



DFG

Funding Instruments of the German Research Foundation to Enhance the Mobility of Researchers

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



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Structure and membership

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)



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Strategic goals

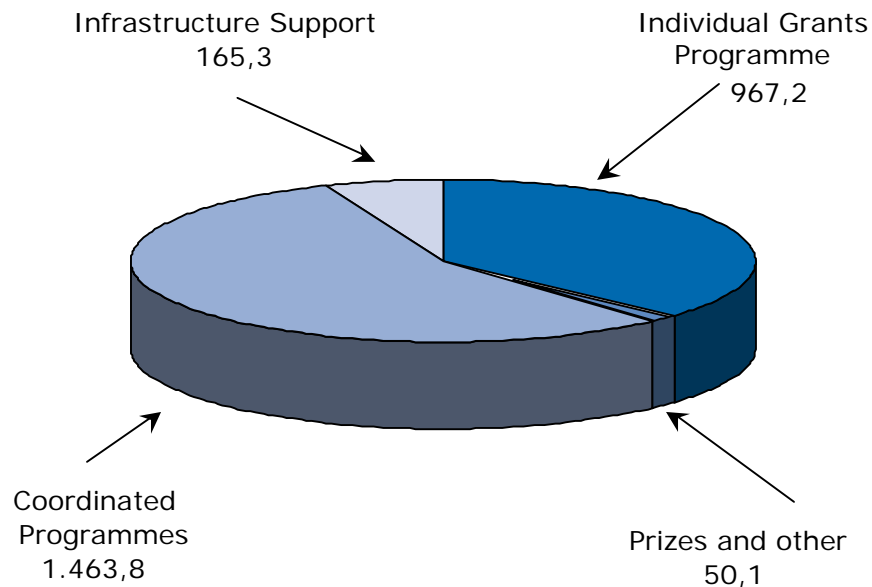
- ▶ Excellence through Competition
- ▶ Promoting Young Researchers
- ▶ International Collaboration



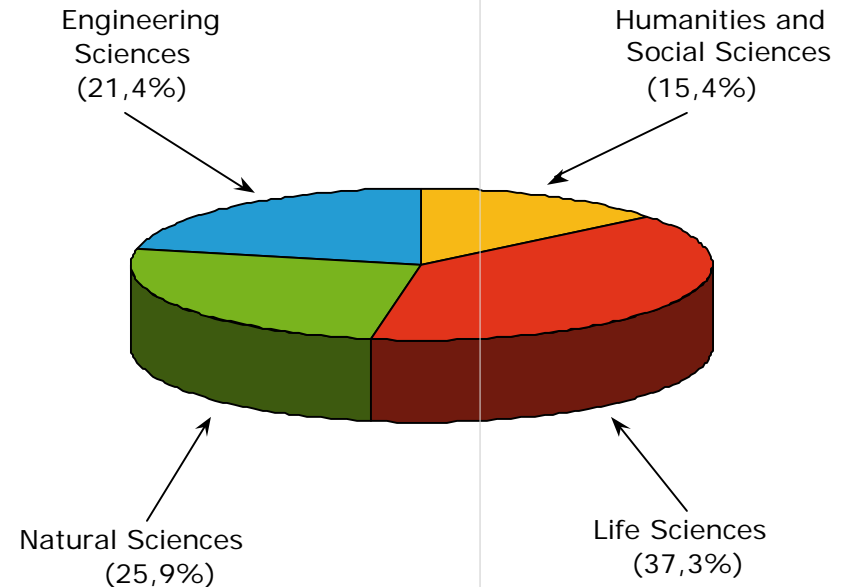
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Research funding and responsibility

Total Research Funding by Funding Category 2008 in million Euro*

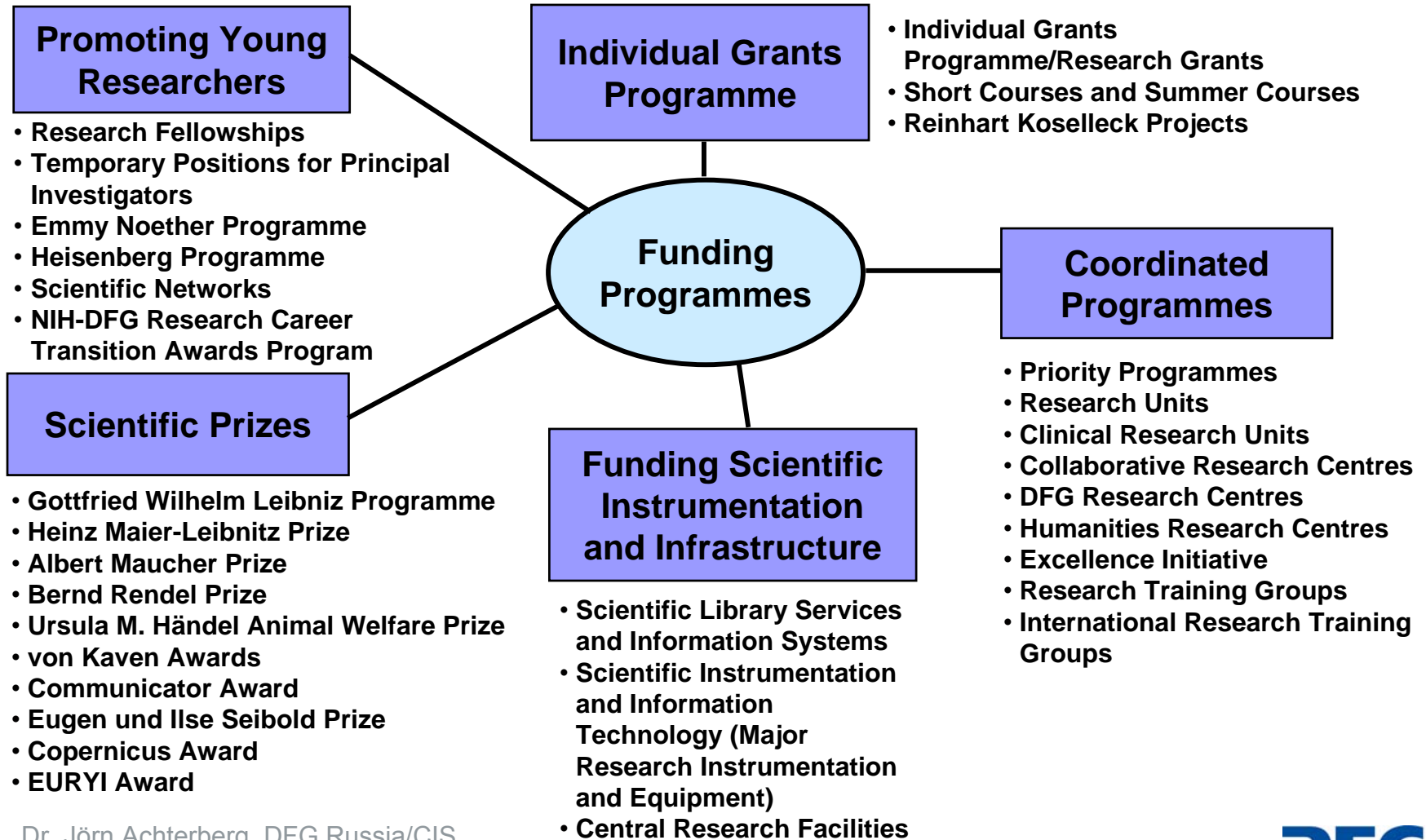


Responsibility for all Research Areas*



* Basis: Total volume: 2.646,4 million Euro 2008

Research funding programmes



How does the DFG promote international cooperation?

Special Instruments

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

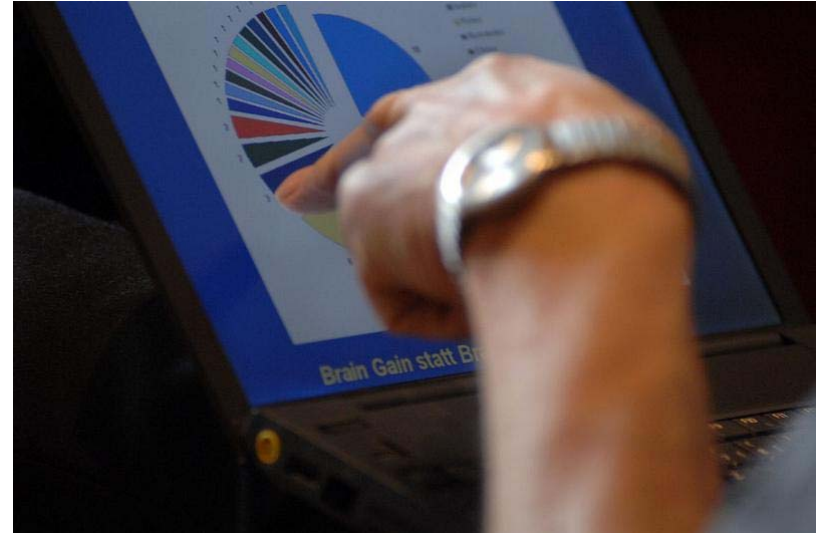
- ▶ International travel for participants from Germany, as well as additional costs such as visa expenses (€ 100 lump sum)
- ▶ Maintenance allowances for participants from Germany (provided that these are not covered by the partner organisation)
- ▶ Excursion expenses for German researchers following 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)



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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

DFG-Research Training Groups

Promoting young graduates in research – Funding duration 9 years:

- ▶ Grants and fellowships for doctoral researchers and postdocs
- ▶ Research students
- ▶ Consumables and travel costs for scholars
- ▶ Travel costs for professors (International Research Training Groups)
- ▶ Workshops und excursions
- ▶ Funds for visiting researchers
- ▶ Funds for soft skill-courses
- ▶ Coordination



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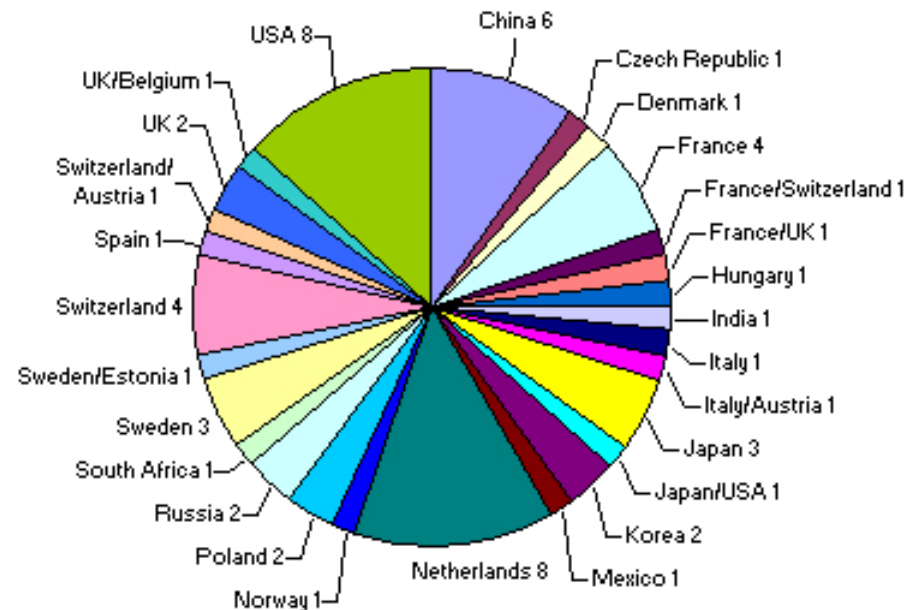
International Research Training Groups

- ▶ 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

2 German-Russian IRTG:

Universities of Giessen and Marburg –
Lomonosov University

TU Munich – Lomonosov University



60 International Research Training Groups
Partners by Country (10/09)

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



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Challenges to enhance the mobility of researchers

Finding partners

- ▶ lack of information and initial contacts
- ▶ no access to international networks and platforms
- ▶ fear of brain drain not only in MEE countries
- ▶ language skills of target country

Applications

- ▶ level of English
- ▶ motivation: high bureaucracy but low success rates and little funding
- ▶ lack of experience of proposal writing and project management skills

Challenges to enhance the mobility of researchers

Cultural differences

- ▶ differences in standard of living and working, e.g. infrastructure, everyday life
- ▶ Germany-Russia: strong hierarchy <> decision making; long term plans <> short term decisions; straightforward <> diplomatic terms

Incompatibility of funding, legal and social welfare systems

- ▶ visa requirements, custom duties and taxes on shipping of materials and equipment; social insurance, pension funds for scientists working abroad
- ▶ funding schemes: different evaluation criteria, different review process, deadlines, bottom up, competition
- ▶ project and finance management: accounting, contracts, IPR

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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



DFG

Thank you for your attention

Further information

- ▶ about DFG: www.dfg.de
- ▶ about all funded projects: www.dfg.de/gepris/
- ▶ about ca. 17.000 German Research Institutions: www.dfg.de/research_explorer/