Africa-UniNet

Webinar - 5th Call for Research Cooperation Projects

4 February 2025
10:00-12:00 AM CET

Africa-UniNet Office

OeAD

africauninet

Overview of Webinar

1. Introduction to Africa-UniNet

2. 5th Call for Africa-UniNet Research Cooperation Projects
   - Formal requirements and eligible costs
   - Application documents and application process
   - Selection process, disbursement of funds and reporting

3. Questions & answers
   Please ask questions after the presentation.

4. Opportunity for matchmaking

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Introduction to Africa-UniNet

- Founded in 2019 by BMBWF, BOKU and OeAD

- Financed by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF) and implemented by OeAD

- 1st General Assembly in January 2020 in Vienna, 2nd in Kenya 2022, 3rd in Vienna in 2023

- create a long-term, stable basis for cooperation between Austrian and African universities and research institutions

- promote new contacts, deepen scientific cooperation and provide excellent opportunities for innovative joint research projects

https://africa-uninet.at/fileadmin/Dokumente/africa-uninet.at/04_Communication/OeAD_Activity_Report_Africa-Austria.pdf

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Africa-UniNet Member Institutions

86 member institutions, 29 in Austria and 57 in 20 countries in Africa (as of December 2024)

Algeria 1	Lesotho 1
Botswana 2	Morocco 1
Burkina Faso 1	Mozambique 1
Cote d'Ivoire 1	Namibia 1
DR Congo 2	Nigeria 13
Egypt 3	São Tomé & Príncipe 1
Ethiopia 8	South Africa 1
Gabon 1	Tanzania 1
Ghana 2	Uganda 7
Kenya 8	Zimbabwe 1

Africa-UniNet Projects

- More than 80 projects between institutions in Austria and in 17 countries in Africa

- 2 million euros by the BMBWF

Countries	Projects
Burkina Faso	6
DR Congo	3
Egypt	2
Ethiopia	22
Gabon	5
Ghana	5
Kenya	20
Lesotho	2
Morocco	3
Mozambique	4
Namibia	6
Nigeria	16
Sao Tome	1
South Africa	10
Tanzania	1
Uganda	21
Zimbabwe	1

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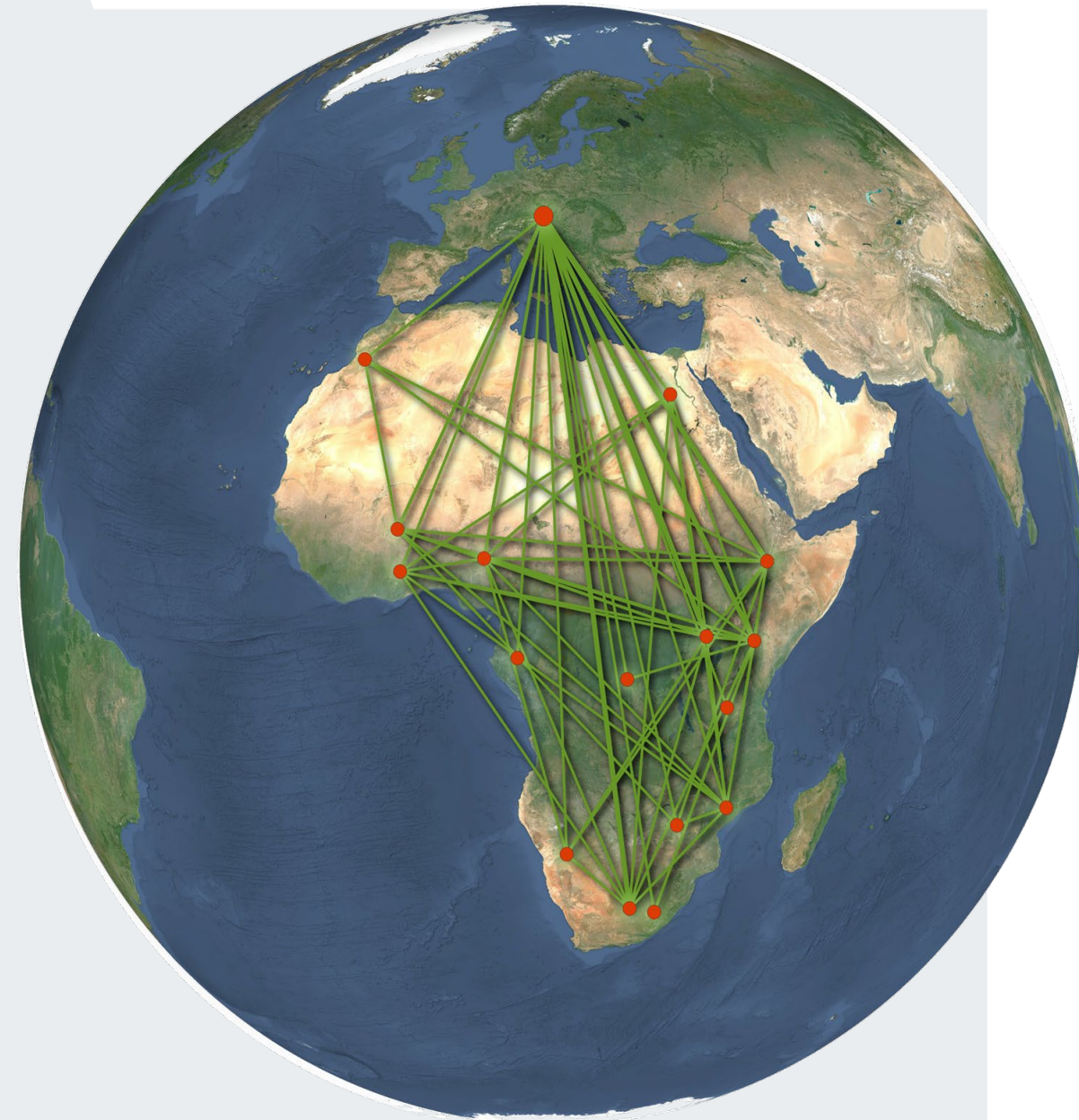
What are the objectives of a project?

- Africa-UniNet promotes **excellent research** based on **mutual knowledge exchange**. While the thematic scope of the cooperative research projects is not restricted, they set out to contribute to the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

- At the same time, they enhance the **scientific foundation of the involved institutions** and reinforce the formation of the **network.**

- New regulation: Research projects must be **new**. The project may build on previous Africa-UniNet projects if fundamentally new research questions or methodologies are applied. Revised applications of previously rejected Africa-UniNet projects are allowed.

- Africa-UniNet aims to contribute to the creation of an environment that fosters international collaboration between researchers and institutions **beyond the duration** of individual projects. Key indicators and results from the projects are considered to be **joint publications**, as well as **further collaborations and follow-up projects**.

5th Africa-UniNet Call

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- Open from December 2024 – 28 February 2025

- **https://africa-uninet.at/en/activities/the-5th-call-2024**

- Project duration: 24 months

- Max. 40,000 euros per project

- Applications have to be submitted via the StipOnline portal before the deadline.

- Deadline: **28 February 2025, 00:00 CET**

Contact

OeAD | Africa-UniNet
Ebendorferstraße 7
1010 Wien

africa-uninet@oead.at

Apply now →

Matchmaking for proposals →

Special Directive - Sonderrichtlinie "Maßnahmen zur Internationalisierung" of the BMBWF. GZ: BMBWF-2024-0.205.097 →

Who can apply and who can participate?

- **New regulation:** Only **researchers (PhD holders/post docs)** who are affiliated to an **Austrian Africa-UniNet member institution** are eligible to **apply for, submit and coordinate** a project. The project coordinator that submits the project proposal will also assume overall responsibility for **coordinating the project and for reporting**. The funds are to be handled via a **bank account of the institution**.

On this website Africa-UniNet members post possible topics and contacts for research cooperation proposals for the 5th Call:
https://africa-uninet.at/en/activities/the-5th-call-2024/project-ideas

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Who can apply and who can participate?

- The **project coordinator** must hold at least a **PhD**. All participating researchers must either be **PhD students** or **post docs/PhD holders**. Master students are not eligible to participate.

- Researchers from at least **one Austrian and one African member institution** must be involved in each project. All participating institutions must be **active Africa-UniNet members**, i.e. they must have paid the membership fee 2024.

- **New:** There are no restrictions as to how many applications per institution can be submitted.

- Applications have to be submitted via the StipOnline portal before the deadline.

- Deadline: **28 February 2025, 00:00 CET**

What is the project duration and maximum funding amount?

- Project duration: **24 months**
- Maximum funding amount: **40,000 euros** per project
- Earliest possible start: 1 September 2025
- Latest possible start: March 2026.

What are the eligible costs?

- Mobility costs
    - Incoming mobility costs | travel from the partner country in Africa to Austria
    - Outgoing mobility costs | travel from Austria to the partner country in Africa
    - **New regulation:** Only incoming and outgoing mobility eligible as mobility costs
- Material costs up to a maximum amount of **5,000 euros** for the entire project duration
- Maximum funding amount: **40,000 euros** per project

- **New regulation:** Project funding is only intended as a grant and is not designed to cover the entire costs of the project. Please note: As stipulated in the special directive "Maßnahmen zur Internationalisierung" (GZ: BMBWF-2024-0.205.097) the grant recipient must ensure the implementation of the project through the use of appropriate own funds. This must be clearly presented in the financing plan.

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Eligible costs | Incoming and Outgoing mobility costs

Travel from the partner country in Africa to Austria | Travel from Austria to the partner country in Africa:

1. Travel costs to Austria | Travel costs to partner country in Africa:

- ☑ The cheapest reasonable means of transport
- ☑ Covers the journey to the partner institution and back home
- ☑ Max. 2,000 euros per person per return trip, including:
- ☑ Flight costs incl. airport taxes (economy class only)
- ☑ Travel costs to and from the airport
- ☒ No further travel financing is provided
- ☒ No fees for seat reservation
- ☒ No CO_2 compensation
- ☒ No costs for visa and travel insurance

Eligible costs | Incoming and Outgoing mobility costs

Travel from the partner country in Africa to Austria | Travel from Austria to the partner country in Africa:

2. Allowance for the stay in Austria | Allowance for the stay in African partner country:

- ☑ Daily allowance of max. 180 euros per person per day

- ☑ Max. 2,160 euros per person per month

- ☑ Max. duration per person per stay is 3 months

- ☒ No further costs can be reimbursed

Eligible costs | Material costs

☑ Max. 5,000 euros for the entire project duration

☑ Only if essential and specifically relevant for the project

☑ Only consumables can be reimbursed: *e.g.: test kits, chemicals, research permit, data acquisition, vehicle rent for field research, publication costs*

☒ No infrastructure or basic equipment: *e.g.: no laptops, no telephone or internet costs, no staff costs, no honoraria for participants*

How to apply for projects?

- Only **researchers (PhD holders/post docs)** who are affiliated to an **Austrian Africa-UniNet member institution** are eligible to **apply for, submit and coordinate** a project

- Applications have to be submitted via the **StipOnline portal** before the deadline

- The application must be submitted in English language.

- The basic data for the project must be entered in this portal and the application documents uploaded. The documents to be uploaded are:

    ✓ **Project Proposal** (pdf) – max 12.000 words
    ✓ **Abstract** (pdf)
    ✓ **Financing Plan** (excel file) – complying with the guidelines, completed in full
    ✓ **CV of the Project Coordinator** (pdf)
    ✓ **Letters of Endorsement of ALL participating institutions** (as one pdf)

How to apply for projects?

- The templates for the **project proposal** and the **financing plan** provided on the Africa-UniNet website must be used.

- Please copy the **abstract** from the project proposal and upload it as a separate pdf document.

- You may use or adapt the templates for the **CV of the project coordinator** and the **letters of endorsement** to suit the needs of the respective project coordinator/institution. However, please ensure that all relevant content is included as stated in the respective template.

- https://africa-uninet.at/en/activities/the-5th-call-2024

- **Closing date: 28 February 2025, 00:00 CET**

Application documents

- Similar to earlier calls, small changes
- Main changes: financing plan

Africa-UniNet | 5th Call

Project Proposal

1. Project Overview

Project Title	
Acronym	
Cooperating Countries	
Name of Project Coordinator	
Form of Address	Ms. ☐ | Mr. ☐ | Mx. ☐
Academic Title (at least PhD)	
Email Address	
Institution (must be in Austria)	
Name of Partner Coordinator	
Form of Address	Ms. ☐ | Mr. ☐ | Mx. ☐
Academic Title (at least PhD student)	
Email Address	
Institution	
Please insert lines for further partners.	

No. of All Involved Institutions	Austrian Institutions	African Institutions	Total

Planned Project Start	*Earliest possible start: 1 September 2025; Latest possible start: 1 March 2026*
Duration in Months	24
Total Costs Applied (€)	*Max. 40,000.00 euros*

Africa-UniNet | 5th Call | Project Proposal | Version 20241031   Page 1 of 11

Financing Plan

Africa-UniNet Financing Plan | 5th Call | 2024

| Project Titel: |
| Project Coordinator AT: |
| Partner Country/ies: |

Total Costs Requested for Funding by Africa-UniNet	Total Costs	
Total OUTGOING Costs	0 €	
Total INCOMING Costs	0 €	
Total Material Costs	0 €	Max. 5.000€
Sum	0 €	Max. 40.000€

OUTGOING Costs Requested for Funding by Africa-UniNet — From Austria to Partner Country

Travel Costs: Only costs for the cheapest reasonable means of transport to the host institution and back will be recognised. E.g., flight in economy class and travel costs to and from the airport. Costs for visa and travel insurance cannot be reimbursed. Max. amount for travel costs: EUR 2,000 per return trip.

Max. EUR 180 euros per day spent **working** on the project/ Max. EUR 2.160 euros per month. The maximum duration per person per trip per stay is three months. No further costs can be reimbursed.

No.		Year of Mobility	Name of Austrian Team Member including Academic Title	Gender	PhD Student or Post Doc?	Travel from (Respective Home Institution in Austria)	Travel to (Respective Host Institution in Partner Country)	Funding of Travel Costs Max. amount for travel costs: EUR 2.000 per return trip.	Estimated Duration of Stay in Days The maximum duration per person per trip per stay is three months.	Funding of Accommodation and Subsistence Max. EUR 180 per **working** day and max. EUR 2.160 per month.	Total Costs
Example	600 €	2025	Dr. Resi Researcher	female	Post doc	University of Austria	University of Partner Country	1.500 €	5	600 €	2.100 €
1.	0 €										0 €
2.											0 €
3.											0 €
4.											0 €
5.											0 €
6.											0 €
Sum											0 €

INCOMING Costs Requested for Funding by Africa-UniNet — From Partner Country to Austria

Travel Costs: Only costs for the cheapest reasonable means of transport to the host institution and back will be recognised. E.g., flight in economy class and travel costs to and from the airport. Costs for visa and travel insurance cannot be reimbursed. Max. amount for travel costs: EUR 2,000 per return trip.

Max. EUR 180 euros per day spent **working** on the project/ Max. EUR 2.160 euros per month. The maximum duration per person per trip per stay is three months. No further costs can be reimbursed.

No.		Year of Mobility	Name of Austrian Team Member including Academic Title	Gender	PhD Student or Post Doc?	Travel from (Respective Home Institution in Partner Country)	Travel to (Respective Host Institution in Austria)	Funding of Travel Costs Max. amount for travel costs: EUR 2.000 per return trip.	Estimated Duration of Stay in Days The maximum duration per person per trip per stay is three months.	Funding of Accommodation and Subsistence Max. EUR 180 per **working** day and max. EUR 2.160 per month.	Total Costs
Example		2025	Dr. Steven Scientist	male		University of Partner Country	University of Austria	1.500 €	30	2.160 €	3.660 €
1.											0 €
2.											0 €

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Financing Plan

Material Costs of the Project Requested for Funding by Africa-UniNet	Year of Costs	Type of Material Only, if essential for the project objectives. Only consumables can be reimbursed, e.g.: test kits, chemicals, research permit, data acquisition, vehicle rent for field research, publication costs; No infrastructure or basic equipment, e.g.: no laptops, no telephone or internet costs, no staff costs, no honoraria for participants	Total Costs
Example	2025	Vehicle rent for field research, 5 days à EUR 70	350 €
1.			0 €
2.			0 €
3.			0 €
4.			0 €
Sum			0 €

Africa-UniNet project funding is only intended as a grant and is not designed to cover the entire costs of the project. As stipulated in the special directive "Maßnahmen zur Internationalisierung" (GZ: BMBWF-2024-0.205.097) the grant recipient must ensure the implementation of the project through the use of appropriate own funds. This must be clearly presented in the financing plan. Thus, kindly fill in the following additional information:

Estimated Total Costs of the Project** (excluding staff costs)	Total Costs
Total OUTGOING Costs	
Total INCOMING Costs	
Total Material Costs	
Sum	0 €

** The estimated total costs of the project must be at least as high as the total amount requested

In case the estimated total costs of the project are higher than the requested budget please briefly state the additonal funding sources, excluding staff costs. Multiple entries are possible.
a) the partner university
b) the Austrian coordinating university from its own resources
c) the project participants private funds
d) further funding
e) other (please specify)

Example		(Additional) Accommodation Costs Dr. Scientist		a	800,00 €
Example		(Additional) Material Costs		b	2.800,00 €
1.					
2.					
3.					
Sum					0,00 €

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StipOnline

- Do not register or apply last minute

- In case of technical problems email to Africa-UniNet

- If application can not be sent, send documents to Africa-UniNet per email

www.oead.at

StipOnline

Please complete your information and submit the application request.

Data of coordinator

Academic degree (prefix)	<-- Choose -->
First name	Rainer
Surname	EINZENBERGER
Academic degree (affix)	<-- Choose -->
Gender	● Male ○ female ○ Diverse
Date of birth	16.06.1980
E-mail	rainer.einzenberger@oead.at
Person is a member of staff (employee) at an Austrian higher education or research institution.	○ Yes ● No
Nationality	Austria
Home country	Austria
Home institution	<-- Choose -->

If your institution is not listed please contact us via africa-uninet@oead.at.

☐ I understand that the minimum requirement for the Project Coordinator is a completed PhD. All project team members must at least be PhD students or post docs. Bachelor and Master students are not eligible for funding.

☐ I understand that the project has to contribute to the internationalization strategies of the involved institutions as well as to the internationalization strategy of the BMBWF.

☐ I have sufficient language skills to coordinate this project.

☐ I understand that the funding will only be transferred to institutional accounts. The reimbursement of all project-related expenses will be handled by the Austrian project coordinator.

☐ [optional] I hereby agree that the OeAD may contact me as an evaluator for future project proposals. There is no obligation to carry out an evaluation and I can withdraw my consent at any time via email.

☐ I confirm that I will comply with all relevant national, international and EU legislation in carrying out the research project, such as the Dual-Use Regulation (EU) 2021/821 (Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/ of 20 October

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StipOnline

Project data

Call number	AU2024
Project title (English)	
Abstract	
Application for additional funding	◯ Yes ● No ⓘ
Project start:	🗓 today
	Project start range: 01.09.2025 - 31.03.2026
Project end:	
	Duration: 24 months
Scientific discipline level 1	<-- Choose -->
Scientific discipline level 2	<-- Choose -->
Scientific discipline level 3	<-- Choose -->
Contribution 1 to SDGs	<-- Choose -->
Contribution 2 to SDGs	<-- No choice -->
Contribution 3 to SDGs	<-- No choice -->
Number of team members in Austria	2
Number of team members in partner country	2
Total budget	0.00 € ⓘ

Save changes

Assigned data

1	Institution of project coordinator		Show/edit data
1	Project coordinator		Show/edit data
1	Partner institution(s)		Show/edit data
1	Partner coordinator(s)		Show/edit data
1	Project participants in Austria		Show/edit data
1	Project participants in partner country		Show/edit data
0	Upload of mandatory documents		Show/edit data

StipOnline

Edit application

Please upload the following documents:

- Project Proposal (pdf)
- Abstract (pdf)
- CV of the Project Coordinator (pdf)
- Letters of Endorsement of ALL participating institutions (as one pdf)
- Financing Plan (excel file)

The templates for the project proposal and the financing plan must be used. Please copy the abstract from the project proposal and upload it as a separate pdf document. You may use or adapt the templates for the CV of the project coordinator and the letters of endorsement to suit the needs of the respective project coordinator/institution. However, ensure that all relevant content is included as stated in the respective template. Please note that the application must be submitted in English.

Upload of mandatory documents

Project proposal (pdf)	Select data	Download template
Abstract (pdf)	Select data	
CV (pdf) of the project coordinator - EINZENBERGER, Rainer	Select data	Download template
Letters of endorsement of all involved institutions (compiled as one pdf)	Select data	Download template
Financial plan (excel)	Select data	Download template
Additional documents (optional)		add an attachment

Back   Save changes

Selection process

- The Africa-UniNet Office at OeAD will check whether the formal requirements of the project applications have been met.

- Formally correct proposals will be evaluated by **independent reviewers** between April and July 2025.

- The reviews will consist of a **scoring matrix** (max. 100 points) and **narrative assessments**. Evaluation criteria will be:

  Project Design and Scientific Quality, Cooperation and Partnership (max. 50 points)
  Contribution to the SDGs and Added Values (max. 20 points)
  Results and Sustainability (max. 20 points)
  Risk Management and Cost-Effectiveness (max. 10 points)

- Ranking on the basis of the **average score of the reviews** (maximum score 100).

- The list of selected projects has to be **approved by the General Assembly and the BMBWF**. This is envisaged to take place in August 2025.

- Earliest possible start of the projects: **September 2025.** Latest possible start of the projects: **March 2026.**

Disbursement of funds

- 50% after the contract has been signed

- 25% after approval of the mid-term report

- Max. 25% after approval of the final report

- Disbursement of funding only to the institutional account (no disbursement to private accounts).

Reporting

- All projects must submit a **mid-term** as well as a **final report**

- Each report must include a **scientific and a financial report** (templates from Africa-UniNet website)

- The reports must be in **English** (receipts/invoices translated)

- To be submitted by the **project coordinator** within **2 months** after the end of the reporting period

- Failure to report will result in termination of the Africa-UniNet project and the requirement to return undocumented funds to OeAD

Questions & answers

Matchmaking

- Are you looking for a cooperation partner for the 5th Africa-UniNet Call?

- Please provide a brief statement of your research interest (2-3 min)

- Please post your name, home institution, e-mail address and proposed topic in the chat

- On this website Africa-UniNet members post possible topics and contacts for research cooperation proposals for the 5th Call: https://africa-uninet.at/en/activities/the-5th-call-2024/project-ideas

Thank you!

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