



AUSTRIAN LIFE SCIENCES PROGRAMME 2024-2026 & FURTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AT FFG

4. Juni 2024 | Corinna Wilken



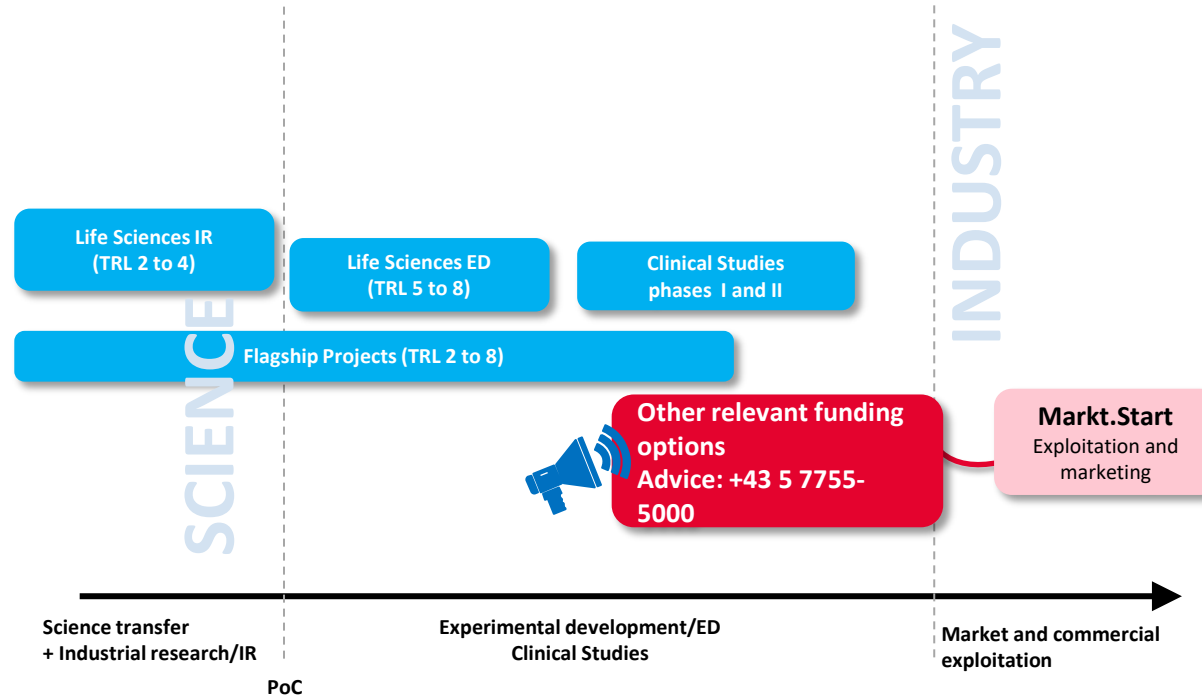
AUSTRIAN LIFE SCIENCES PROGRAMME

Motivation: strengthen the **competitiveness, resilience and independence** of companies in the key life sciences sector and **to establish sustainable value chains** in Austria
Available funding for 2024-2026: € 45 million

- **Digitalisation in healthcare** (diagnostics, telemedicine, medical devices, etc.)
- Development of new, effective, high-quality, safe, available and affordable **medicinal products** and **medical devices**
- **Phase I and II interventional clinical trials** and clinical trials of **medical devices** in accordance with EU regulations
- Flagship projects in the field of **digitalisation and health research**

AUSTRIAN LIFE SCIENCES PROGRAMME

WHAT DO WE OFFER?



ECALL - THE FFG'S ELECTRONIC CUSTOMER CENTRE

Manage my projects Create new project Due Dates		
Please click on the title of the Call to create an application		
Call ▲	Info	Submission deadline
AI Ökosysteme 2024: AI for Tech & AI for Green	Info	08.10.2024 12:00
AI-Region Upper Austria Ausschreibung im Rahmen der Wirtschafts- und Forschungsstrategie #upperVISION2030 des Landes Oberösterreich	Info	14.08.2024 12:00
Australia-Austria Joint Call 2024 - National Submission Industrial Decarbonisation - Austrian Applicants only	Info	18.07.2024 12:00
Australia-Austria Joint Call 2024 - Transnational Submission Industrial Decarbonisation	Info	16.07.2024 10:00
Austrian Life Sciences Programme 2024 Förderprogramm Kleinprojekt Kleinprojekte von KMUs und Startups	Info	18.12.2026 12:00
Bilateral Call with the Chinese Academy of Sciences 2024	Info	10.07.2024 12:00
Collective Research Forschung für eine Branche - Dissemination in einer Branche	Info	
COMET Projekte 2024 Competence Centers for Excellent Technologies, Linie COMET-Projekte	Info	22.10.2024 12:00
COMET-Module 2024 COMET-Module Ausschreibung 2024	Info	22.10.2024 12:00
COST - European Cooperation in Science and Technology Nominierungen zum Management Committee (MC)	Info	
DACH Call 2024 Tunnel und Großbaustelle	Info	29.05.2024 12:00
Dissertationsprogramm für Tiroler Hochschulen 2024	Info	01.07.2024 12:00

<https://ecall.ffg.at>

Austrian Life Sciences Programme 2024

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Company Projects of Industrial Research

Here Austrian companies can submit research and development projects in an **early development stage** (up to TRL4) that lead to exceptional findings, which provide the basis for subsequent innovative products, processes or services in the fields of digitalisation in healthcare, medical devices or medicines.

Start application

Company Projects of Experimental Development

Here Austrian companies can submit research and development projects (TRL5 and higher) which result in **commercially exploitable products, processes or services** in the fields of digitalisation in healthcare, medical devices or medicines.

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Clinical Studies

Here Austrian companies can submit **interventional clinical phase I and II studies** conducted in compliance with specific quality requirements (e.g. ICH-GCP, EU Directive 2001/20/EC) and **clinical trials of medical devices** in accordance with EU regulations.

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Flagship Project - Digitalisation & Health Research

Here, flagship projects (**extensive research and development projects**) in the field of "Digitalisation & Health Research" can be submitted, which aim to create a basis for measures in prevention and diagnostics and to improve the quality of healthcare.

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INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH



- Critical exploration to gain new knowledge and skills
- Higher development risk than experimental development
- Predominantly laboratory (-scale)
- Lower degree of technology maturity
- Greater time distance to market (< TRL4)

FUNDING INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH: 12 MONTH, MAX. 1 MIO EURO

Type of organisation	Funding
Startups	70 %
Small enterprises	70 %
Medium-sized enterprises	60 %
Large enterprises	50 %
Maximal	70 %

@ Evaluation criteria

Criteria of the guidelines for company projects in industrial research

- **Quality of the project:** Fitting into the industrial research category
- **Innovative content, technical risk** and the **benefit of the development**
- **increase in expertise**
- **In-house R&D**

[learn more](#)

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EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT



- Use of existing knowledge and skills
- Objective: to develop new or improved products, processes or services
- Development of prototypes, demonstrator, pilot projects
- No routine or regular changes to existing products, production lines, production processes, services

FUNDING EXPERIMENTAL DEVELOPMENT: 18 MONTH, MAX. 3 MIO EURO

Type of organisation	Funding
Startups	45 %
Small enterprises	45 %
Medium-sized enterprises	35 %
Large enterprises	25 %
Maximal	45 %

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Criteria of the guidelines for company projects in experimental development

- **Fitting into the** Experimental Development **category**
- **Innovative content, technical risk** and the **benefit of the development**
- increase in expertise
- **In-house R&D**

Typical project duration is 12 months - follow-up projects are possible

[learn more](#)

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SPOTLIGHT: CLINICAL STUDIES

- Funding is provided for **clinical studies of phase I and II** conducted **by Austrian companies**.
- Grant with max. **3 Mio EUR**
- Max. 1 project per year and company
- Project running time: **max. 24 months**
- The FFG Management makes the funding decision based on the recommendation of the evaluation committee.
- no limitations at third party costs
- The active substances to be investigated should be **based on research activities** carried out in **Austria**.
- The Austrian company submitting the application is the **sponsor of the study**.
- **At least one Austrian clinical centre** must be involved (exception: clinical challenge studies).
- **Compliance with quality requirements** (e.g. positive vote of the ethics commission, ICH-GCP)

FUNDING CLINICAL STUDIES: 24 MONTH, MAX. 3 MIO EURO

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Austrian Life Sciences Programme 2024

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FLAGSHIP PROJECTS



- **strategically** R&D projects of **substantial scope** in terms of content and financial project volume, number of project partners and duration
- Aim: **horizontal & vertical** integration of the **value chain** and technological **feasibility of system solutions** with long-term growth prospects
- serve to **strengthen Life Science sector**.
- create **national and international visibility** for Austrian technologies.

AUSTRIAN LIFE SCIENCE PROGRAM – FLAGSHIP PROJECT

Background:

- The average number of healthy life years in Austria is below the European average
- The low number of healthy life years not only has consequences for health, but also for the economy.

Focus:

- The lead project aims to gain insights through multidisciplinary collaboration between different research areas, taking into account aspects of digitalisation.
- Research into the interplay between prevention and diagnostics
- Improving information for the population Improving the quality of healthcare
More effective design of preventive measures
- All relevant players should be involved in the research project.

Key points



cooperative projects with a minimum of at least

- 2 SMEs
- 1 research institute



topic: digitalization and health research

Funding:

- min € 2,000,000
- max € 4,000,000



Duration:

- 24 month

THE APPLICATION

WHAT CRITERIA SHOULD BE CONSIDERED?



Innovation:

- Novelty compared to existing solutions
- What does your product offer compared to others?
- Which competitors are there (differentiation)?



Relevance of funding:

- What is the effect of funding?
- What is lost when funding is outstanding?



Benefit:

- What is the benefit of the product/service for the user?
- Are there further adapted application possibilities?



Exploitation:

- What are the market prospects of the product?
- What market experience/exploitation possibilities of the product/service does the company have?



Risk:

- What are the technical risks of development?
- What solutions are there?



Feasibility:

- Staff and qualifications
- Spaces and facilities/instruments
- UiS: No company in trouble!



THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION!

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WE WISH YOU SUCCESS!

<https://www.ffg.at/ausschreibung/AustrianLifeSciences-2023>

Hotline
05 7755-5000

EUROPEAN LIFE SCIENCE FUNDING – HORIZON EUROPE

FFG HOSTS ALL NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS!



Horizon Europe is the biggest worldwide transnational funding programme for Research & Innovation by the European Commission

- 95 billion (Mrd) Euro for 7 years (2021-2027)
- **many different funding possibilities:**
 - bottom up excellence programmes (e.g. ERC)
 - funding for top down cooperative projects (e.g. in the Cluster Health programme)
 - attractive possibilities for companies, incl. SME (e.g. in the European Innovation Council)
- very high funding rates (up to 100%)
- many possibilities for life sciences/medical research
- open for all kind of organisations
- yearly calls



EXAMPLES FOR FUNDING POSSIBILITIES HORIZON EUROPE

Cluster Health:

- funding for **many different areas in health research** (different kind of diseases, personalized medicine, solutions for treatments, health-care, AI in Health etc.)
- Open for any kind of organisation, up to 100% funding
- Yearly Work Programmes with defined topics for collaborative research

Mission Cancer:

- Focus on **cancer-related projects** (basic research, diagnostics, screening, treatment, quality of life)
- same conditions as in Cluster Health



Figure 1. Intervention area for action

Innovative Health Initiative:

- Public-private partnership, funding for health research & innovation with contributions from the European Life Sciences Industries (pharma, biotech, medtech, ICT, vaccines)
- **Large collaborative projects together with industry partners**

National Contact Points (NCPs) at FFG (Division European and International Programmes)

- are you advisors for all calls in Horizon Europe
- individual consultations on your project idea
- help during application phase
- all services are FOR FREE



Newsletter Europa



Check of project idea



FFG Akademie Trainings



Proposalcheck

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FFG Europa: <https://www.ffg.at/Europa>

Health in Horizon Europe: <https://www.ffg.at/europa/heu/cluster1>