COST TRANSPARENCY IN THE OLECON PROJECT: SUSTAINABLE FINANCING OF DIAMOND OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

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A COMMUNITY FINANCING MODEL — THE OLECON CONSORTIUM

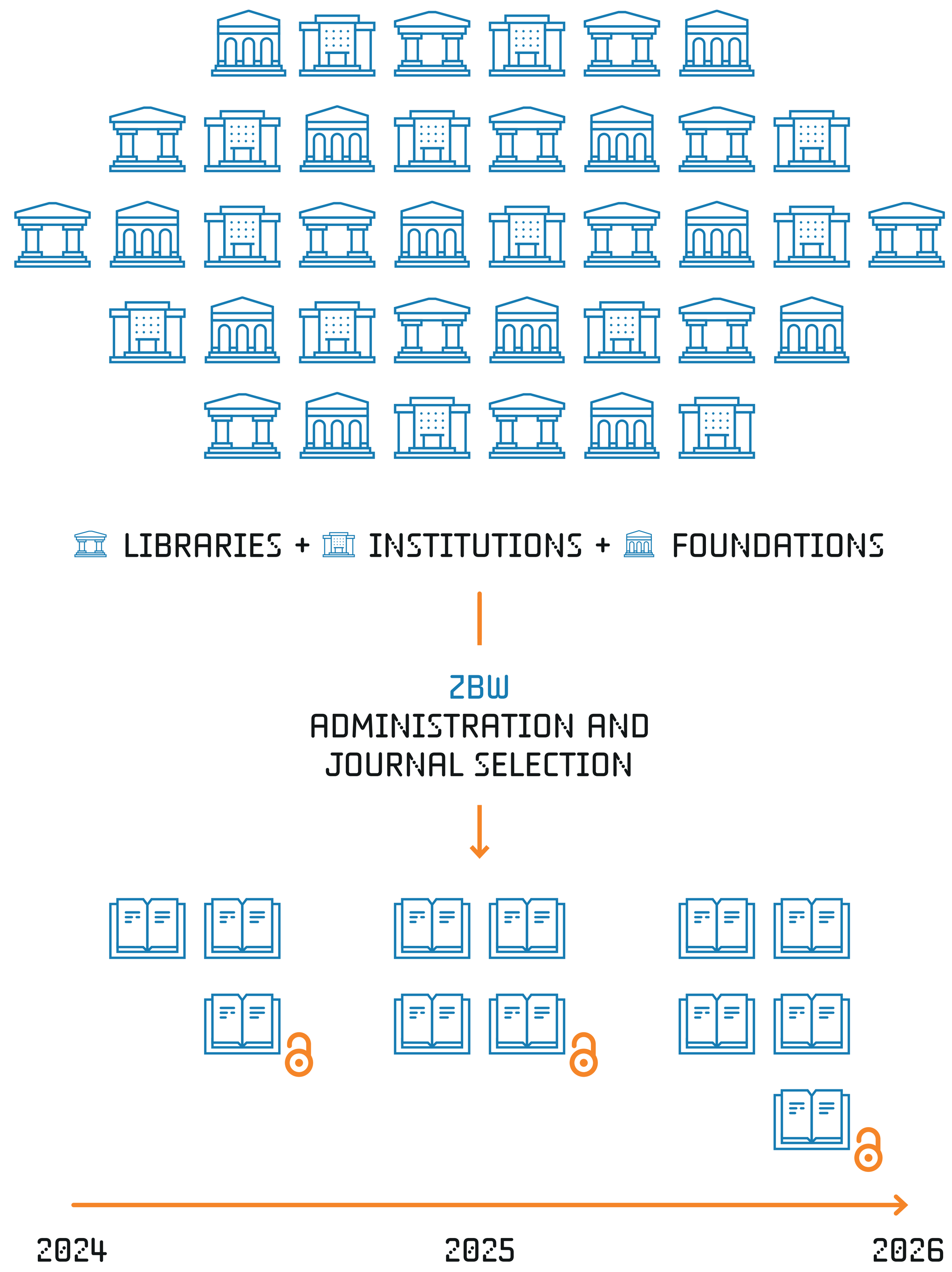
The OLEcon consortium aims to establish long-term funding for scholar-led Diamond Open Access journals in economics by establishing a financing consortium.

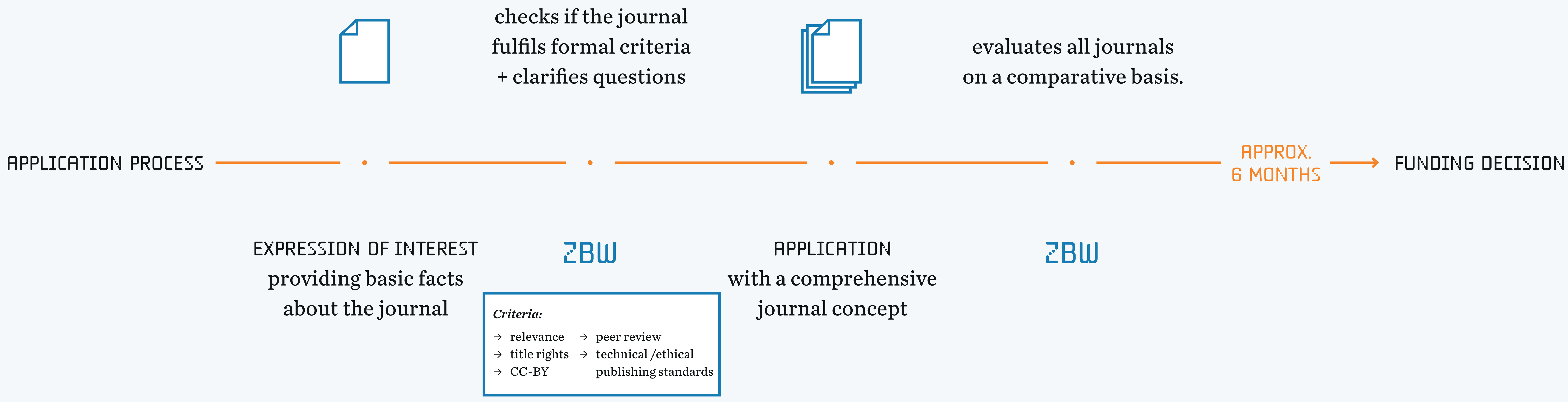
Institutions can join the consortium by participating in the annual pledging rounds. Co-Financers are academic libraries, foundations and other institutions.

In 2026, the journal bundle includes five economics journals. Each journal receives a three-year funding commitment from the ZBW, with the possibility of an extension if the funding requirements continue to be met.

Consortium lead: ZBW – Leibniz Information Centre for Economics

The establishment of the consortium is supported by the BMFTR project OLEKonsort (09/2023-08/2026).





TRANSPARENCY OF JOURNALS

During the application process, editors and service providers must disclose all costs associated with the journal in a cost plan. After three years, journals can apply for a continuation of the funding, if funding criteria are still met. The consortium co-finances the costs of the journal production.

The maximum funding available for a journal is 30.000€ p.a.

TRANSPARENCY IN THE CONSORTIUM

The costs of the journals are covered by three different sources. From 2023 to 2026, there is project funding with the BMFTR-project OLEKonsort, which decreases each year.

In addition, there is the financing consortium, which covers 50% of the costs in 2026. The ZBW also covers a part of the costs from its information budget. From 2027 onwards, only ZBW and the financing consortium will cover the costs of the journals.

Tier	FTEs (students and scientific staff)	Financial support
1	under 5.000	700
2	5.000-10.000	1.400
3	More than 10.000	2.800

Each institution’s contribution towards Diamond Open Access financing is calculated based on the number of its full-time equivalent students and academic staff (tiers).

The financing in the consortium is renewed annually.

OPEN LIBRARY ECONOMICS
Supporting scholar-led journals in economics

ZBW Leibniz-Informationszentrum Wirtschaft
Leibniz Information Centre for Economics

With funding from the:
Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space