

Australia-Austria Joint Call 2024: Industrial Decarbonisation

National Submission Guidelines

A Joint Call in Cooperation with the Australian Department of
Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)



Vienna, April 2024

Content

1.0	KEY INFORMATION	3
2.0	OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL	4
3.0	REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION PROCESS	4
3.1	Transnational Requirements	4
3.2	National Requirements	4
4.0	CALL DOCUMENTS FOR THE NATIONAL APPLICATION	5
5.0	LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS	6
5.1	Funding decision and legal foundations	6
6.0	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	7
6.1	FFG Project Database	7
6.2	Open Access Publications	7
6.3	Handling of Project Data – Data Management Plan	7
6.4	Additional funding opportunities from FFG	7
7.0	CHECKLIST FOR SUCCESSFUL SUBMISSION	8
	Imprint	9

1.0 KEY INFORMATION

The “Australia-Austria Joint Call 2024: Industrial Decarbonisation” supports the Austrian economy in the development and demonstration of key green technologies “Made in Austria”. With this bilateral research cooperation, the Climate and Energy Fund is pursuing the goal of promoting Austria as an innovation hub for industrial decarbonisation and increasing export opportunities.

Austrian project applicants have access to 7 million EUR under the **Australia-Austria Joint Call 2024: Industrial Decarbonisation**.

Table 1: Available funding instruments

Funding instrument	Short description	Funding range	Funding rates	Project runtime in months	Cooperation required
Cooperative R&D project – transnational	Cooperative R&D project – transnational Experimental Development	min. EUR 100.000,- to max. EUR 2 Mio.	max. 60%	max. 36	yes

Table 2: Budget – Deadlines – Contacts

Further information	
Funding commitment Austria	7 million EUR
National submission deadline	18.07.2024, 12:00:00 CET
Language	English
Contact	Gertrud Aichberger, T +43 5 7755 5043, E gertrud.aichberger@ffg.at Thomas Steffl, T +42 57755-5066; E thomas.steffl@ffg.at
FFG Call Website	www.ffg.at/AUS-AUT-JointCall2024
National submission portal	ecall.ffg.at

2.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL

The Australian Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) and the Austrian Climate and Energy Fund (KLI.EN), on behalf of the Austrian Federal Ministry for Climate Action, the Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK), intend to support collaborative demonstration or pilot/test projects between Australia and Austria that strengthen connections between Australian and Austrian industry and support the development of decarbonisation technologies for hard-to-abate energy-intensive industries.

This joint call will support progress towards achieving the goals of the [Net Zero Industries Mission](#). The Net Zero Industries Mission, co-led by Australia and Austria, aims to promote the development and demonstration of cost-effective solutions for the efficient decarbonisation of hard-to-decarbonise energy-intensive industries globally by 2030.

3.0 REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION PROCESS

In this call for proposals, it is necessary to meet both national and transnational requirements. Please use the same acronym and project title in the transnational and national applications.

3.1 Transnational Requirements

The requirements and processes outlined in [the transnational call guidelines](#) apply. These notably include:

- The submission of the **transnational proposals** via the electronic submission system of FFG ([eCall](#)) is required by **16 July 2024, at 10:00 AM CEST**.
- The consortium must comprise eligible partners from both participating countries.
- The main applicant of the transnational proposal must be either an industrial company from the energy-intensive sector or a technology provider

3.2 National Requirements

In addition to the application process at the transnational level, Austrian partners are also required to apply at the **national level** through FFG's submission system ([eCall](#)). The deadline for the national submission is **18 July 2024, at 12:00 PM CEST** (noon).

You can submit proposals for bilateral cooperative research and development projects. These projects must

fall under the research category of "Experimental Development" ranging from large prototype (TRL 5 - Technology validated in relevant Environment) to first-of-a-kind Commercial (TRL 8 - System complete and qualified).

In addition to the requirements of the transnational call, submissions from Austrian applicants must adhere to the specifications and requirements outlined in the instrument guidelines **Cooperative R&D Projects – transnational** and the [Cost Guideline \(v3.1\)](#).

The transnational consortium must be led by a company, which can be located in either Austria or Australia. This company must be either an industrial company from the energy-intensive sector or a technology provider. In any case the Austrian consortium must include an industrial company from the energy-intensive sector or a technology provider.

Austria provides funding for all the topics specified in the transnational call guidelines, which encompass ironmaking, steelmaking, chemicals manufacturing, lime and cement production, alumina and aluminium production, and additionally, projects in the ceramics sector.

Applicants are encouraged to contact FFG before submitting a proposal.

4.0 CALL DOCUMENTS FOR THE NATIONAL APPLICATION

Please submit the national application electronically via eCall. The submission includes the following online elements, which must be entered in the eCall under the following menu items:

- eCall**
- Content description includes the presentation of the project content.
 - Work plan contains the presentation of the work packages and elements of project management such as time management plan (GANTT diagram), tasks, milestones, results.
 - Consortium describes the expertise of the individual consortium members.
 - Costs and financing describes all cost categories per consortium member. The totals for each work package are automatically displayed in the online work plan.



[Transnational proposal](#) – Upload as PDF via eCall

Use the templates and call documents provided in the Download Center of [FFG's call website](#).

Table 3: Call documents for the national application

Funding instrument or other information		Guidelines & Documents
Cooperative R&D projects – transnational		Guidelines for cooperative R&D projects - transnational
		Proposal template for cooperative R&D projects
		Affidavit SME status
General regulations on costs		Cost Guideline (Cost recognition in FFG projects)

The affidavit of SME status is required for associations/ NGOs, sole proprietorships (“Einzelunternehmer:innen”), and foreign companies. In the provided template, if possible, an assessment according to the SME definition must be made for the last three years.

5.0 LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS

5.1 Funding decision and legal foundations

The board of the [Climate and Energy Fund](#) and [DCCEEW](#) make the funding decision based on the recommendation provided by the expert evaluation panel.

The call for proposals is based on the Guideline for the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) for the promotion of research, technology, development, and innovation to address societal challenges ([FFG Challenge Guideline 2024-2026](#)).

Regarding the company size, the applicable SME definition according to EU competition law is decisive. Assistance for classification can be found on the [SME page](#) of the FFG.

All EU regulations are to be applied in their currently applicable version.

6.0 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In this section, you will find information about additional funding opportunities and services that may be helpful in connection with funding applications or supported projects.

6.1 FFG Project Database

As a service, the FFG offers the publication of brief information about funded projects and an overview of project participants in a publicly accessible [FFG Project Database](#). This allows you to better position your project and project partners for the interested public. Additionally, the database can be used to search for collaboration partners.

Following a positive funding decision, applicants receive notification through the eCall system regarding the opportunity to share specific and brief details about their project in the FFG Project Database. Publication requires clear permission in the eCall system.

For more information, please refer to the FFG Project Database page on the FFG website.

6.2 Open Access Publications

Research findings funded by the public should be optimally utilized for the benefit of science, business, and society. Therefore, for scholarly publications reviewed by peers and supported by FFG funding, a commitment to Open Access should be emphasized whenever feasible. The principle is „as open as possible, as closed as necessary,“ as also indicated for European funding.

Publication costs are eligible project costs.

6.3 Handling of Project Data – Data Management Plan

A Data Management Plan (DMP) is a management tool that assists in dealing efficiently and systematically with data generated in projects.

For creating the DMP, the free tool DMP Online can be used, for example. The European Commission also provides assistance through its „Guidelines on FAIR Data Management.“

A Data Management Plan describes:

- what data is collected, developed, or generated in the project
- how this data is handled in the project
- which methods and standards are applied
- how the data is to be secured and maintained in the long term
- whether it is planned to make datasets accessible to third parties for reuse (known as „Open Access to Research Data“).

It is advisable to make research data underlying peer-reviewed publications and whose publication is necessary for the reproducibility and verifiability of published results openly available.

When data is published, the principles of „findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable“ should be considered. For optimal discoverability, it is recommended to store data in established and internationally recognized repositories (also see the [re3data website](#)).

6.4 Additional funding opportunities from FFG

Are you interested in other funding opportunities from FFG?

The FFG Service Center is the central point of contact for your inquiries about FFG funding and advisory services. Contact us; we are happy to assist!

Contact:

FFG Service Center

T: +43 (0) 57755-0

E: foerderservice@ffg.at

Web: www.ffg.at/foerderservice

You can also find further funding opportunities from FFG [here](#).

7.0 CHECKLIST FOR SUCCESSFUL SUBMISSION

During the eligibility check, the funding application will be checked for formal accuracy and completeness.

Please note:

If the formal requirements are not met and there are uncorrectable deficiencies in your application, it will be excluded from further processing and will be formally rejected during the eligibility check to ensure equal treatment of all funding applications.

Table 4: Checklist for eligibility of national submissions

Criteria	Subject/Content	Correctable	Consequence
Completeness of the application	> Transnational proposal form identical to the transnational submission > Financial Sheet (available from 17/04/2024)	No	Rejection as result of formal check
The project description is sufficiently filled out and the correct language has been used.	The online project description must be completed in full. Language: English	No	Rejection as result of formal check
Duration	max. 36 months	No	Rejection as result of formal check
Eligibility	The cooperation criteria defined in the instrument guidelines for <i>cooperative R&D projects</i> – transnational and in the transnational call guidelines must be met.	No	Rejection as result of formal check
Uploads related to Master Data in the eCall submission system (Upload as .pdf-document)	The financial statements (balance sheets, income statement) for the last 2 fiscal years are available. For startups, a business plan must be provided.	Yes	Corrections/ Updates via eCall after the submission deadline is possible.
The applicant is eligible to submit an application.	(see guidelines for <i>cooperative R&D projects</i> – transnational and transnational call guidelines)	No	Rejection as result of formal check

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