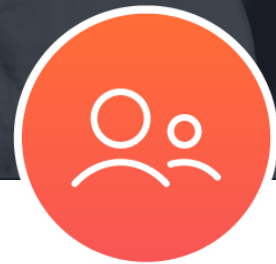# Great time saving for applications for research projects

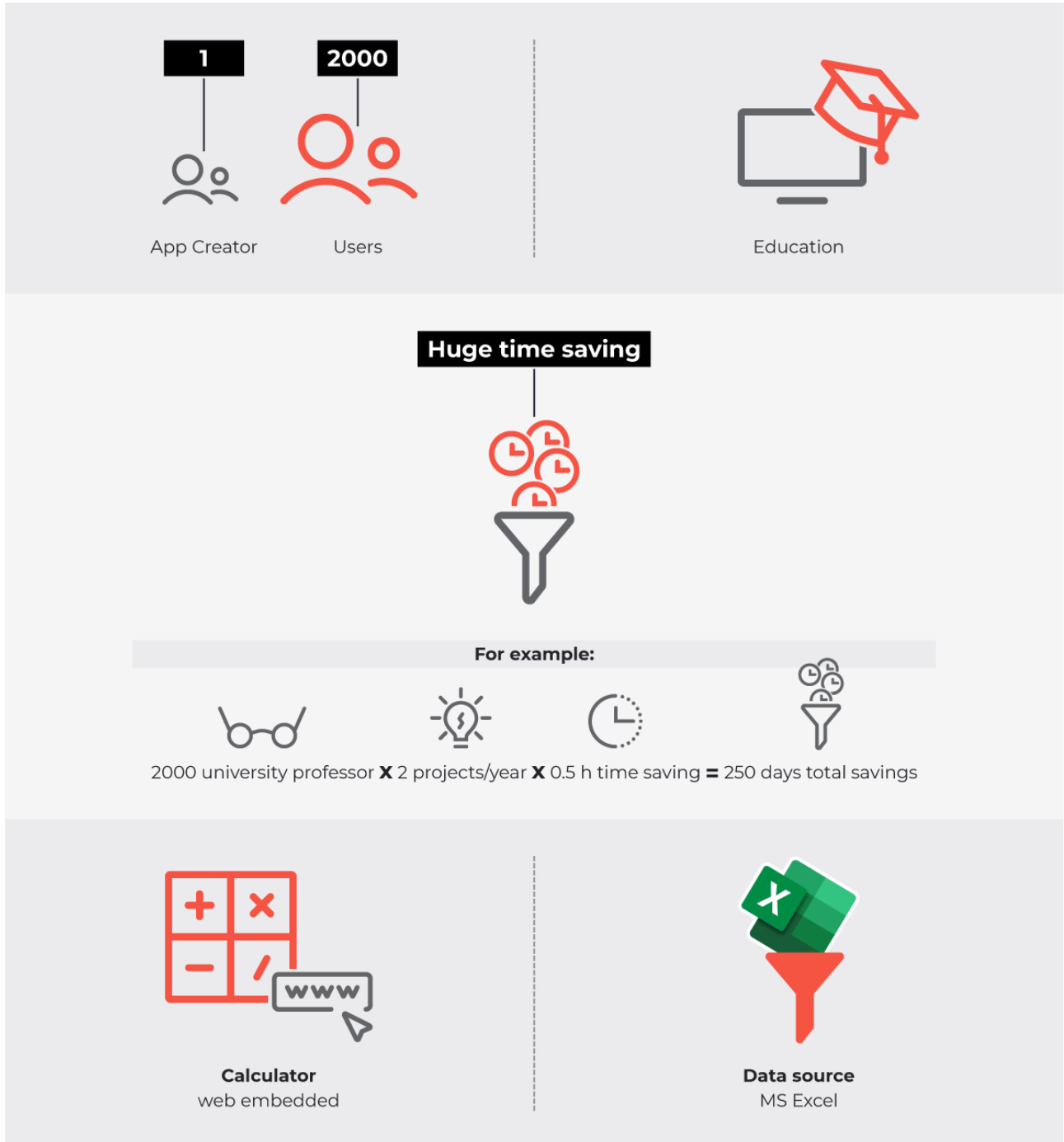**Easy**
maintenance

Great
time saving

Fast
deployment

With an interactive personnel calculator app based on Microsoft Excel and Open as App the university greatly increases its efficiency for the applications for research projects.

At a glance – Open as App at Humboldt University

1 App Creator

2000 Users

Education

Huge time saving

For example:

2000 university professor **X** 2 projects/year **X** 0.5 h time saving **=** 250 days total savings

Calculator
web embedded

Data source
MS Excel

Challenge

Research and publications contribute to the reputation of the Humboldt University of Berlin. To achieve this, a wide organization must be managed.

More than 2,000 professors and their research assistants submit a large number of applications for research projects every year. Apart from the description of the research project, the budget is of central importance.

To ensure that all projects are adequately funded, the Research Service Centre examines the budgets of all applications. A large part of the expenses is detailed personnel costs. Up to now, professors have had to insert this from the public pay scale tables by hand - a time-consuming process.

> *"Around 2,000 professors and their staff apply for research funds each semester. All applications must be carefully reviewed. By using an app, the budget calculation is much faster, standardized, and always with up-to-date data."*
> Dr. Christoph Raiser, Team Leader/Manager External Funding Research, Service Center Research of the Humboldt-University, Berlin

As this often involved overwriting existing applications or using outdated pay scale tables, the review and correction of applications was also time-consuming and required a great deal of communication between the applicant and the processor.

Solution

In order to make the application process for research projects more efficient, Humboldt University is taking a new approach. A standardized Excel spreadsheet lists all relevant data from standard wages to health insurance contributions. However, the Excel solution itself is too complex to be distributed directly.

With the new app, the personnel costs for applications of research projects are calculated.

With Open as App, the team of third-party funded research uses the existing spreadsheet to create an app in a short time that makes the complex calculation simple and user-friendly. The existing logic of the Excel file with formulas and dependencies is also available via the app and is displayed in such an optimal way that each user only sees and calculates the data he or she needs at the moment.

All details such as hourly duration, salary level, or part-time employee are displayed.

After the calculation, the relevant data for the salary breakdown is broken down in detail. App and data source remain connected so that every change in the excel sheet is immediately available in the app.

The Humboldt University team can, therefore, continue working in the familiar Excel file while the professors access the user-friendly app.

> *"There are several thousand research proposals at Humboldt University each year. Even saving half an hour per project has an enormous impact. With Open as App, we can always distribute our data correctly and in a user-friendly manner and thus work much more efficiently."*
>
> Dr. Christoph Raiser, Team Leader/Manager External Funding Research, Service Center Research of the Humboldt-University Berlin

The personnel calculator app is embedded into the service websites of the Humboldt University
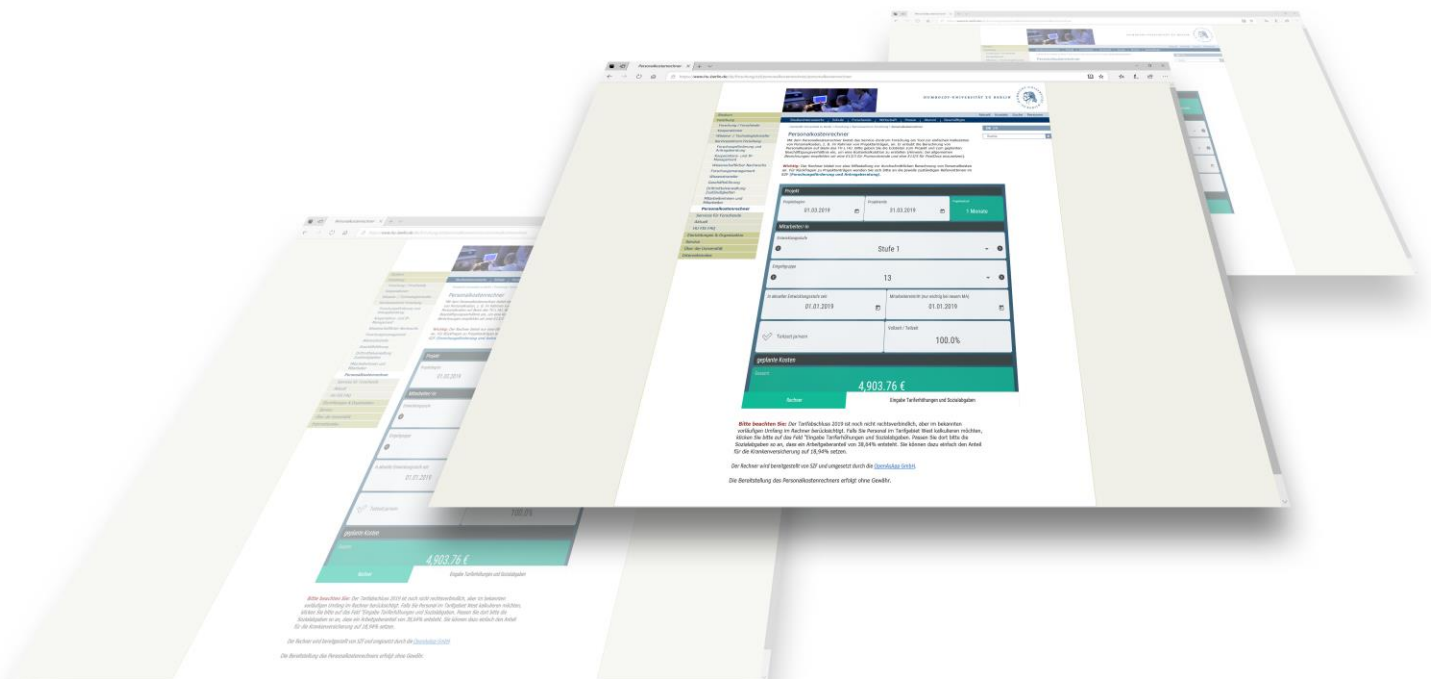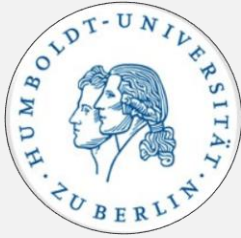
Result

The personnel calculator app is well received by the professorial community. A large number of them now use the service website with the embedded app to calculate the costs of personnel requirements in research projects.

This significantly reduces the workload of the third-party funding teams when reviewing applications.

"The creation of apps with Open as App is just right for digitization at the university. Fast, uncomplicated, and cost-effective. We have received very positive feedback on the website and calculation app. It is easy and intuitive to use and provides optimal support for our internal organization."

Dr. Christoph Raiser, Team Leader/Manager External Funding Research, Service Center Research of the Humboldt-University Berlin

HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITY, BERLIN

The Humboldt University of Berlin (HU Berlin) was founded in 1809. The HU Berlin is one of the 20 largest universities in Germany and is considered a world-renowned university that has trained 29 Nobel Prize winners, among others. Humboldt University was included in the third funding line of the Excellence Initiative of the Federal and State Governments and thus ranks among the so-called elite universities in Germany.

More information: https://www.hu-berlin.de/en

OPEN AS APP

Open as App is the first #nocode platform empowering everyone to create and share apps automatically, including logic, charts, and calculations.

We enable individuals and companies of all sizes to

- save time and budget
- protect their know-how and secure and manage the way, data are shared
- provide great customer experience and innovation
- increase their resources for digitization with citizen developers

And the best, Open as App is free to try.