

Guideline

**Call for Applications**

**„Internationale Spitzenforschung 2025“**

“International excellence in research 2025”

**Baden-Württemberg Stiftung**

**Juni 2025**

The deadline for submission is

06. November 2025, 02:00 p.m. (cut-off time).

Applications can only be submitted via the online portal https://ptoutline.eu/app/BWST-ISF2025

Please note that three documents must be uploaded:

1. PDF file of the project application,
2. legally binding approval,
3. declaration of the international partner.

Templates are available in the submission tool.

No documents need to be sent by post.

This guide is intended to support you in submitting your applications. Applications that do not fulfil the requirements of the guidelines (e.g. no electronic submission, no legally binding signatures) may be excluded from the review process without further explanation. If you have any further questions, please contact the DLR Project Management Agency.

Contact:

DLR Projektträger

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Application language and form:

The application must be submitted in English; however, a German summary is also required (see point 9). The application should contain a maximum of 20 pages (Arial, font size 11, page margin 2 cm).

Please use the following template for your application.

**Project description**

**1 General Information**

### 1.1 Title

Title of the project

### 1.2 Institution

Contact details of the applicant organisation

* *Organisation*
* *Mailing address*
* *Phone*
* *Email*

### 1.3 Project duration (months)

Maximum 36 months

### 1.4 Cost

In what amount do you need funds for the project (in Euro)? Please indicate the total amount in net and gross.

### 1.5 Thematic classification

Thematic classification of the project.

### 1.6 Executive summary

Brief description of the planned project: Explain the most important objectives, the expected results and their benefits as well as the methodical approach. Please avoid abbreviations.

### 1.7 Keywords

At least three to maximum five own keywords have to be added.

**2 Principal Investigator**

### 2.1 Contact Data

* *Title, first name and surname*
* *Institute, department, institution*
* *Mailing address*
* *Phone*
* *Email*

### 2.2 Research Area and Expertise

Please briefly describe your task in the project and your technical/scientific expertise

### 2.3 Literature References

List your project-relevant publications from the last five years [maximum 5].

**3 International Partner**

### 3.1 Contact Data

* *Title, first name and surname*
* *Institute, department, institution*
* *Mailing address*
* *Phone*
* *Email*

### 3.2 Research Area and Expertise

Please briefly describe the research area of the international partner and the technical/scientific expertise relevant to the project.

### 3.3 Literature References

List the project-relevant publications of your designated partner of the last five years [maximum 5].

**4 Aims and Relevance**

### 4.1 Objectives of the Project

*Please give a brief overview of the goals of the research project with respect of the research field and the research problem to be addressed.*

### 4.2 Relevance, innovation

Please describe the relevance of the project and to what extent the project goes beyond the current international state-of-the-art in the research field.

**5 State of the art, Preliminary data, Infrastructure**

*Please address the following topics:*

* *Your own previous work and data relevant to the project*
* *Existing project-relevant infrastructure and resources (e.g. established methods, equipment, material- or data libraries)*
* *Previous collaborative projects between the international partner relevant to the project*

**6 Work Plan and Milestones**

### 6.1 Work plan

Please describe the planned work programme and the cooperation with the international partner. The work programme should be divided into work packages. The individual work packages must be presented in a coherent way.

### 6.2 Milestone Plan

*Please define binding milestones for your project every six months with assignment to the work packages.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Milestone** | **Description** | **Month** |
| 1 |  | 6 |
| 2 |  | 12 |
| 3 |  | 18 |
| 4 |  | 24 |
| 5 |  | 30 |
| 6 |  | 36 |

**7 Future Impact and Exploitation**

Please describe the future perspectives and exploitation possibilities of your project results and integration into the strategic profile of the university or non-university research institution.

**8 Financial Plan**

***Eligible project costs:***

*Project costs are eligible for financing up to a maximum of 500.000 Euro plus value-added tax. Financing is provided for personnel, material and travel costs. In exceptional and duly justified cases investment costs in the form of depreciation over the life of the project can be supported, as well.*

*Please note that net amounts must be indicated for all items.*

* *Personnel costs with indication of the value. Please use the following figures (based on a full- time position): Postdoc: 88.200 €/ a; PhD student: 81.600 €/ a; Technical assistance: 60.000 €/ a*
* *Material costs (small devices, consumables)*
* *Travel costs (principal investigator)*
* *Expense allowance for international partner*
* *Overview of total costs*

*For the international partner, only expense allowances such as travel expenses can be financed, but not the salary.*

Please justify the request budget per position (personnel costs, material cost, travel costs, expense allowance for international partner).

**9 German summary**

*Please provide a brief and generally understandable description of the planned project in German [max. 1,600 characters]. The summary should include the subject of the research, the project objectives and relevance as well as the future impact and exploitation possibilities.*

*It will be used for the Baden-Württemberg Stiftung's public relations work. This summary should therefore be formulated in such a way that it is also understandable for third parties ("interested laypersons") without jeopardizing possible scientific publications or industrial property rights. Please avoid the use of abbreviations.*