

ICT26

Digital Humanism

Information Session – Full Proposal

7th July 2026

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Info Session

- ▶ Aims:
 - ▶ Highlight the difference between short and full proposal → skipping many parts that have been presented at the short proposal info session
 - ▶ No basic information about what digital humanism is → all proposals are, otherwise the projects would have not been invited.
 - ▶ → Time for Q&As

ICT26 | Key facts

- ▶ Dedicated budget for this call: € 5 Mio
- ▶ Interdisciplinary research projects in Digital Humanism (ICT + SSH)
- ▶ 2-stage selection process:
 - ▶ 24 Short Proposals selected for Full Proposal Phase
 - ▶ Full proposal deadline: July 30, 2026 – 2pm CET
 - ▶ Expected funding decision: December 17, 2026
- ▶ Funding range: € 350,000 – € 700,000
 - ▶ For Joint Projects: up to € 750,000
- ▶ 24 – 48 month research projects

- ▶ **SSH** knowledge **to lay scientific foundations for digital technologies** that promote human values
- ▶ Collaboration between ICT and SSH is central.
- ▶ Research must **demonstrate relevance to democratic societies and the promotion of human values**
- ▶ bringing together social and technological progress on a level playing field

ICT26 | Scope of call

- ▶ Research must **demonstrate relevance to democratic societies and the promotion of human values**
- ▶ Projects should reflect the **principles of Digital Humanism**: bringing together social and technological progress on a level playing field
- ▶ Goal: **comprehensive understanding of digital technologies** through insights from both ICT sciences and SSH

ICT26 | Scope of call

Jury took great care that all projects in the second round are within the scope of the call. Summary of jury considerations:

- ▶ Genuine **two-way ICT** ↔ **SSH integration** on equal footing; not only using CS methods to answer SSH questions; not only SSH critique of CS / digital development
- ▶ The **constructive, co-shaping stance** + broader societal/democratic relevance → avoidance of techno-solutionism!
- ▶ Fundamental research, not tool-building / application

WWTF Projects - Budgets

Budget

- ▶ Maximum **30% non-personnel costs**
- ▶ Up to **20% overhead costs**
- ▶ Up to **20%** total budget may be allocated **outside of Vienna**

Different total budget and geographic distribution

- ▶ Total funding volume: up to € 750,000 per project (i.e. extra € 50,000)
- ▶ Vienna: Min. 50% Budget
- ▶ **Lower Austria:** 20% - 49% Budget
- ▶ Optional: Other partners up to 20% Budget

WWTF | Gender Equality Plan

WWTF:

- ▶ Encourages gender-balanced teams and more female researchers to apply as PIs of research projects
- ▶ Uses evaluation criteria that account for career breaks
- ▶ Strives for gender balance in jury panels and reviewer pools

Applicants:

- ▶ Consider gender and specific roles in research team composition
- ▶ Address sex and/or gender in research content
- ▶ See „[Gender aspects in the application phase](#)“ in Call Specifications

Open Science Policy | Access to Publications (I)

- ▶ Costs to cover Open Access (OA) publications can be requested in budget
- ▶ Types of OA: **Gold**, **Green** and Hybrid (problematic)
- ▶ Estimated publication costs need to be stated in Full Proposal phase
- ▶ We encourage other types of OA publications such as monographs, book chapters, conference proceedings, grey literature, reports etc.
- ▶ Post-project: max. € 10,000, up to 30 months after project end

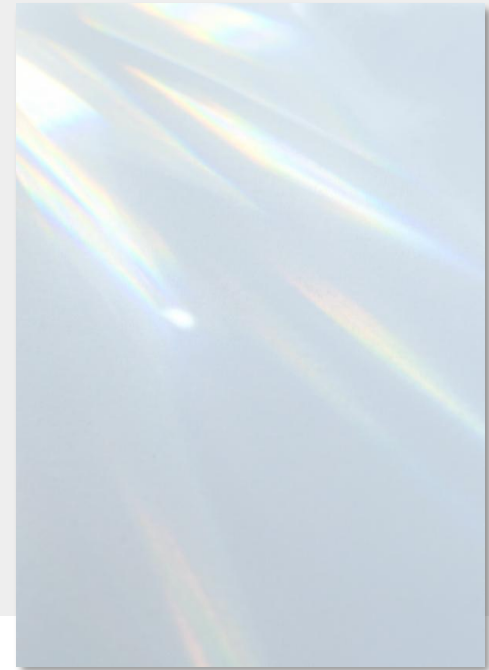
Open Science Policy | Access to Research Data (II)

- ▶ After Funding: Data management plan should consider
 - ▶ Documentation and metadata that accompanies data
 - ▶ Ethical and legal aspects
 - ▶ Process to store, preserve and share data

Short vs. Full Proposal

An appropriate level of scientific detail should be provided at each stage to allow evaluation of the proposal by the respective audience.

- ▶ **Short proposal** is intended for a jury panel with expertise covering a range of proposals
- ▶ **Full proposal** is primarily aimed at specific experts in the topics of the proposal, but also maintain understandability for our broad jury (was not a problem in the SP Phase)



Good Scientific Practice and Ethics

If an ethical approval from the ethics committee/institutional review board is required for the planned project this must be clearly stated at the short proposal stage. The approval (“Votum”) must be submitted online with the full proposal.

- ▶ For institutions without an ethics commission/IRB, the Austrian Academy of Sciences offers assessments:
 - ▶ <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/en/mitglieder/kommissionen/kommission-fuer-wissenschaftsethik>
- ▶ We highly encourage you to use this service

Use of GenAI in the application process !

WWTF emphasizes the importance of human responsibility for the content submitted at all stages of the application process.

- WWTF recognizes that use of genAI tools to support proposal writing
- **“Substantial use” of genAI must be declared** as such for the sake of transparency. “Substantial use” defined in line with the European Commission’s definition:
*“[...] using generative AI as a basic author support tool is not a substantial use. However, interpreting **data analysis, carrying out a literature review, identifying research gaps, formulating research aims, developing hypotheses, etc.** could have a substantial impact.”* (EC 2024: Living Guidelines on the responsible use of generative AI in research.)
- This mainly concerns critical parts of scientific relevance, such as hypothesis formulation and the scientific project plan.
- **The applicants have full responsibility over the content of the proposal!**

Also: This is a Digital Humanism Call → Use AI responsibly!

Things to Consider

- ▶ Check the scope of our call
- ▶ Get to know your institution's research office
- ▶ Read the guidelines → [Evaluation criteria](#)
- ▶ Don't assume specific expertise of our Jury, especially in the first selection round
- ▶ Polish your CV, use our template
- ▶ Pay more than lip service to gender equality & open science
- ▶ Think realistically about the budget of your project (feasibility!)

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CAREER COLUMN | 01 September 2023

A funding adviser's guide to writing a great grant application

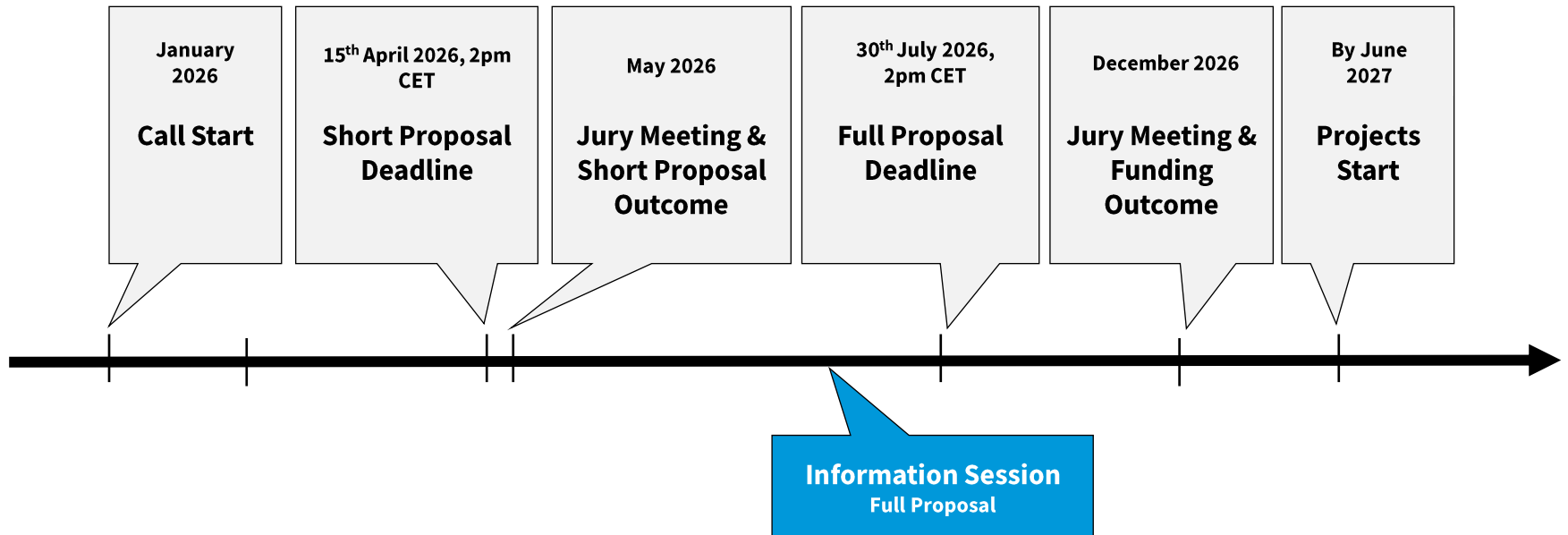
Mireille Consalvey draws on years of experience to present a 13-step checklist for success.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-023-02756-6>



ICT26 | Call Timeline

W|W|T|F



ICT26 | Call Timeline

W|W|T|F



Full Proposal Submission

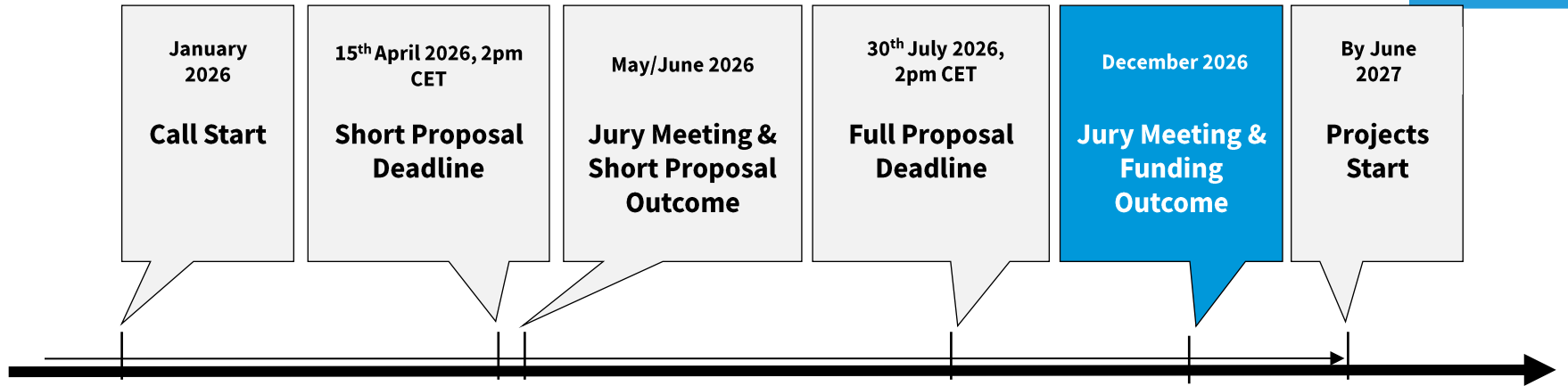
- Upon invitation
- Via the online Funding Portal
- Extension of short proposal
- Detailed budget
- Additional team members

Peer Review Process

- A minimum of 3 reviews per proposal
- Applicants must suggest 5 reviewers
- Applicants may exclude up to 3 reviewers
- Only international reviewers, we check Col with core team members of the proposal
- Reviews form the basis of the jury discussion

ICT26 | Call Timeline

W|W|T|F



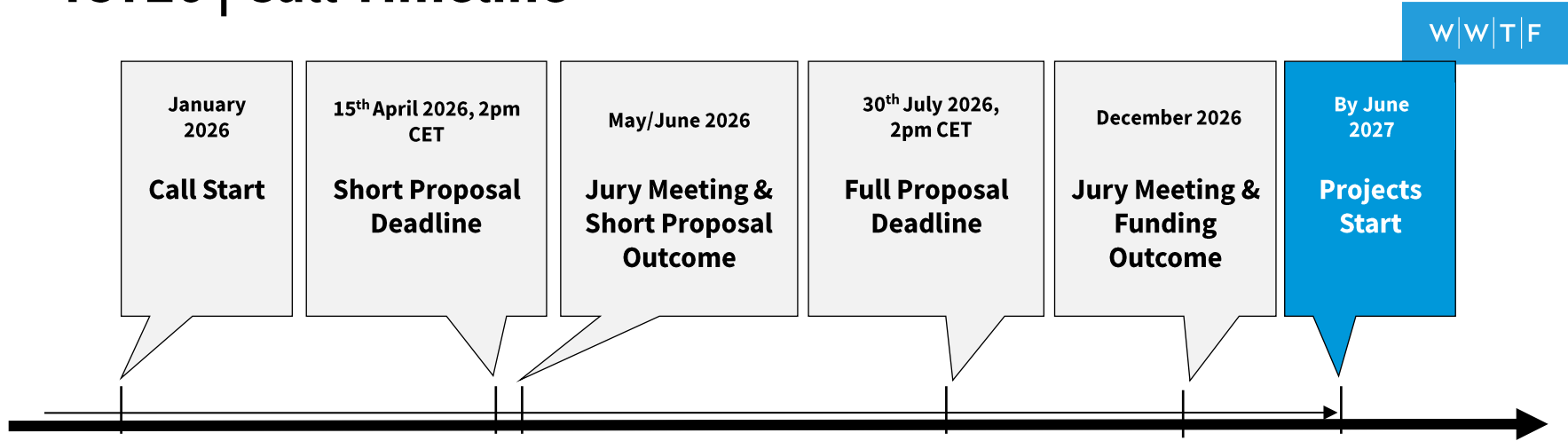
Evaluation and Recommendation by Jury

- Scientific excellence and academic potential
- Innovative character of the proposed research
- Team composition
- Relevance and Impact
- Feasibility
- Gender aspects

Funding Decision

- Formal decision by WWTF Board of Directors
- All applicants will receive a decision letter (acceptance or rejection) with anonymised reviews

ICT26 | Call Timeline



Important:
Please be aware that projects should start as soon as possible.

Funding Contract

- Funding contract is between WWTF and the host institution of the coordinating PI (according to § 27 of the 2002 University Law)
- For Joint Projects, the host institution of the co-PI in Lower Austrian is an additional contract partner
- Coordinating PI has scientific and financial responsibility for the project
- **Project should start by June 2027 at the latest**

Choose call and create proposal

- ▶ Proposal divided into five chapters under tabs

! Basic Information

✓ Personnel and Institutions

! Project

✓ Budget

✓ Signatures

Basic Information

Changes are only possibly for ..

- ▶ **Keywords** → please provide them in a granularity that facilitates the search for appropriate reviewers (only used for that purpose)

New Info:

- ▶ **Suggested reviewers:** 5; no reviewers with Austrian affiliation; no conflict of interests (aka project collaboration and co-authored publications)
- ▶ **Excluded reviewers:** Up to 3; only individuals not institutions

Personnel and Institutions

- PI and Co-PI(s) remain the same
- CV update is possible → change CV in Profile; import in “Role” → Important: you must click “refresh from profile” in order to import the CV into the project → please check if the correct CV has been imported
- Further institutions (up to five in total) → crucial for budgeting; if they are not listed does not mean you cannot collaborate in the project → but if these institutions want to receive money, they should be listed.

Further Partner Institution(s)

Other institutions participating in the project apart from those of PI and Co-PI.

+ Partner Institution

Partner Institution

Search affiliation



Affiliation *

Please try to find and select your affiliation in our database

Institute/Department/Research Group *

Address *

Zip *

City *

Country *

Project

- ▶ New info required: Lay summary for PR purposes → directed to a non-scientific audience → focus on relevance
- ▶ Scientific abstract can be edited: primary purpose → send to potential reviewers for them to decide if they have the expertise to review → write it accordingly.
- ▶ Work programme (14 pages) upload. 14 pages include references. Length of each chapter is at your discretion
 - ▶ The work programme is an extension (more details) of what has been provided in the short proposal → it should not be a different project; however, you may deviate in case that you think the changes are improving the project (e.g. go for another method)
- ▶ Ethics: can be edited / updated
- ▶ Data management: can be edited/updated
- ▶ Use of gen-AI: Update it according to the practices employed in writing the full proposal

Full Proposal | Budget

- ▶ Detailed budget for full proposal.
- ▶ You can deviate from the budget in the SP, but not more than 15%.
- ▶ 3.5% annual wage increase are programmed in the system.
- ▶ Budgeting for planning purposes → can be changed in the contract and also during conduct.

Full Proposal | Budget

Personnel Costs

Name / Staff category	Funding source	Average yearly time commitment (from 0 to 100%)			Y1 salary 100%	Funding applied for
		Y1	Y2	Y3		
[Redacted]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WWTF	20.0 %	20.0 %	20.0 %	100,788 €	62,614 €
	<input type="checkbox"/> In-kind	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %		
PI or Co-PI						
[Redacted]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WWTF	25.0 %	25.0 %	25.0 %	91,918 €	71,380 €
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-kind	20.0 %	20.0 %	20.0 %		
PI or Co-PI						
[Redacted]	<input type="checkbox"/> WWTF	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %		0 €
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-kind	10.0 %	10.0 %	10.0 %		
Post Doc						

- ▶ Every person involved has its line (also N.N.)
- ▶ You can combine WWTF funding and inkinds

Full Proposal | Budget

Description / Institution / Cost category	Y1	Y2	Y3	Funding applied for
field trips Institution: University for Test Purposes Cost category: Travelling	2,500 €	3,000 €	3,000 €	8,500 €
MRT device Institution: University for Test Purposes Cost category: Equipment	1,000 €	1,000 €	2,000 €	4,000 €

- ▶ Usually one entry per cost category / institution → i.e. not all conferences trips individually

Full Proposal | Signatures

Upload signatures:

- Only signature files permitted. No other documents as the signatures are not forwarded to the jury
- Do not upload the whole proposal, only the signature pages to allow for more efficient checking
- At this stage, also signatures from “Further institutions” are required

Q & A

All call-specific information available: <https://wiki.wwtf.at/books/ict26-digital-humanism>

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