

Data:Research:Austria 2.0

ÖAW funding programme for microdata research

Alexander Nagler (ÖAW)

Marie Beindl, Lisa Ehrntraut (AMDC)

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Objective of the programme

- Strengthening of registry- and microdata research in Austria
- Enabling the use of administrative data for scientific research based on the new legal framework introduced in 2022

What research is funded?

- Data-driven, empirical-quantitative social science research using AMDC data or comparable administrative-statistical data

Target group

- **Researchers from all disciplines** at scientific institutions in Austria who address empirical-quantitative social science research questions and aim to use administrative and official statistical data
- **Universities and non-university research institutions in Austria** where data-driven research in line with the funding programme is carried out.
- **A special focus is given to early-career researchers.**

Key facts of the call 2026

- **Total funding available:**
 - Programme budget for 2026–2027: EUR 6 million, for 2026: EUR 3 million
- **Funding per application:**
 - min. EUR 165,000 to max. 385,000; the amount includes 10% overheads on direct costs; projects using AMDC data, EUR 35,000 to be included in the budget
- **Application:**
 - applications may be submitted by one applicant or by a group of up to three applicants: 1 PI and 1-2 Co-PI; each applicant may submit only one application.
- **Project implementation:**
 - Projects must be carried out at a research institution in Austria. An institution may submit or participate in multiple applications.
- **Duration:**
 - 24 months max.

Procedure (1)

- **Call start:** 1 September 2026
- **Two-stage international selection procedure**
 - applications and reviews in English
- **Stage 1 – Short Proposal:**
 - Submission by email by **2 November 2026**
 - Verification of formal eligibility requirements; and evaluation by an independent international jury
 - Selected projects will be invited to submit a full proposal by **early January 2027**; no external peer reviews at this stage

Procedure (2)

- **Stage 2 – (Full Proposal, only upon invitation):**
 - Expected deadline: **10 March 2027**
 - Detailed description of the content, methodology, technology, project organisation, work plan and budget planning, as well as a technical feasibility and cost estimate from the AMDC, must be attached.
 - All full proposals will be reviewed by external peer reviewers.

- **Funding decision:**
 - by the international jury is expected **by the end of June 2027**

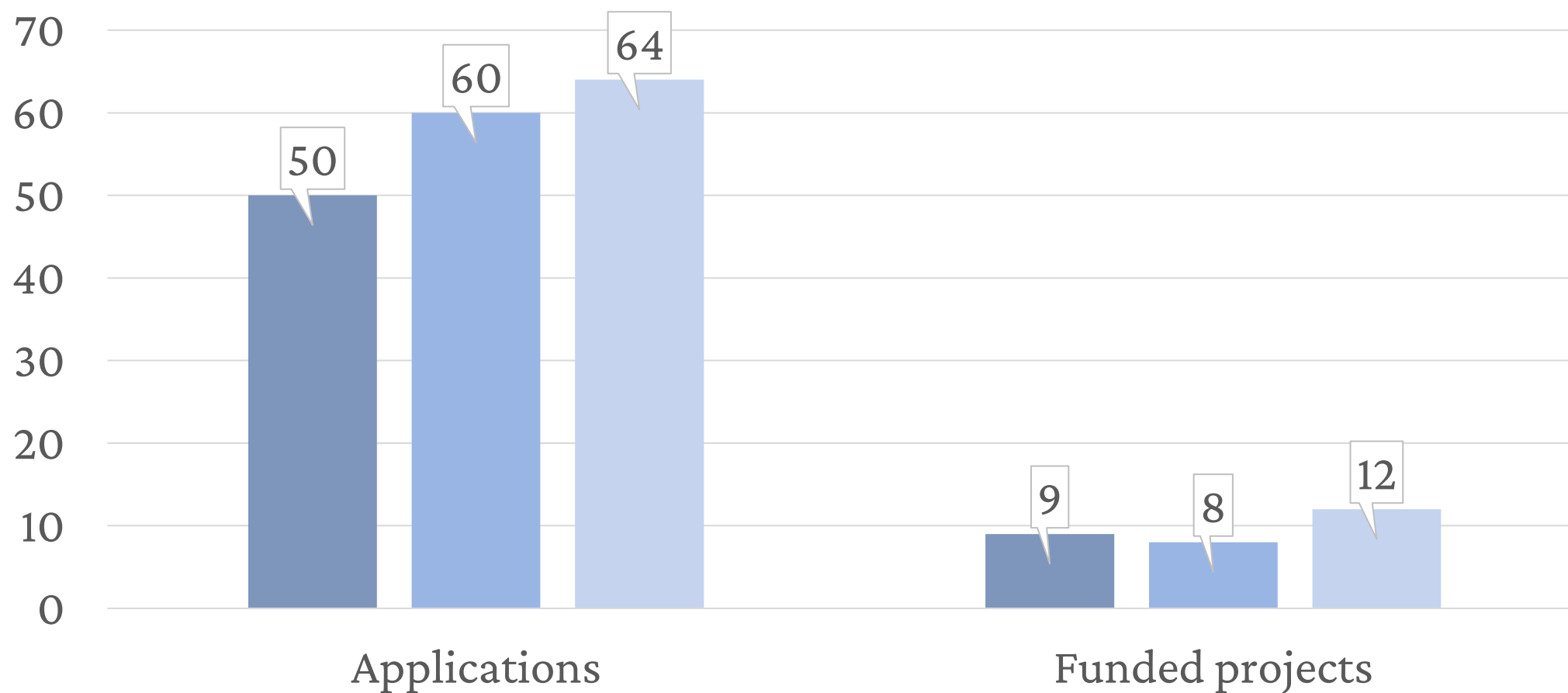
Schedule



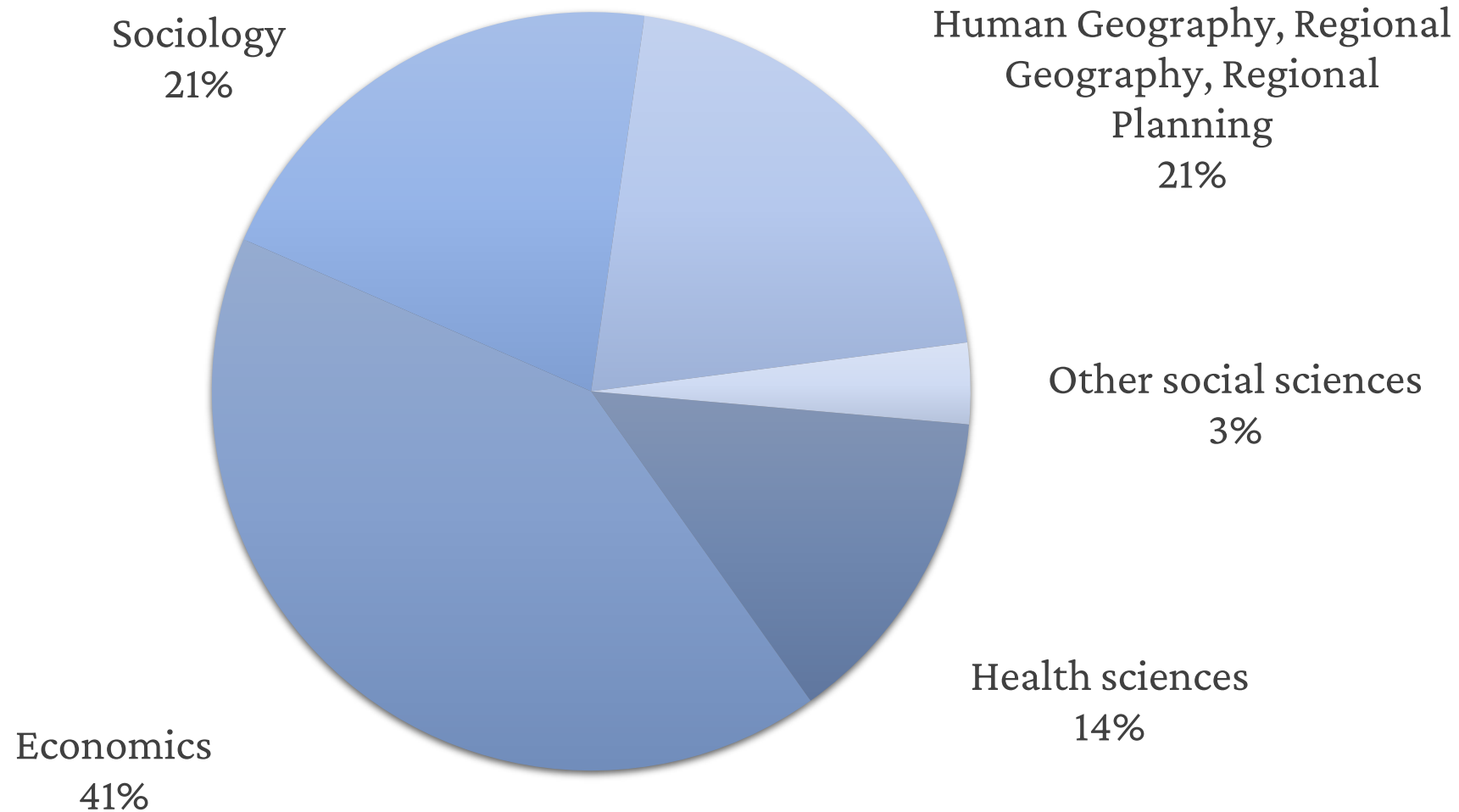
Project implementation

- Projects must start no later than six months after notification of the funding decision.
- A funding agreement must be concluded with all principal investigators and host institutions.
- Annual reports must be submitted on project progress and the use of funds.
- A comprehensive final report must be submitted at the end of the funding period.

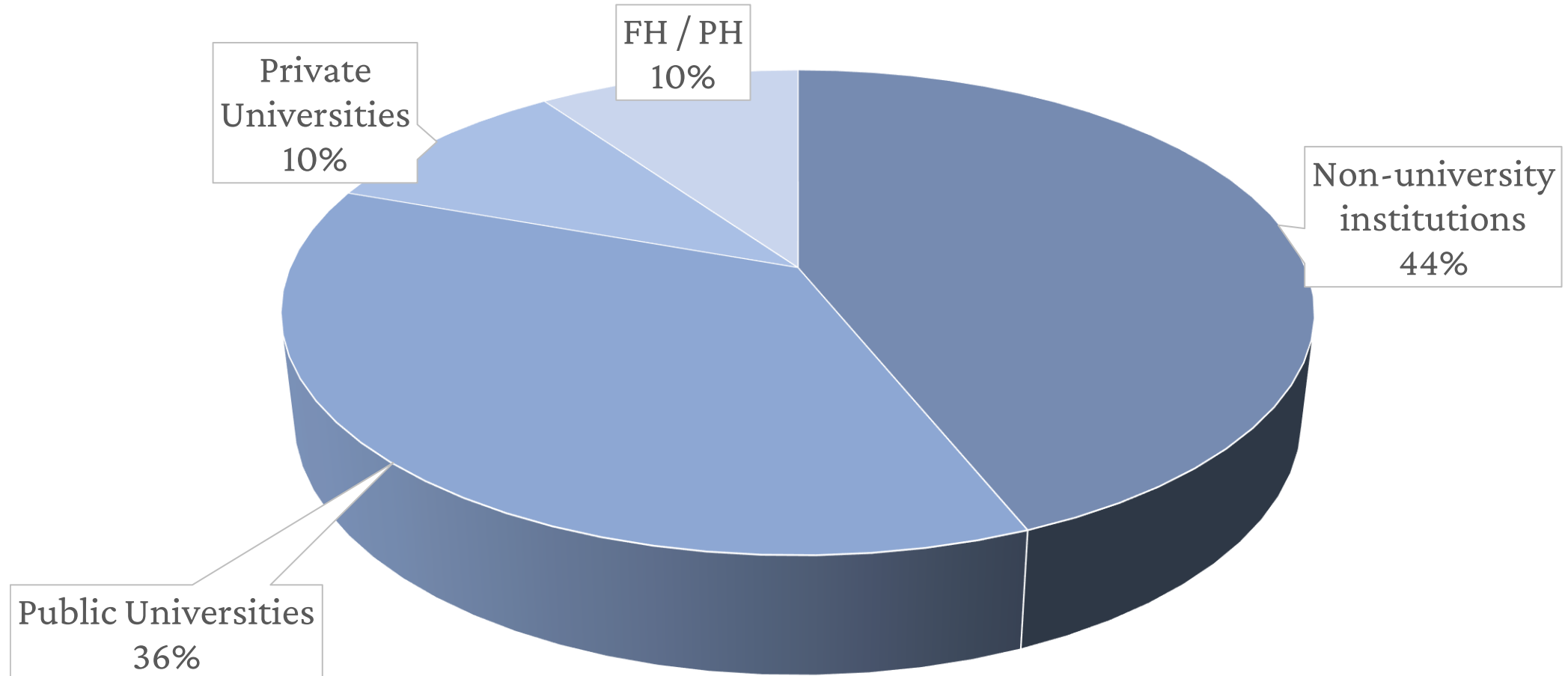
Results of calls 1 - 3



Funding by scientific discipline (FWF 4-digit classification)



Funding by scientific institution



FAQ (selection)

Can researchers outside the social sciences also apply?

Yes. Researchers from all disciplines at scientific institutions in Austria are eligible to apply, provided that the project addresses empirical-quantitative social science research questions.

Can a project be funded without using AMDC data?

Yes. In addition to AMDC data, projects may use comparable official statistical and administrative data—such as registers, panels, or surveys—as well as existing research data where appropriate.

Can non-official statistical data also be used, or can new data be collected?

Yes, but only supplementary. The programme focuses on existing AMDC data or comparable official statistical and administrative data. Existing non-official research data may be used supplementary. Projects based exclusively on non-official data, or projects primarily aimed to collecting new data, are not eligible for funding.

What else should be considered when using AMDC data?

The institution carrying out the project must be AMDC-accredited when submitting the full proposal. During Stage 2, a technical feasibility assessment and a rough cost estimate must be obtained from the AMDC as early as possible.

Are collaborations with research institutions abroad possible?

Collaborations with research institutions abroad are possible, and project funding may also be used for this purpose. The principle of proportionality is essential: the project as a whole must be clearly anchored at, and carried out by, a scientific institution in Austria.

Does each PI need a separate institutional approval?

Yes. At the time of submission, each PI must provide a signed signature form from the respective host institution. Host institutions must be scientific institutions in Austria.

Can a PI be affiliated with a scientific institution abroad?

No. All PIs must be affiliated with a scientific institution in Austria.

Can the team composition or the host institution be changed during the ongoing procedure?

Yes. Changes are possible, but they must be reported to ÖAW programme management and must meet the call's eligibility requirements. In particular, a new signature form from the new host institution must be submitted.

Thank you for your attention!

For questions:

E-Mail: programmmanagement@oeaw.ac.at

Telefon: +43-1-51581-1272