MREŽA NACIONALNIH KONTAKTNIH TOČK

Study Visit to the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG): Learning, Cooperation and Best Practices Exchange

Österreichische Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft (FFG), Sensengasse 1, 1090 Vienna, Austria

January 29th, 2026

AGENDA

11:45 **Arrival from Slovenia to Vienna**

12:00 **Light lunch & networking**

13:00 **Welcome & Introduction**
Birgit STEININGER | Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)
Darija VALANČIČ | Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation (MVZI)
Lil REIF | Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)

13:15 **How does the Austrian Horizon Europe NCP network function? Set-up, Roles, Ressources – hybrid**
Input & Discussion
Birgit STEININGER | Ralf KÖNIG | Lil REIF
Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)

14:30 **Coffee break & networking**

15:00 **World Café Working as an NCP – Experiences & Tips**
Four tables hosted by NCP tandems from Slovenia and Austria

Topics: What is the most added value of NCP to the clients? | If I could change in my work as NCP one thing – what would that be? | Is the future of combining more centralized programmes with HE, effect the work of NCP and how? | Personal characteristics an excellent NCP should have?

REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA VISOKO ŠOLSTVO, ZNANOST IN INOVACIJE
NAČRT ZA OKREVANJE IN ODPORNOST
Financira Evropska unija NextGenerationEU
Horizon Europe

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FFG Promoting Innovation.

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16:00 **Short Break**

16:10 **Presentation from each table (elevator pitch) & discussion**
Table host tandems & all

16:30 **Wrap up with new knowledge and experiences**
Darija VALANČIČ | LiI REIF

17:00 **Departure from Vienna to Slovenia**

P A R T I C I P A N T S

Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation (MVZI) in Vienna	
Darija Valančič	NCP Coordinator / Legal and Financial aspects
Nika Merkuš	NCP Cluster 1- Health
Doroteja Zlobec	NCP Cluster 4 - Industry
Katja Žagar	NCP Cluster 6 - Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment
Anamarija Meglič	NCP The European Innovation Council (EIC)
Igor Milek	NCP The European Innovation Council (EIC)
Maja Peharc	NCP Widening Participation and ERA, Open Science
Sabina Žakelj Pediček	NCP European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)
Anamarija Lukenda	NCP Missions
Klemen Prešeren	Support to NCPs for Financial aspects
Peter Volasko	Member of the SPC

Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation (MVZI) online	
Davor Kozmus	NCP Cluster 2 - Culture, creativity and Inclusive Society
Maruša Arh	NCP Cluster 3 - Civil Security for Society
Erik Potočar	NCP Cluster 5 - Climate, Energy and Mobility
Uroš Fink	NCP Cluster 5 - Climate, Energy and Mobility
Tanja Vertelj	NCP Widening Participation and ERA
Andreja Peršič	NCP Fusion
Jona Klobčar	Support to NCPs - analitics
Karmen Jereb Bren	Support to NCPs - PR
Petra Žagar	Member of the SPC
Tit Neubauer	NCP JRC / NEB

Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)	
Birgit Steininger	NCP Coordinator; NCP Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment; EU Missions
Ralf König	NCP Widening Participation and ERA, Senior Expert for International STI Cooperation
Lil Reif	NCP ERC, MSCA and Widening Participation and ERA
Angela Wieser	NCP New European Bauhaus R&I, Cluster 2 Culture, creativity and Inclusive Society
Giorgio Mutinati	NCP European Innovation Council (EIC) and European Innovation ecosystems
Theresa Van Hoesel	NCP Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment; EU Missions
Elli Tzatzanis-Stepanovic	Senior Expert for International STI Cooperation, project manager
Jeannette Klonk	NCP Civil Security for Society
Mihaela Albu	NCP Digital, Industry and Space

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