



Call: Visions for genetics required

The future of global supply with food and biogenic materials

The challenge for securing world nutrition as well as supply of. *The Gregor-Mendel-Gesellschaft awards ideas for visionary approaches.*

Renowned scientists have concluded that the amount of edible food needs to be more or less doubled within the coming 25 years to meet the predicted population increase and consumption habits. Equally, with the upcoming turning point from an economy based on fossile raw materials to a bio-economy, additional challenges

for plant production systems will have to be met.

All these ever growing hopes should be met by modern bio-sciences – clearly not in competition for growing areas between food and raw material production. Rather by substantial and sustainable increase of productivity and cascade utilization of growing raw materials.

The key to this will come from an improved assessment and concerted optimization of production systems – by nature living systems: The crop plants, animals for production, and their respective associated organisms – harmful or beneficial, as well as organisms used in process and conversion biotechnologies completing the cycle.

Call for composing of visionary research concepts

The Gregor Mendel Gesellschaft Wien together with responsible sponsors from private and public institutions calls on junior scientists (up to 35 years age) to compose and present their visionary ideas on contributing solutions to meet the global nutrition problem and/or improved supply of bio-materials by genetics research and development.

Requested is an R&D concept based on the state of the art (genetics, omics, molecular ecology, system biology etc.), which – by combination of known as well as speculative and new methods - shall facilitate the achievement of specific objectives in the frame of the given thematic area.

Applications to office@gregormendelgesellschaft.at will be accepted in German or English language until October 31st. Alternatively, a paper copy may be mailed to

[Gregor Mendel Gesellschaft Wien, IPP, Gregor Mendel Straße 33, 1180 Wien](#)

The date of the mailing/sending receipt applies.

The **size** of the submitted R&D concept is limited to 5 pages (min. 11 pt font). Informations to the professional qualification with contact data (including a physical address) must be supplied in a separate document of 1 page maximum.

The application must be written in the style of a pre-proposal for a research project and the following points must be sufficiently explained:

- Background/state of the art
- Novelty of the research idea/aims
- Description of the own contribution: methods to be applied, estimated time frame
- If necessary: Description of required co-operations (qualification/technology)

The application must

- be understandable for experts without specific knowledge of details,
- comprehensible and conclusive according to scientific standards, and
- include critical analyses and alternatives for presented speculative approaches

Applications will be **evaluated** by a jury of scientists and technology journalists selecting the three top concepts for presentation to the jury (end November to early December). Within this process the three selected applicants will receive advice on how to implement their research concept. The jury autonomously chooses the winning concept from the three selected applications, The winner will present her/his concept to the audience of the 40th anniversary meeting of the Gregor Mendel Gesellschaft in Vienna on December 7th afternoon (venue to be announced). The winning research concept will in addition receive an award of €5.000 to assist applications for respective project funding and implementation.