

recommendation

Austrian Council for Research and Technology Development

26 February 2015

Priorities for Awarding the Funds of the National Foundation for RTD 2016

The Nationalstiftung FTE plays a very important role in the Austrian RTI system as an additional financing source for long-term strategic measures. The Council therefore once again regretfully acknowledges that the funds provided to the National Foundation have steadily decreased in recent years, and on average are already significantly below the amount proposed in the annotations on the law.

Thus, once again a sufficient and sustainable allocation of funds must be advised so that the National Foundation can perform its functions.

Following detailed discussion, the Council recommends the following content-relevant orientation for awarding funds 2016:

(Recommendation of the Austrian Council in February 2015)

- Reinforcing of the research infrastructure by focusing on initiatives with corresponding critical variables and risk potential
- Reinforcing of the national human potential basis
- Risk capital reinforcement
- Reinforcing the contribution of intellectual property to growth and innovation
- Reinforcing innovation potential with "Open Innovation"
- Coordination and harmonisation of regional and federal RTI activities
- Excellence in basic research
- Measures to strengthen location Austria for research-active companies
- Research and technology initiatives for the industry location
- Measures to strengthen complexity research

The orientation here follows the principle of the National Foundation's long-term planning ability and continuity. With the beneficiaries' applications, factors to be considered in particular include the existing programmes in the departments and agencies and (with regard to the focus on intellectual property) the planned compilation of a national overall strategy on intellectual property.

