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BMBF Joint projects on the field of applied research with Egypt; Deadline: 16 December 2024

The aim is to develop long-term innovation partnerships between universities, research institutions and companies between Egypt and Germany, which closely coordinate their respective research work for optimised technology and knowledge transfer. The concept of innovation is used for cooperation to be established, which includes not only technological but also social innovations and includes society as a central player. In addition, the training of young scientists is one of the main results of this cooperation programme.

Where possible, the foundations for the development of a sustainable innovation structure (for example, start-up, research-based small company) should be created or to open up a planned and displayable perspective for this structural structure. This is intended to achieve regional socio-economic value creation of the project results in the two partner countries and to accelerate innovation processes.

The addressed priority topics "One Health" and "Green Transition" supports bilateral joint projects of science and industry, which suggest innovative and socio-economically usable research results in the form of technologies, products, processes and/or services:

- One Health: Human, Animal and Environment Health, including Medical and Veterinary Research, Environmental Sciences, Food-Water-Energy-Nexus, Applied Biotechnology and Health
- Green Transition: Resource-efficient economy in the context of ecological change, inclusive intelligent cities and (digital) urban development, circular economy, energy research, green mobility and sustainable transport

The promotion of close cooperation between research institutions in the university and non-university sector with small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) is of particular importance. As part of this funding guideline, existing cooperations can be expanded as well as new project cooperations initiated. Great emphasis is also placed on the involvement of young scientists. In addition to innovative research work, the project-related mobility of scientists and experts, scientific workshops and symposia or similar activities are to be supported as part of the joint projects.

Universities, university hospitals, non-university research institutions and other institutions and institutions with research interests as well as companies in the commercial sector, especially SMEs, are eligible to apply.

The grants are granted by way of project funding as a non-repayable grant. Funding under this guideline for the German partners is

- with a maximum of up to 450,000 euros and usually for a duration of up to 24 months (funding phase 1) and
- With a maximum of up to 150 000 euros for further support (funding phase 2) for a term of usually up to 18 months.

No German partner is allowed to apply for more than 75 percent of the German overall funding budget for the project.

The promotion on the Egyptian side is

- up to EUR 300 000 and usually for a period of up to 24 months (funding phase 1) with additional participation of an industrial/company partner in addition to the institution of science/research or up to 150 000 euros without the participation of an industrial/company partner;
- a maximum of up to 450,000 euros for further funding (funding phase 2) over a period of usually up to 18 months for the Egyptian partner from science and industry.

No Egyptian partner can apply for more than 75 percent of the total Egyptian share if an industrial partner is involved.

Further information:

<https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/bekanntmachungen/de/2024/10/2024-10-15-bekanntmachung-forschungsfonds.html>

BMBF Joint projects on the field of Hydrogen research with Uruguay; Deadline: 19 December 2024

In recent years, the Uruguayan government has set new targets for the expansion of hydrogen and renewable energy capacity. The country wants to install hydrogen electrolyzers and operate them with electricity from wind and solar power plants. Germany's National Hydrogen Strategy emphasises the need for international cooperation. This provides a good basis for joint efforts by both countries to help hydrogen technology achieve a breakthrough internationally

The goal of this call for funding is to intensify the scientific and technological cooperation between Germany and Uruguay in the field of green hydrogen. The measure is intended to enable and promote a long-term effective networking of the German research landscape, which is sustainably equitable with the goals of the National Hydrogen Strategy, for research on hydrogen technologies with partners in Uruguay. The call for funding serves projects along the entire hydrogen innovation

and value chain.

Projects to promote joint research and innovation projects with or without the participation of the economy together with partners from Uruguay. The projects must address one or more of the following areas of green Hydrogen research:

- production of green hydrogen by electrolysis,
- Process for direct hydrogen production from solar energy such as photocatalysis or thermochemical digestion methods using high-temperature solar panels,
- Integration and combinations of the generation of renewable energies with plants for the generation of hydrogen and derivatives, including questions of electrical grid integration,
- Power-to-X processes including CO₂ usage procedures and
- Processes and concepts for hydrogen transport and supply chains including life cycle analyses, storage and conversion paths.

Accompanying techno-economic analyses are an advantage.

Universities, non-university research institutions and commercial companies, especially small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), are eligible to apply. The coordination of the projects should be at the universities or non-university research institutions. At the time of payment of an grant grant grant, the existence of a permanent establishment or branch (company) or any other institution serving the non-economic activity of the grant recipient is required in Germany.

The funding is provided as non-repayable grants. The funding per German project can generally be up to a maximum of €200,000, with a duration of up to 24 months.

Universities and university hospitals can apply for a project fee of 20 percent of the grant flat-rate (maximum funding of 200,000 euros) if federal funding for staff, award contracts, rents and computer costs and / or investments are granted in the overall financing plan.

Further information:

<https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/bekanntmachungen/de/2024/10/2024-10-08-foerderaufruf-wasserstoffforschung.html>

BMBF Joint projects on the topic of “Digital twins and data models for completely optical high-speed networks” with Japan; Deadline: 15 November 2024

The aim of the funding guideline is therefore to support the research of digital twins and data models for fully optical high-speed networks together with Japanese partners in order to develop a harmonized vision of innovative networking technologies as the basis of a digitised society. In addition, the joint projects are to strengthen German-Japanese cooperation and use the synergies and innovations resulting from the cooperation in order to help shape the standardisation of future fully optical communication networks. The funding measure is intended to enable them to work together with Japan at the forefront of international research and to expand their expertise in science and industry and to strengthen the training and acquisition of skilled workers.

The purpose of the grants is to promote the international cooperation of universities, research institutions and companies with partners from Japan. Key technologies for fully optical high-speed optical networks will be researched in effective and promising joint projects will demonstrate their performance with reference to key key performance, energy efficiency or resilience.

For this purpose, a methodology appropriate to the project must be used and the results achieved in the project must be evaluated, evaluated, published and prepared for further exploitation. As part of the announcement, the joint projects are usually funded for up to three years.

Funding is being funded, which consists of powerful consortia, consisting of German and Japanese partners, and is investigating the key technologies of future complete optical transmission networks. Within the projects, a balanced participation of the German and Japanese partners was to be achieved.

In the projects, areas with innovation potential and research questions must be addressed as examples, as stated in the following list:

- New architectures for digital twins and their use for network management.
- Innovative platforms for secure exchange and processing of state data of the physical network level.
- Innovative data models for fully optical networks that take into account the transmission distance, network nodes and end devices.
- New technologies and tools for optimizing and analyzing optical networks in terms of transmission capacity and resilience.

As a fundamental cross-cutting topic, the joint projects will be used to explore topics such as security-by-design, trust-

worthiness, sustainability, particularly in the interests of energy efficiency, longevity and resource-saving maintenance, with reference to the topics examined. In addition, standardisation and preparation of standardisation are other important cross-cutting topics, which must be addressed in the context of the project work.

For the German partial consortia, the following applies:

State and non-state universities, non-university research institutions, associations and associations as well as other organisations with research and development interests as well as companies in the commercial sector are eligible to apply.

Further information:

<https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/bekanntmachungen/de/2024/10/2024-10-04-bekanntmachung-kommunikationssysteme.htm>

BMBF Joint projects on the field of sustainable reconstruction with Ukraine; Deadline: 31 January 2025

The aim of this funding measure is to support the Ukrainian scientific landscape in maintaining the existing scientific potential and expanding research capacities. This is also intended to reduce migration from the Ukrainian science system and to promote the brain circulation between Germany and Ukraine. At the same time, the position of the Federal Republic of Germany as a key partner of Ukraine in the field of research and innovation is to be strengthened and German universities and non-university research institutions will be given the opportunity to develop new cooperation approaches with partners from Ukraine.

This largely open-topic call is promoting funding in a competitive process, where German and Ukrainian partner institutions are working together on research and development topics of mutual interest. The research and development projects could, for example, be related to key sectors of the Ukraine plan relevant to reconstruction or the priority areas of bilateral German-Ukrainian cooperation in research and innovation. This could include, but not exclusively, the following topics:

- Research related to the energy, health, agricultural or transport sectors
- Information, manufacturing or biotechnology
- Research on new materials
- Interdisciplinary Humanities, Social Sciences and Economics, e.g. in relation to reforms in the areas of politics, law or economics
- Green Transition or Environmental Protection

In addition to working on a joint research project, the aim is to maintain and expand research capacities in Ukraine by allowing part of the funding to be brought to the partner institution in Ukraine.

The research projects are intended to contribute to the establishment or expansion of long-term sustainable partnerships of the participating institutions, so that they are sustainable and beyond the expiry of the funding. For this purpose, the specialist programmes of the BMBF, the funding opportunities for German and international foundations, the programmes of the EU and national as well as international organisations or, if necessary, the national programmes of Ukraine should be taken into account.

The grants are granted by way of project funding as a non-repayable grant. At least one partner institution from Ukraine is mandatory for the measure. According to Module 7, the funding is usually up to 300,000 euros per project for the German side with a duration of usually up to 36 months.

Further information:

<https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/bekanntmachungen/de/2024/10/2024-10-15-foerderaufruf-wiederaufbau.html>

BMBF Joint projects on the topic of “Bilateral cooperation in Computational Neuroscience” with USA; Deadline: 13 November 2024

The “Bilateral Cooperation in Computational Neuroscience: Germany – USA” is a transnational initiative to promote research between Germany and the United States of America

The aim of this measure is to achieve progress in methodological investigation and the understanding of complex neuroscientific issues through networking between scientists working in the field of computational neuroscience, through scientific transnational exchange and interdisciplinary cooperation between the relevant disciplines.

The purpose of the grant is the establishment of excellent transnational research projects in the field of computational neuroscience. Applications for cooperation between German and US research groups can be submitted. In joint bilateral research

projects, new cooperations are to be concluded or existing cooperation between researchers from the participating countries are to be deepened and sustainably established. Researchers from the participating countries are to bundle complementary expertise in order to be able to achieve significant progress on difficult interdisciplinary issues.

Two types of projects can be funded within the framework of this funding announcement:

1. cooperative research projects and
2. Projects for the sharing of data and other resources.

Research projects should be innovative and collaborative and focus on challenging interdisciplinary problems in the field of computational neuroscience. The Computational Neuroscience area includes structure, function, organization and processing at all levels of the nervous system, including theory, modeling and analysis, disease and normal function, and effects on biological and technical systems. Cooperations that bring together experts from science and technology with complementary experience and training in order to be able to achieve significant progress on difficult interdisciplinary issues, as well as in-depth expertise in a variety of scientific areas are a prerequisite for this initiative and must be presented convincingly in the application. This funding announcement does not contain any requirements regarding a specific combination of specialist areas or scientific approaches. Where possible, the targeted use of existing data sets and material collections for research questions must be provided.

Projects for the sharing of data will focus on the preparation and provision of data, software, codebases, models or other resources that enable far-reaching research progress in the field of computational neuroscience. Projects for the sharing of data are expected to meet the needs of a large community of researchers who represent all scientific areas suitable for research projects under this funding announcement.

State and state-approved universities and non-university research institutions as well as companies in the commercial sector are eligible to apply. At the time of payment of a grant, the existence of a permanent establishment or establishment (company) or any other institution which serves the non-economic activity of the grant recipient (university, research institution) is required in Germany.

The grants are granted by way of project funding as a non-repayable grant. Projects can be funded for a period of three to five years.

Further information:

<https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/bekanntmachungen/de/2024/09/2024-09-26-bekanntmachung-neuroscience.html>

DFG Joint projects on the field of Humanities with the United Kingdom; Deadline: 19 February 2025

The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) are launching a call for proposals for outstanding joint UK-German research projects in the humanities.

Proposals may be submitted in any area of the humanities, as defined in the research funding guidelines of both agencies. Only proposals whose primary aim is to make fundamental advances in human knowledge in the relevant fields may be submitted in response to the call for proposals. Applicants who are uncertain whether their proposal would be eligible should contact the relevant agencies for clarification.

Projects must have well-defined joint working programmes that are clearly demonstrating the added value of UK-German collaboration. We expect that each partner substantially contributes to the common project; this also includes taking on organisational responsibilities.

The duration of the projects will normally be – and must not exceed – three years. Successful projects will be expected to start in early 2026.

The UK component may seek up to £420,000 Full Economic Costs (FEC) to which the AHRC will normally contribute 80% FEC.

Further information:

<https://www.dfg.de/de/aktuelles/neuigkeiten-themen/info-wissenschaft/2024/ifw-24-91>

DFG Joint projects on the development of Japanese-German International Research Training Groups; Deadline: None

As an expression of the long and fruitful scientific collaboration between their two countries, the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) are pleased to announce the renewal of the Memorandum of Cooperation for a joint funding scheme to support Japanese-German International Research Training Groups.

International Research Training Groups (IRTGs), in which German universities cooperate with research institutions in other countries and regions, combine innovative top-level research and the structured promotion of excellent researchers in early career phases. As bilateral collaborations set up by experienced researchers, IRTGs promote systematic scientific cooperation through joint research programmes and corresponding qualification measures for doctoral and postdoctoral researchers. A central feature of IRTGs are coordinated and reciprocal research visits by doctoral researchers at the respective partner institutions. IRTGs can only be established by universities, universities of applied science and research institutions entitled to confer doctoral degrees.

Proposals for Japanese-German IRTGs intended for JSPS-DFG funding are open to all subject areas covered by the JSPS, and interdisciplinarity in joint projects is encouraged. An IRTG should be run by two teams of participating researchers in Japan and Germany, respectively. Each team should have members with proven expertise both in the IRTG's main research topic and in providing outstanding supervision to doctoral researchers. The participating researchers' expertise at the two locations should be complementary and provide added value to the IRTG. Each team of participating researchers in an IRTG should be based at a single institution in Japan and Germany, respectively. In convincingly justified cases, an IRTG may be based at more than two institutions.

The Japanese and German teams in an IRTG should jointly formulate a high quality and coherent research and training programme to be implemented at both sites. The teams should have common research interests and objectives, and these must be reflected within a common framework and joint project. Proposals are submitted by the host institutions. For every IRTG, one member of the team on each side serves as spokesperson, being responsible for the proposal and the scientific coordination of the IRTG. This also includes the responsibility to report to the JSPS and the DFG, respectively.

The programme should provide for regular exchanges of academic staff and doctoral researchers for the purposes of joint research and training. Doctoral researchers should spend a period of at least six months (and up to one year) in total during their PhD project at the respective partner institution for research and training, and each doctoral researcher should have both a Japanese and a German supervisor. On the German side, approximately ten to fifteen doctoral researchers will be funded by the DFG within a single IRTG in parallel. The partner site in Japan should support a group of doctoral researchers of roughly the same size.

The Japanese-German consortium will firstly need to submit a joint IRTG draft proposal to the DFG. Submission will be possible at any time without calls or deadlines, and proposals are processed continuously. Draft proposals will be evaluated by means of written peer review carried out by reviewers selected by both the JSPS and the DFG. On average, around six to nine months are needed for this process, in which the DFG evaluates the draft proposals according to its established procedures. The DFG and the JSPS will share information about the submission of proposals and their evaluation outcome. In case of a positive outcome of the review process, the JSPS and the DFG then invite the consortium to submit a joint full proposal. The joint full proposal must be sent to the JSPS and the DFG simultaneously. Submission must be in accordance with the respective funding organisation's guidelines and through the established submission systems. Full proposals will be evaluated separately by the JSPS and the DFG.

Further information:

<https://www.dfg.de/de/aktuelles/neuigkeiten-themen/info-wissenschaft/2024/ifw-24-88>

Other Contact Research Funding Advisory Service at Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg

If you have any questions about funding opportunities, specific calls for proposals, help with submitting applications and project support, please contact the Research Funding Advisory Service/EU University Network at Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg.

Information about current events, funding structures and contact details online at:

<https://www.ovgu.de/KontaktForschungsfoerderung>

<https://www.euhochschulnetz-sachsen-anhalt.de/>

