

Austrian Partnership Programme in Higher Education  
and Research for Development

A close-up photograph of a person's eyes, heavily shadowed and tinted with a deep red color. The eyes are looking slightly to the right. The background is a solid, dark red.

appear

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Austrian Partnership Programme  
in Higher Education and Research  
for Development

## **Austrian Partnership Programme in Higher Education and Research for Development – APPEAR**

**Andreas Obrecht**

Vienna, 26 March 2015

*financed by*

Austrian  
 Development Cooperation

*Implementing Organization*

**oead** 

- Prolongation of APPEAR until December 2020
- APPEAR is financed by the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC). Based on the „Strategy on Higher Education and Scientific Cooperation“
- The APPEAR team is based at the OeAD; supported by the subcontractors, the Austrian Latin America Institute (LAI) and the World University Service Austria (WUS)
- Decision making bodies: Selection Board and Advisory Board

- Institutional capacity building in higher education, research for development and management in the addressed countries
- Contribution to poverty reduction and improving the livelihood of marginalized social groups and/or peoples livelihood in general
- The cooperation is scientifically and culturally beneficiary for both sides
- Enhanced visibility of development research in Austria

## Component 1

- Academic Partnerships and Advanced Academic Partnerships in higher education, research and management, to strengthen the institutional capacities of higher education institutions in the eligible countries
- Preparatory funding to support researchers and institutions who do not yet have well established links and to plan and jointly write a project proposal

## Component 2

- Master's and PhD scholarships in Austria for students and professionals from eligible countries

## Budget

- around 12 Million Euro (2014-2020)
- 75 % projects / 25 % scholarships

## December 2009 until March 2015

- 124 Preparatory Funding Proposals – 44 accepted
- 109 Academic Partnership Proposals – 21 accepted  
(16 already successfully finalized, 5 ongoing)
- 18 Austrian Universities (out of 21)  
2 Austrian Universities of Applied Sciences (out of 19)
- 21 Master's - and 42 PhD Scholarships, 65 North-South-Dialogue Scholarships

## Budget

- Around 9 Million Euro (2009-2014)
- 2/3 projects 1/3 scholarships

- Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya
- Mozambique
- Cap Verde, Burkina Faso, Senegal
- Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala
- Bhutan, Nepal
- Palestinian Territories
- Armenia, Georgia, Republic of Moldova

**In order to realize the overall objective, APPEAR follows five basic principles:**

- Participatory approach
- A concept of culturally open-minded knowledge
- Practically- and empirically-oriented approach
- Gender sensitivity
- “Bottom-up” and demand-driven approach

## **Strengthening of institutional capacities in higher education and research for development:**

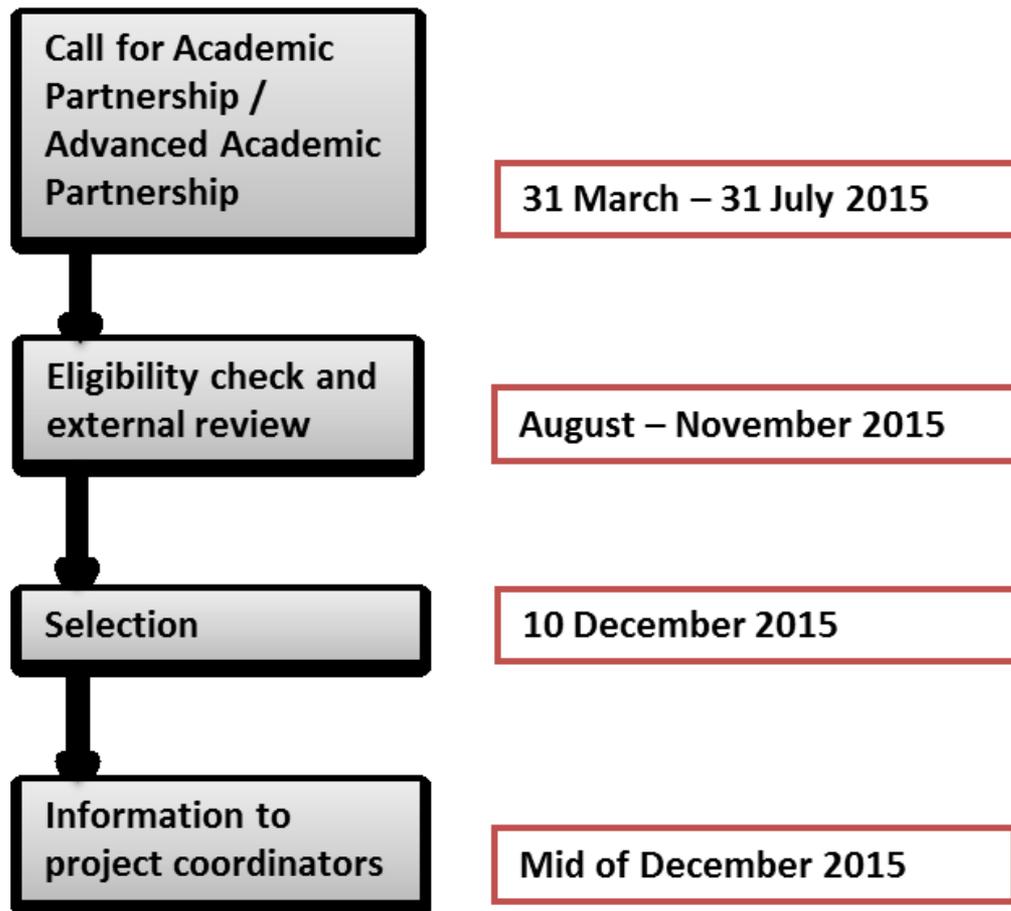
- Water supply and sanitation, rural development, sustainable energy, environment and natural resources; in this field a consideration of the Nexus approach (water - energy - food security) is welcome
- Private sector development
- Poverty reduction, peace building and conflict prevention, governance and human rights, gender equality
- Strengthening of skills in social sciences as an instrument to systematically analyse the reasons of poverty and to empower capacities in social science research

- Alignment with the national / regional development strategies of the addressed countries
- The alignment with the respective ADC country strategy is regarded as added value
- Disability mainstreaming is regarded as added value
- Regional networks, integration of young and female researchers, as well as transdisciplinarity is regarded as added value
- Relevant for main societal challenges in the respective countries and in line with their regional and national development strategies

- Higher education institutions and research institutions in the eligible countries and higher education institutions in Austria (universities and universities of applied sciences)
  - The project coordinating institution can either be a higher education institution in an eligible country or a university / university of applied sciences in Austria
  
- To strengthen the capacities in higher education, research and management.
  
- Duration: max. 4 years
  
- Budget:
  - 50.000 - 90.000 Euro / year (2 partner)
  - 50.000 -130.000 Euro / year (more than 2 partners)

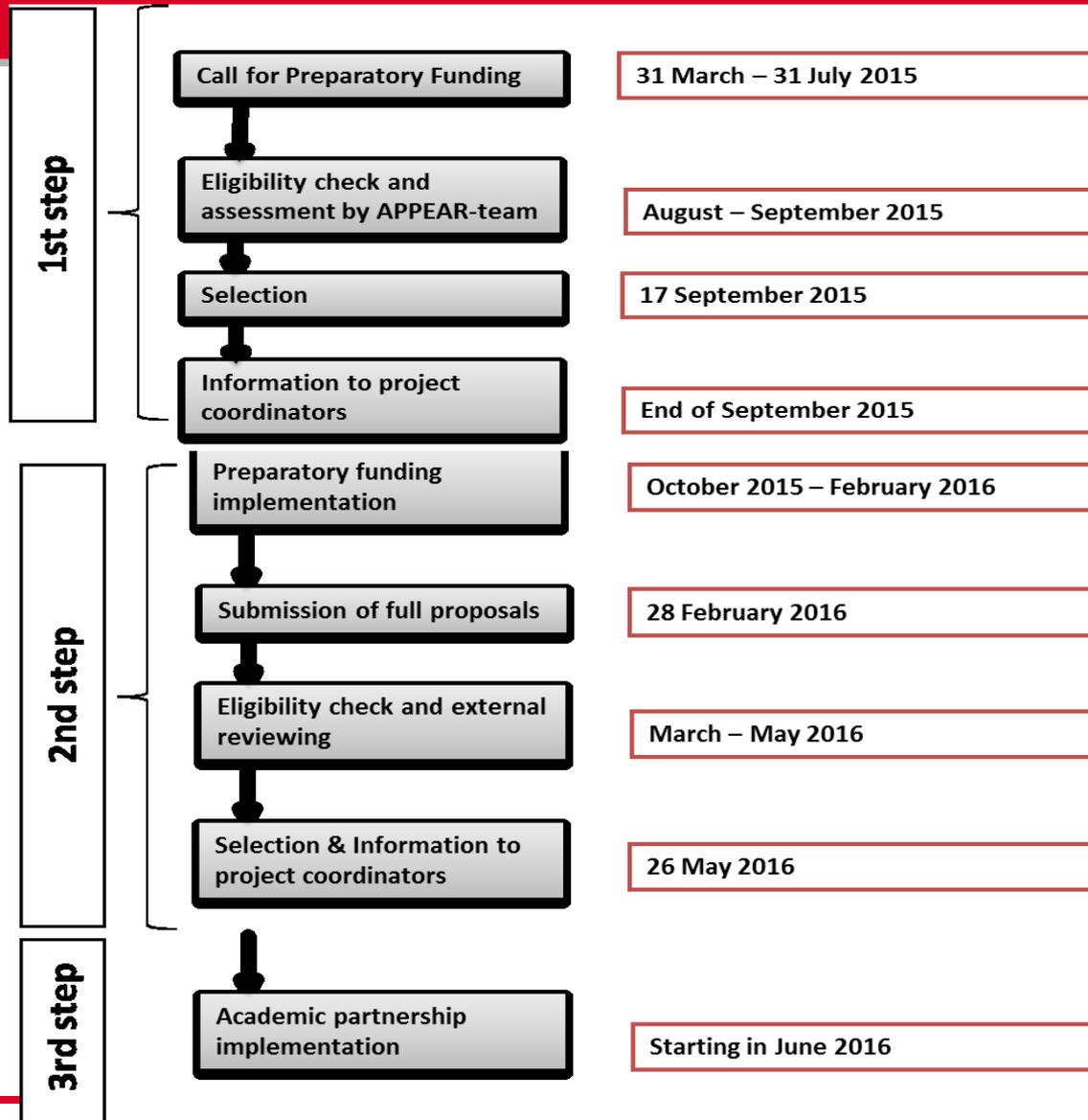
- Higher education institutions and research institutions in the eligible countries and higher education institutions in Austria (universities and universities of applied sciences)
  - The project coordinating institution can either be a higher education institution in an eligible country or a university / university of applied sciences in Austria
  
- Based on the results of the already successfully finalised APPEAR project; to develop new innovative designs for the cooperation in higher education and research for development
  
- Duration: max. 3 years
  
- Budget:
  - 50.000 - 90.000 Euro/year (2 partner)
  - 50.000 -130.000 Euro/year (more than 2 partners)

# Schedule - (Advanced) Academic Partnerships



- Higher education institutions and research institutions in the eligible countries and higher education institutions in Austria (universities and universities of applied sciences)
  - The project coordinating institution can either be a higher education institution in an eligible country or a university / university of applied sciences in Austria
  
- In order to elaborate realistic and effective project proposals, based on the demands and needs of the institution(s) in the addressed countries
  
- Duration: max. 5 months
  
- Budget: max. 15.000 Euro

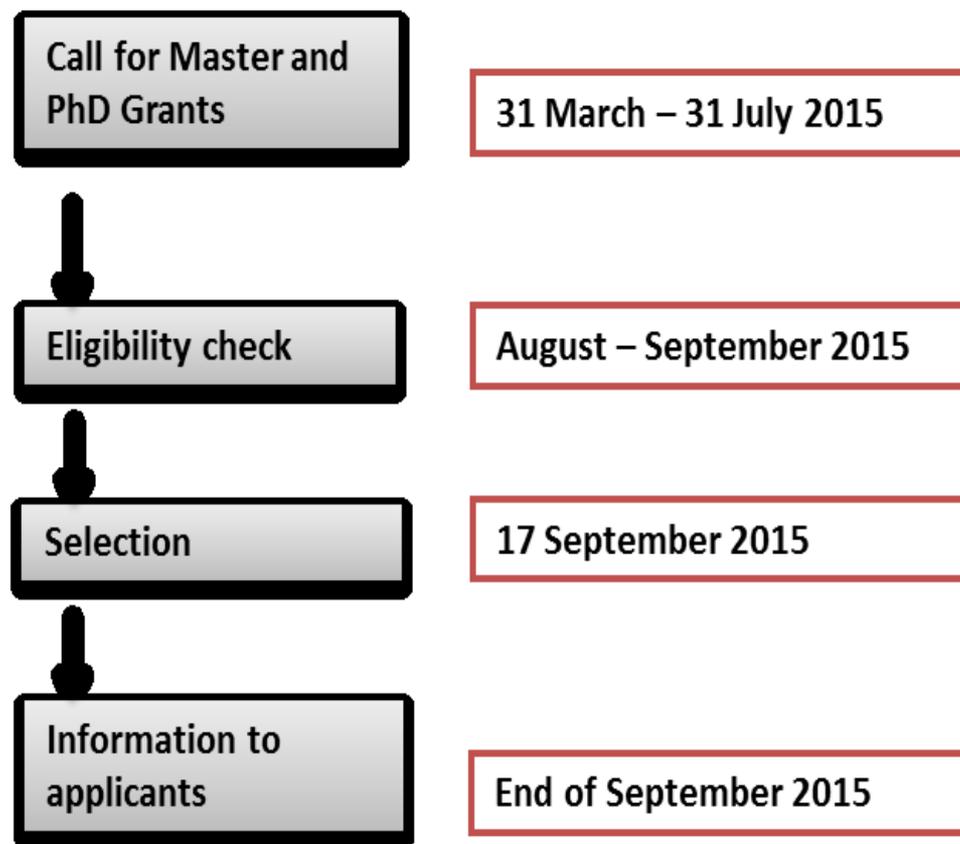
# Schedule – Preparatory Funding



## There are two types of APPEAR scholarships:

- Master's and PhD scholarships that are **linked to an existing APPEAR project**
- PhD scholarships that are **individual**,  
i.e. not linked to an existing APPEAR project
- Scholarship rate
  - Master: 960 Euro per month (24 months)
  - PhD: 1050 Euro per month (36 months)
  - Plus travel costs (including field research)  
Allowances (German courses, participation in conferences, printing costs)

# Schedule- Master's & PhD Scholarships



## **Five dimensions of the guidelines for applicants and of the criteria for peer reviewing:**

- Relevance for development
- Scientific quality and degree of innovation
- Project management and capacity of the consortium
- Impact, expected results & sustainability
- Cost effectiveness

- In which context and against which background are the proposed activities set?
- How does the project incorporate an innovative approach? (in terms of theoretical, epistemological, methodological/empirical and educational aspects)
- How are the proposed activities in line with the expected outcomes?
- How are capacity development activities included?
- Are there any links to ongoing development activities?
- Does the project include South-South-cooperation?

- How is the coordination of the project and the roles of the respective partners planned?
- How does the chosen constitution of the team contribute to the possibility of the consortium to reach the objectives?
- How does the balance between junior and senior, female and male, Southern and Northern team members increase the prospects of reaching the objectives?
- Why is it important to collaborate with the particular institution(s) and which long-term effects of the partnership can be expected? (development impact, thematically-related decisions, etc.)

- In which way do the proposed activities contribute to the partner countries' national/regional development plan or poverty reduction strategy?
- How and in which way are the proposed activities relevant for poor and marginalized societal groups?
- In which way do the proposed activities support/strengthen the institutional capacity of the partner institution(s) in the South?
- Who are the "beneficiaries" of the proposed activities on all sides and what are the expected direct and indirect benefits? How are the different levels related to each other:
  - local level (communities, marginalized groups)
  - institutional level (scientific institutions, NGOs, other organizations)
  - regional/national level (agencies, government institutions, administration)

- How does the consortium plan to make the cooperation sustainable beyond the funding period?
- To which degree can the project be expected to have a positive influence on the opportunities, living conditions and/or position of women?
- How do the proposed activities strengthen the educational, research and/or management capacities of the institution in the South?
- How does the project contribute to an increased integration of its partners in scientific networks (international, regional, South-South)?
- How is dissemination and utilization of expected findings and results planned? (spin-offs, follow-ups, publications, conferences, teaching, curricula, exchange of lecturers, practical use for regional or national development strategies and activities, etc.)

- At least 51% of the project sum has to be allocated to the partner institutions in the eligible countries
  
- Supported costs
  - Staff costs (for academic, coordinating and administrative tasks)
  - Travel and subsistence costs
  - Costs for material and equipment
  - Dissemination costs (publications, conferences, etc.)
  - Other costs (e.g. Audit)
  
- Max. 10% overhead costs

- New instrument: Advanced Academic Partnership
- Duration: Academic Partnerships in the 5. Call – up to 4 years
- Overhead costs: increased to max. 10%
- Associated partners: up to 20% of the total project budget
- Scholarships: Master's scholarships only linked in to existing APPEAR projects
- Eligible countries: 3 new countries
- Advisory Board (Steering Committee): stronger international orientation
- Open Access: obligatory for publications out of partnerships
- Disability Mainstreaming: is regarded as „added value“
- CO<sub>2</sub> Compensation payments: for all instruments

## Instruments

- Preparatory Funding
- Academic Partnerships
- Advanced Academic Partnerships
- Master's and PhD scholarships

## Deadline for submission: 31 July 2015

- Guidelines, application forms and additional information available at **[www.appear.at](http://www.appear.at)**

**Thank you very much for your attention!**

**APPEAR office**

Ebendorferstrasse 7, 1010 Wien

T +43 1 54308 - 425 | F +43 1 54308 - 999

E [appear@oead.at](mailto:appear@oead.at)

[www.appear.at](http://www.appear.at)

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