Supporting African Science and Tertiary Education (SASTE) Grant

5. Call open until 31.12.2026

Send your documents to

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10.6.2026

What is SASTE:

The 5. Call of the SASTE grant supports high potentials from Sub Sahara Africa working in the field of **Water Management, Renewable Energies, Nutritional Science, Human and Veterinary Medicine** for a research stay in Austria. In case of strong involvement of **Technical Sciences** and **IT** in research projects of the mentioned fields, these areas of research are also eligible for application. Applicants originating from a certain group of countries of Sub Sahara Africa are preferred in the candidate ranking (see appendix). The successful applicant is embedded in a long-term research setting at a Sub-Sahara African university or research institution (= **home institution**). The research at an Austrian university or research institution (= **hosting institution**) should provide additional qualifications that have a stimulating effect on the ongoing research projects and the hosting institution provides access to the latest technologies and processes.

There are two crucial elements for a proposed research project to succeed: (i) High relevance for a sustainable development of the Sub Sahara region and a (ii) high probability that the research results translate into new products, processes, services or improved living conditions. The employment of digitalization or artificial intelligence within the research projects is highly appreciated.

The grant is financed by a private donor in form of a contract between the donor and hosting institution in Austria based on the results of the competitive selection process. There is no legal claim to a grant even if all application requirements are fulfilled. The number of grants that will be awarded during one call depends on the quality of the applications and the available budget.

Who is eligible to apply?

- Post-doctoral scientists (< 42 years old, women < 45 in case of child care) working in one of the fields of the above listed topics of the call.
- Applicants hold a research position in Africa (which ensures the continuation of the work at the home institution after the research stay in Austria) and have research experience in the field of the proposed research.
- PhD earned from outside Austria is desirable but not obligatory. If PhD earned and application for research stay concern the same university or department in Austria, great importance will be attached to the novel aspect of the research project.
- 6 months prior to the planned stay, the applicant has not studied or worked in Austria
- A minimum of 3 and a maximum of 7 years of post-doctoral work experience within a University or higher research organization located in Sub-Sahara Africa.

- Contract with the home institution for at least 2 more years after the research stay (Confirmation by the home institution is needed, e.g. contract details).
- Confirmation by the Austrian hosting institution and the supervisor to accept the applicant as well as to provide the necessary resources for the research (office space, facilities, time, etc.).
- Excellent language skills in English or German.

What is funded?

- Grant duration may range between 12 to 24 months, depending on the complexity of the project.
- An extension of the grant is not possible.
- Monthly stipend of 1400 Euro is provided.
- Additional support for housing of up to 650 Euro/month
- Travel budget of up to 3000 Euro/year for scientific visits of the home intuition and scientific conferences
- Costs for the hosting institution in Austria of up to 2500 Euro/year according to work and budget plan as part of the application.
- Confirmation of the necessary in-kind contributions by the home intuition (e.g. support for field work, technical equipment etc.)
- Additional funding related to the proposed research is beneficial, but is subject to disclosure.

Required Application documents

- Research proposal (6 to 10 pages) with a (i) detailed outline of the planned work, methodologies, literature etc., (ii) why this work needs a research stay in Austria, (iii) the long-lasting impact at the home institution and the region, (iv) any other information supporting the application.
- Motivation letter (up to 2 pages) covering motives for working in research/in a certain field of research, expectations for the future career.
- Detailed Curriculum vitae with the list of publications and scientific achievements.
- Employment confirmation for a contract for a minimum of 2 more years after the return from Austria at the home institution (The contract is needed)
- Recommendation (up to 2 Pages) letter from the head of the unit of the home institution covering (i) the support and the importance of the work of the applicant, and (ii) how this will be implemented and improve the work at the home institution.
- Confirmation of in-kind contributions provided by the home institution (supporting field work, personal etc.)
- Recommendation letter from the head of the unit (1 Page) and the supervisor of the hosting institution (up to 2 pages) in Austria covering (i) the acceptance of the applicant and (ii) the provision of the support (facilities and supervision) needed to achieve the goals of the research proposal.
- Disclosure of participation in another research project, if it’s ongoing in parallel with the planned research stay in Austria and represents a significant workload for the candidate.
- Disclosure of additional funding related to the proposed research project.

- Other documents needed for the admission into the hosting institution and for the application for a temporary residence permit: (i) copy of the passport (proof of identity), (ii) birth certificate, (iii) extract from judicial record not older than 3 months.

Application and Selection process

- Please send your documents by email to

  Univ. Prof. Dr. DDr.h.c. Hubert Hasenauer
  President of the Austrian – Africa Uni-Net
  Institute of Silviculture,
  Peter Jordan Strasse 82, 1190 Wien, Austria
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- Formal check of the documents according to the requirements
- External review by two experts
- Interview by the selection panel
- Final decision by the selection panel
- Preparation of the contract with the hosting University
- Start of the work

Any other information:

- Successful applicants need an Austrian bank account to which the grant money is transferred.
- The grant money is only paid for the time the grant holder works in Austria
- Health insurance accepted by the Austrian authorities is required for the duration of their stay in Austria. The monthly costs can vary, at the moment it ranges between 55 to 200 Euro depending on age, and state of health.
- Scholarship holders have to pay the costs for accommodation and insurance by themselves.
- Applicants must comply with the admission regulations of the respective university and with the regulations to obtain and hold a temporary residence permit
- Grant holders are obliged to submit a report on work progress (3 pages) every 6 months. A final report summarizing the achievements according to the grant application is also required. All reports are prepared in collaboration with the supervisor.
- Grant holders are not allowed to take up paid work in Austria.

Data Protection:

Applicants agree that the personal data provided within their application will be processed diligently on the legal basis of

- General Data Protection Regulation (EU)2016/679 and Austrian Data Protection regulations, in particular:
- §2g Research Organization Act (Forschungsorganisationsgesetz - FOG), Federal Law Gazette No. 341/1981, and

- We follow the rules according to the OeAD Act (OeAD-Gesetz), Federal Law Gazette I No. 99/2008, all in their current version, for the purpose of handling their application and compiling statistics. **https://oead.at/en/privacy-policy/**

Appendix 1 List of preferred countries of origin

Country	Country	Country
Burkina Faso	Burundi	Central African Republic
Chad	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Eritrea
Ethiopia	Gambia	Guinea
Guinea-Bissau	Lesotho	Liberia
Malawi	Mali	Madagascar
Rwanda	Sierra Leone	Somalia
Mozambique	Niger	South Sudan
Tanzania	Togo	Uganda
Zimbabwe		