German Research Foundation and its international Research Funding Programmes
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1. Structure and aims of DFG

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Who we are
and what we are doing

► Central, self-governing research funding organisation that promotes research at universities
► Supporting scientific excellence in competition
► Serving all fields of science and research
► Advising parliaments and governments on scientific matters
► Promoting young researchers
► Supporting international cooperation
► Encouraging contacts between science and industry
► Bottom up
The legal status of the DFG is that of a private association. DFG can only act through its governing bodies, in particular through its Executive Board and General Assembly.

**Membership of DFG (96)**

- German Universities (69)
- Research organisations (16)
  - (Max Planck Society, Helmholtz-Association, Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft)
- Academies of Sciences (8), scientific associations (3)
Strategic goals

► Excellence through Competition

► Promoting Young Researchers

► International Collaboration
Key Principle of DFG

Illustration taken from: http://www.fernuni-hagen.de/REWI/STJZ/Daumier%20gruen.jpg

bottom-up

Dr. Jörn Achterberg, DFG Russia/CIS
Voronezh, 29.06.2010
The DFG is funded by

► German federal government (62.9%)
► German states (36.7%)
► Private sources (0.4%)

The DFG’s 2009 budget totalled €2,5 billion.
What is the DFG?
Responsibility for all research areas

Funding 2009
(Total € 2,5 billion)

- Engineering Sciences
  € 534 m
  (21,3%)  
- Humanities and Social Sciences
  € 379 m
  (15,2%)  
- Natural Sciences
  € 625 m
  (25,0%)  
- Life Sciences
  € 963 m
  (38,5%)  

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Funding Programmes of DFG

**Infrastructure Support**
€ 165.3 m
- Scientific Library Services and Information Systems
- Scientific Instrumentation - Information Technology

**Coordinated Programmes**
€ 1,463.8 m
- Clinical Research Units
- Collaborative Research Centres
- Humanities Research Centres
- Priority Programmes
- DFG Research Centres
- Research Training Groups
- Research Units

**Individual Grants Programme**
€ 967.2 m
- Clinical Trials
- Emmy Noether Programme
- Heisenberg Programme
- Individual Grants Programme
- NIH-DFG Research Career Transition Awards Program
- Reinhart Koselleck Projects
- Research Fellowships
- Scientific Networks
- Temporary Positions for PI

**Prizes and other**
€ 50.1 m
- Communicator Award
- Copernicus Award
- Ursula M. Händel Prize
- Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Programme
- Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Prize
- Albert Maucher Prize in Geoscience
- Bernd Rendel Prize
- Eugen and Ilse Seibold Prize
- von Kaven Awards

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Individual Grants / Research Grants

- Research project on a specifically defined topic within a limited time period

- A research grant can be used to:
  - staff
  - scientific instrumentation
  - consumables
  - travel and publications

- No submission deadline

- Funding decision: General Assembly of DFG

- Information on formalities: DFG-Form 1.02 and DFG-Scientific Affairs

Part in total funding volume: 36.5% (2008)
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How does the DFG promote international cooperation?

Special Instruments

- Funding of the Initiation and Enhancement of Bilateral Cooperation
- Postdoctoral Fellowships
- Joint Calls with Partner Organisations
- International Research Training Groups
- International Scientific Events
- Mercator Programme for Visiting Professorships

You can apply for international funding like travel costs, exchange of researchers in all DFG-Funding Programmes.
Initiation and enhancement of bilateral cooperation (funding for a period of up to one year)

Bilateral Events held in Germany

- Domestic travel within Germany and maintenance (per diem allowance) for participants from Germany (provided that these are not paid by the partner organisation)
- In justified, exceptional cases, maintenance and international travel for participants from other countries
- Excursion expenses after the scientific event
- Events costs, employment of conference assistants, translation, catering services
Initiation and enhancement of bilateral cooperation (funding for a period of up to one year)

Bilateral Events held in the Partner Country

- International travel for participants from Germany, as well as additional costs such as visa expenses (€ 100 lump sum)
- Maintenance allowances for participants from Germany (provided that these are not covered by the partner organisation)
- Excursion expenses for German researchers following the event
Initiation and enhancement of bilateral cooperation (funding for a period of up to one year)

Research Stays (in Germany / in the Partner Country)

- Preparatory visits (up to three weeks)
- Consultative visits (up to three months)

For participants from Germany: international travel, transportation costs, maintenance allowances, visa and additional expenses (€ 100 lump sum)

For participants from partner country: maintenance and, in justified cases, also international travel costs
What are the DFG’s objectives in funding top young talent?
To offer researchers appropriate funding options at each career stage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Studies</th>
<th>Doctorate</th>
<th>Postdoc Period</th>
<th>Achievement of eligibility for tenure</th>
<th>Preparation for scientific mgmt position</th>
<th>Professorship or other scientific mgmt position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student assistant in DFG project</td>
<td>Position in DFG project</td>
<td>Position in DFG project</td>
<td>Position in DFG project</td>
<td>Position in DFG project</td>
<td>Position in DFG project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research in a Research Training Group</td>
<td>Research Training Group fellowship</td>
<td>Research fellowship abroad</td>
<td>Emmy Noether Programme</td>
<td>Heisenberg professorship</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research Training Group position</td>
<td>Research fellowship abroad</td>
<td>Heisenberg fellowship</td>
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</table>

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How does the DFG support international cooperation?
Through International Research Training Groups

- Joint doctoral training programmes between German universities and universities abroad
- Jointly developed and supervised research and study programmes
- A six-month research stay at the respective partner institution
- Grants and fellowships for doctoral researchers and postdocs
- Consumables and travel costs for scholars, professors
- Workshops, excursions, soft skill-courses
- 60 International Research Training Groups Partners

2 German-Russian IRTG:
- Universities of Giessen and Marburg – Lomonosov University
- TU Munich – Lomonosov University
German-Russian Research Training Groups

«Enzymes and Multienzyme Complexes Acting on Nucleic Acids» (since 2006)
► Justus-Liebig-University Gießen (Prof. Dr. Peter Friedhoff)
► Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU) (Prof. Dr. Tatyana Oretskaya)
► University Marburg
Period of funding: 108 months

«Regulation and Evolution of Cellular Systems» (since 2009)
► Technical University Munich (Prof. Dr. Dmitri Frishman)
► Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU) (Dr. Michail Gelfand)
Period of funding: 54 months
How can you start the cooperation?

► Find a cooperation partner

► Define the joint research programme

► Define the volume and source of funding in Russia: RAS, RFBR, RFH, ROSNAUKA, Universities, own funds

► Prepare and submit the proposal:
  German partner - to DFG
  Russian partner – to the funding organization in Russia
Our partners

- Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFFI) (Agreement from 1994)
- Russian Academy of Sciences (RAN) (Agreement from 1970)
- Russian Foundation for Humanities (RGNF) (Agreement – from 2005)
Selection criteria

- applicants’ scientific qualifications
- project quality (originality, expected knowledge gain, etc.)
- research objectives and work programme
- employment opportunities and scientific environment
- feasibility of the proposal with regard to funding and staffing resources
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Aims of the DFG Office Russia/CIS

- Be a point of contact for Russian researchers and research institutions
- Intensify institutional cooperation
- Advise on opportunities for DFG-funded cooperation
- Identify new cooperation potential (humanities, social sciences)
- Prepare and hold joint scientific events
- Promote young researchers
- Analyse and evaluate science policy in Russia and CIS-countries
- Integrate the regional scientific centers in Russia into international cooperation
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Thank you for your attention

Further information
- about DFG: [www.dfg.de](http://www.dfg.de)
- about all funded projects: [http://gepris.dfg.de](http://gepris.dfg.de)
- about ca. 17,000 German Research Institutions: [http://research-explorer.dfg.de](http://research-explorer.dfg.de)