Call for Tender

Study on the economic impact of research results from FWF-funded projects

Vienna, June 6, 2023
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1 Client and Awarding Office

Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
Georg-Coch-Platz 2, 1010 Vienna, Austria
www.fwf.ac.at

Contact: Falk Reckling, +43-1-5056740-8861, falk.reckling@fwf.ac.at

This call for tenders has been prepared in accordance with (i) the FWF Rules on Quality and Transparency for Evaluations and (ii) the Evaluation Standards in Research and Technology Policy developed by the Austrian Platform for Research and Technology Policy Evaluation (fteval). These standards are to be observed by all companies and organizations submitting tenders.

The FWF

The Austrian Science Fund (FWF) is Austria’s central funding organization for basic research. The purpose of the FWF is to support the ongoing development of Austrian science and basic research at a high international level. In this way, the FWF makes a significant contribution to cultural development, to the advancement of our knowledge-based society, and to the creation of value and prosperity in Austria. Further information on the FWF’s responsibilities, and the values to which it is committed, can be found on the FWF’s website at https://www.fwf.ac.at/en/.

2 Contract Objectives

The tendered study is intended to analyze the direct and indirect economic impact of research results that have emerged in whole or in part from FWF-funded projects over the past 10 to 20 years. The study should include the following points:

 Reflection on theoretical and methodological approaches for analyzing the economic impact of basic research funding incl. its limitations
 Direct impact: Collection and analysis of patents/licenses, spin-offs, or similar outputs based on research results from FWF projects (e.g. via surveys, database analyses)
 Indirect impact: Analysis of the influence of scientific publications on IPR exploitations such as patents or licenses (e.g. via analysis of relevant databases)¹
 Proposals for other impacts (e.g. career paths of FWF-funded researchers outside academia – see e.g. careertrackercohorts.ch
 Estimation of the economic impact of FWF funding

- Recommendations to the FWF on how the economic impact of funded research can be better recorded and estimated in the future

These are landmarks. Providers are free to make other suggestions if they consider them more promising.

3 Availability of Data and Relevant Documents

Data

FWF funding can be accessed in aggregated form (going back to 2009) on the FWF Dashboard and at the individual project level using the FWF Project Finder (with funding amount, going back to 2012).

The FWF has had access to metadata on project results (reported at the end of each project) via the Researchfish documentation database since 2019.

Data from final project reports by outcome category 2019 – 2023²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome type</th>
<th>Short description</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final project reports</td>
<td>Number of reports submitted to the FWF</td>
<td>2,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td>Any research publication resulting from a project</td>
<td>24,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Further funding</td>
<td>Details about further and additional funding</td>
<td>1,208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual property &amp; licensing</td>
<td>Intellectual property such as patents and licenses</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spin offs</td>
<td>Link between research and growth/establishment of private for-profit or nonprofit organizations</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards and Recognition</td>
<td>E.g. research award, medal, honorary degree/membership</td>
<td>3,126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborations and partnerships</td>
<td>Details about collaborations and partnerships</td>
<td>2,687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Next destination</td>
<td>Details about staff that have left the group/team</td>
<td>2,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence on policy, practice, patients and the public</td>
<td>E.g. citations, influenced trainings, membership on committees, national consultation</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Software &amp; technical products</td>
<td>E.g. webtool/application, software, grip application</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research tools &amp; methods</td>
<td>E.g. biological samples, cell lines, antibodies, models</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

² Number of all entries entered into the FWF’s final project reporting system January 2, 2019 – May 22, 2023. For further details on outcome types, see: https://rf-downloads.s3.amazonaws.com/Outcome+type+map.pdf and for the description of the subfields, see https://rf-downloads.s3.amazonaws.com/Researchfish%20common%20outcomes%20overview_November%202021.pdf
Artistic & creative products | E.g. images, artwork, compositions, films | 521
Use of facilities & resources | Details of any shared facility or service, e.g. tissue/DNA banks, patient cohorts, facilities | 403
Engagement activities | Details of activities that have engaged the public | 2,904
Other outputs | Information which cannot be included in other sections | 559
Research datasets, databases, & models | Details about new databases, datasets, or models | 730
Medical products, interventions, and clinical trials | Medical products and interventions such as therapeutic interventions | 30

However, it must be emphasized that many results from FWF projects only emerge after the end of the project and are therefore not reported in the final project reports.

Documents

- Jürgen Janger, Nicole Schmidt, Anna Strauss (2019): International Differences in Basic Research Grant Funding. A Systematic Comparison, WIFO
- ERC (2022): Assessing the Influence of ERC-funded Research on Patented Inventions
- Further FWF Publications: https://www.fwf.ac.at/de/ueber-den-fwf/publikationen
4 Deliverables, Meetings, and Presentations

Reports:
1) A mid-term report (short presentation)
2) A final study (written report, max. 50 pages, in English)
3) An executive summary of no more than five pages (in German and English)
4) A one-page summary for a broader public (in German and English)
5) If possible, a research publication in a peer-reviewed journal on a topic of the authors’ choice (related to the study) after the study is finalized

Meetings and presentations:
1) Kick-off workshop
2) Mid-term presentation
3) Discussion of final study (draft version)
4) Presentation of the final study

5 Schedule

Call for tenders: June 6, 2023
Deadline for tenders: August 21, 2023, 10:00 am Vienna local time
Decision: End of September 2023
Kick-off workshop: Early October 2023
Final report and presentation: Mid/End 2024

6 Price and Payments

Prices: Prices must be fixed amounts which are not subject to change and which include reimbursement for all costs including travel and subsistence expenses. The price must be presented as a lump sum; separately reimbursable expenses will not be accepted. The estimated travel and subsistence expenses considered necessary by the bidder in order to carry out the study must be indicated separately (for information purposes only).

The price quoted in the tender must be in euros. Bidders from countries outside the euro zone are also subject to this requirement. The price quoted may not be adjusted for exchange rate fluctuations at any time. It is up to the bidder to select an exchange rate and to bear the potential risks or benefits arising from any variations.

The total price for the services offered (including travel and subsistence expenses) is expected to be a maximum of €95,000 including VAT.

\[3\] The study as well as the underlying materials/data will be made freely accessible, archived on Zenodo, and published in the Fteval repository and on the FWF website using a CC BY licence.
Payments: Three payments will be made under the terms of the contract. The first payment (amounting to 20% of the contractually agreed price) will be made after conclusion of the contract. The second (interim) payment (amounting to 50% of the contractually agreed price) will be released after approval of the interim presentation and made within 30 days of the approval date. Should the interim presentation not be approved, the contractor shall have 20 days to respond to suggested changes and to submit a revised document. Once the FWF approves the final deliverables, the contractor may request the final balance due (30%).

7 Deadline for Tenders / Communication of Decisions

Deadline: Tenders must be submitted as a PDF document by August 21, 2023, 10:00 am CET to Falk Reckling, falk.reckling@fwf.ac.at

Tender Format: a) maximum 15 pages written in 11 pt. font with 15-20 pt. spacing and at least 2 cm margins; b) two-page CV per participating expert with special focus on experience related to the topic of the tendered study; c) written in English or German. d) Any deviation from these format requirements will result in the tender not being considered.

Decision: The final decision will be made by the FWF Executive Board upon recommendation of an internal panel. Criteria are (1) competences of the team (experience and knowledge in related topics and knowledge of the Austrian research system); (2) utility (to what extent will the results of the study help the FWF to improve its information on the topic); (3) feasibility and appropriateness of the approach with respect to the aims of the study; and (4) appropriateness of the costs.

Communication: All tenders not considered will be informed of the reasons for rejection. After the contract has been signed, the FWF will publish the name of the contractor and the contract amount.

In accordance with the Federal Procurement Act (Bundesvergabegesetz §66), the FWF will enter the core data of the tender into the data.gv.at database no later than 30 days after conclusion of the contract.

Important note: Joint tenders by several institutions are possible. The FWF requests bidders with recent activities in international research, research management, or research funding in Austria and/or bidders recently commissioned by Austrian national ministries or other stakeholders involved in shaping Austria’s research, technology, and innovation policy to declare any potential conflicts of interest.

Contact
For details on the tender:
Falk Reckling
Phone: +43 1 505 67 40 8861
falk.reckling@fwf.ac.at

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8 Transparency of the Tender

The tender will be published on the FWF website and distributed via the FWF newsletter and by *fteval*. Invitations have also been sent to the following institutions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Contact Person(s)</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DZHW – Deutsches Zentrum für Hochschul- und Wissenshaftsforchung</strong></td>
<td>Bernd Kleimann, Frank Dölle</td>
<td>Lange Laube 12, 30159 Hannover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fraunhofer ISI</strong></td>
<td>Susanne Bührer-Topcu</td>
<td>Breslauer Straße 48, 76139 Karlsruhe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IHS – Institute for Advanced Studies</strong></td>
<td>Martin Unger</td>
<td>Josefstadter Straße 39, 1080 Vienna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Joanneum Research</strong></td>
<td>Wolfgang Pol</td>
<td>Sensengasse 1, 1090 Wien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KMU Forschung Austria</strong></td>
<td>Peter Kaufmann, Thomas Oberholzner</td>
<td>Gusshausstraße 8, 1040 Vienna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPRU - Science and Technology Policy Research</strong></td>
<td>Ben Martin</td>
<td>University of Sussex, Sussex House Jubilee Building Jub-363 Brighton, BN1 9RH, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The University of Manchester</strong></td>
<td>Jakob Edler, John Rigby</td>
<td>Harold Hankins Building-9.08 Manchester Business School Manchester, M13 9PL, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>University of Twente</strong></td>
<td>Stefan Kuhlmann</td>
<td>PO Box 217, NL-7500 AE Enschede</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VDI/VDE IT</strong></td>
<td>Ernst Andreas Hartmann</td>
<td>Steinplatz 1, 10623 Berlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WIFO - Austrian Institute of Economic Research</strong></td>
<td>Jürgen Janger</td>
<td>Arsenal, Objekt 20, 1030 Vienna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WPZ Research GmbH</strong></td>
<td>Brigitte Ecker</td>
<td>Mariahilfer Straße 115/16, 1060 Vienna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ZSI – Centre for Social Innovation</strong></td>
<td>Klaus Schuch</td>
<td>Linke Wienzeile 246, 1150 Vienna</td>
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</tbody>
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