.fwf.ac.at	Ms. Mariko OCHIAI International Research Cooperation Division II International Program Department 5-3-1 Kojimachi, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 102-0083 Japan Tel: +81-3-3263-1755 kenkyouka13@jsps.go.jp

⁵For questions about the scientific aspects or eligible costs for Joint Research Projects, it is advisable to consult the responsible project officers in the FWF specialist departments prior to application.