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BMWE 12th Call for Proposals for Joint Research and Development (R&D) Projects between Germany and France; Deadline Application: 03.12.2025

Bpifrance and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE) intend to support joint French-German research and development projects (R&D projects) in order to develop innovative products, processes, or technical services in all technological and application areas.

Funding will be available for R&D projects in which new products, technical services or processes with a high market potential are developed and subsequently transformed into marketable products. In Germany, funding is provided through the Central Innovation Programme for SMEs (ZIM). In France, funding is provided through the Bpifrance Aide à l'Innovation funding scheme

Project results will have to contribute to the development of commercial products, processes and/or technical services which are based on the international state of the art. The project proposals have to comply with the following guidelines:
- The partners must include at least one company from France and one small and medium- sized enterprise (SME) from Germany, which are independent from each other and provide substantial R&D contributions to the project.
- Research and technology organisations (RTO) and other (large) companies are welcome as additional partners or subcontractors according to each country's funding schemes.
- The project must focus on the development of new products, technical services or processes which generate solutions with a high market and commercialisation potential.
- The project should have an obvious advantage and differentiated value proposition resulting from the cooperation between the participants from the two countries (e.g. increased innovation capability, access to R&D infrastructure, new fields of application, etc.).
- Project duration should in principal not exceed three years.
- The project should demonstrate a balanced technological contribution by the participants from both countries and must be equally significant to all participants.

Each German project partner submits an individual ZIM application to the responsible ZIM Project Management Agency. Every German SME, in accordance with the relevant EU regulations, as well as medium-sized companies with less than 500 employees (full-time equivalents), which carry out R&D for the development of innovative products, processes or technical services, are eligible to apply. Other medium-sized companies with less than 1,000 employees are eligible to apply for funding if they cooperate with at least one German SME (in accordance with EU regulations) whose project is funded. Research and technology organisations (RTOs) are eligible to apply as cooperation partners of eligible companies.

Between the opening of the call on 21st July 2025 and the call deadline on 3rd December 2025 the project consortium must submit the joint Proposal Application Form (in English), filled out and signed by all organisations participating in the project. This document must to be submitted electronically to zim-international@aif-projekt-gmbh.de and international.innoproject@bpifrance.fr.

Contact Person Germany:
AiF Projekt GmbH
Jenny Gudlat, Phone: +49 (0)30 48163-589, Mail: j.gudlat@aif-projekt-gmbh.de

Further information:
https://www.zim.de/ZIM/Redaktion/DE/Artikel/International/frankreich.html

DFG NSF-DFG Lead Agency Procedure in Chemistry, Process Engineering, Fluid Mechanics and Thermodynamics; Deadline Proposal: 01.09.2025

Recognising the importance of international collaborations in promoting scientific discoveries, the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on research cooperation. The MoU provides an overarching framework to enhance opportunities for collaborative activities between US and German research communities and sets out the principles by which jointly supported activities might be developed. To facilitate the support of collaborative work between US researchers and their German counterparts under this MoU, the Division of Chemistry (CHE) and the Division of Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental and Transport Systems (CBET) at the NSF and the Divisions of Physics and Chemistry (PC) and Engineering Sciences (ING 1) at the DFG are pleased to announce this Lead Agency Procedure.

The goal of this Lead Agency Procedure is to reduce current barriers to working internationally by al-lowing US and German researchers to submit a single collaborative proposal that will undergo a single review process while funding organisations maintain budgetary control over their awards. The prospective investigators must discuss within their research team where they feel the largest proportion of research lies and agree on a Lead Agency (either DFG or NSF). To be eligible for funding through this Lead Agency Procedure, proposals will need to have a research focus that falls within the scope of a participating division/programme at both the DFG and the NSF.

Proposals under this Lead Agency Procedure will need to have a research focus relevant to DFG's subject areas:
- 3.11–3.17 Chemistry
- 4.21 Process Engineering, Technical Chemistry
- 4.22 Fluid Mechanics, Technical Thermodynamics and Thermal Energy Engineering

US researchers should review the CHE and CBET programme descriptions for research supported through these NSF divisions. Research teams are strongly encouraged to contact DFG and NSF programme officers prior to submission. Further, proposals must provide a clear rationale for the need for a US-German collaboration, including the unique expertise and synergy that the collaborating groups will bring to the project.

Research Proposals with the DFG as Lead Agency are accepted on a continuous basis from 1 September 2025 at the earliest. Proposals submitted earlier cannot be accepted. Proposals are to be submitted solely via the elan portal in order to ensure proposal-related data is recorded and documents are securely transmitted.

Contact Persons DFG:
3.11–3.17: Ilka Paulus, phone +49 228 885-2021, mail: NSF-DFG-Chemistry@dfg.de
3.11–3.17: Markus Behnke, phone +49 228 885-2181, mail: NSF-DFG-Chemistry@dfg.de
4.21 & 4.22: Sebastian Peukert, phone +49 228 885-2834, mail: NSF-DFG-Chemistry@dfg.de
4.21 & 4.22: Simon Jörres, phone +49 228 885-2971, mail: NSF-DFG-Chemistry@dfg.de

Further information:
https://www.dfg.de/de/aktuelles/neuigkeiten-themen/info-wissenschaft/2025/ifw-25-57

DFG Sino-German Call on "Intelligent Numerical Mathematics" (NSFC-DFG 2025 iNum); Deadline Proposal: 30.10.2025

The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) are continuing their long-standing collaboration by launching a call for proposals for outstanding joint research projects in the research field of "Intelligent Numerical Mathematics" (topics falling under the responsibility of the elected DFG review board mathematics – Fachkollegium 3.31).

This initiative aims to bring together relevant and competitive researchers from Germany and China to design and carry out collaborative research projects. Funds to be used on the Chinese side must be requested from the NSFC; funds to be used on the German side must be requested from the DFG. Special attention is given to the integrated character of proposed projects, from the concept to the work plan. Funding is only available for projects that involve a convincing collaboration between the German and Chinese partners and for which the anticipated research benefit is clearly outlined. It is expected that each partner contributes substantially to the common project. Projects should be integrated but do not have to be

symmetrical in terms of funds applied for. However, work packages are expected to be delivered with a reasonably equal distribution between the partners and schedules should be well coordinated. Source codes and data used and generated within these projects should be open according to usual scientific standards.

The suggested topic "Intelligent Numerical Mathematics" (iNum) will foster the development of the two emerging fields of learning-based numerics and numerically efficient learning methods. Here, both fields are viewed as research topics within Numerical Mathematics and Scientific Computing. This viewpoint is supported by a fast-growing number of publications and presentations at conferences across Applied Mathematics and Computational Science and Engineering (CSE).

By using learning-based numerics, the range of tractable problems as well as the efficiency and robustness of numerical methods can be tremendously enhanced, for example, by:
- learning of numerical parameters such as relaxation parameters, adaptivity criteria or regularisation weights;
- learned components in model reduction or multi-scale methods;
- generation of good initial guesses or preconditioners for iterative solvers;
- decisions between different options such as parallelisation strategies or different types of solvers for (non-)linear systems of equations;
- load balancing based on learned performance models.

Here, challenges are expected in terms of stability requirements, convergence or, more general, quality guarantees. In the field of numerically efficient learning methods, new or improved numerical algorithms are used to tune state-of-the-art learning methods. Increased computational efficiency and parallel scalability as well as numerical robustness of modern learning algorithms can be expected as scientific output. For example, improvements in the training phase are expected by:
- enhanced optimisation methods;
- sparsification, regularisation and error control;
- parallel numerical methods with improved scalability and reduced communication.

Learning methods challenge the traditional numerical approaches in many of the aforementioned aspects and pose new questions for research in Numerical Mathematics and Scientific Computing.

The collaborative projects selected will receive research funding for a period of up to three years.

Proposals must be submitted by the Germany-based principal investigator via elan, the DFG's electronic proposal processing system, by 30 October 2025 at the latest.

Contact Persons DFG:
Programme: Dr. Carsten Balleier, phone: +49 228 885-2063, mail: carsten.balleier@dfg.de
Programme: Dr. Frank Kiefer, phone: +49 228 885-2567, mail: frank.kiefer@dfg.de
Administration: Silke Seiler, phone: +49 228 885-2751, mail: silke.seiler@dfg.de

Further information:
https://www.dfg.de/de/aktuelles/neuigkeiten-themen/info-wissenschaft/2025/ifw-25-61

NKS MSC Proofreading of Proposals in Postdoctoral Fellowships, Staff Exchanges and Doctoral Networks; Deadline Registration: Varies

The National Contact Point MSCA is offering to proofread your proposal for the 2025 calls in Postdoctoral Fellowships, Staff Exchanges and Doctoral Networks. Please note that we will only read proposals with a German beneficiary (PF) or a German coordinating institution. In case of proposals with a non-German beneficiary or a non-German coordinating institution, we advise you contact the National Contact Point of the respective country.

We ask you to only send in proposals with a completed Part B (B1 and B2) and provide us with the acronym of your proposal.

To be able to give substantiated feedback, please send your proposal to nks-msc@dlr.de before the following deadlines:
- Postdoctoral Fellowships: 13 August 2025 (4 weeks before call deadline), 5 p.m.
- Staff Exchanges: 17 September 2025, 5 p.m.
- Doctoral Networks: 4 November 2025, 5 p.m.

Further information:
https://www.nks-msc.de/en/Proofreading-of-Proposals-in-Postdoctoral-Fellowships-Staff-Exchanges-and-Doctoral-2698.html

NKS DIT NCP4Industry 2025 Proposal Check Event; Deadline Registration: 31.08.2025

Die NKS-Netzwerkprojekte Ideal-ist und NCP4Industry bieten auch in diesem Jahr wieder "Full Proposal Checks" (FPCs) für RIA- und IA-Ausschreibungen im Cluster 4 mit Fokus auf digitale und industrielle Technologien an.

Für Ausschreibungen aus den Destinations 1 und 2 (Topic IDs "TWIN-TRANSITION-xx" und "MATERIALS-xx") findet das FPC-Event in der Woche vom 8. bis 12. September statt und wird von NCP4Industry organisiert. Für Ausschreibungen aus den Destinations 3, 4 und 6 (Topic IDs "DATA-XX", "DIGITAL-EMERGING-xx", "DIGITAL-xx" und "HUMAN-xx") findet das FPC-Event in der Woche vom 15. bis 19. September statt und wird von Ideal-ist organisiert.

Die Veranstaltung ist kostenlos, eine Registrierung ist jedoch zwingend nötig.

Further information:
https://www.nks-dit.de/aktuelles/events/ncp4industry_2025_proposal_check_event
https://www.nks-dit.de/aktuelles/events/ideal_ist_full_proposal_check_cluster_4_destinations_3_4_6

European Commission European Research & Innovation Days 2025; Deadline Registration: 15.09.2025

The European Research & Innovation (R&I) Days 2025 will take place on 16–17 September 2025 at The Square in Brussels. The sixth edition of this flagship event of the European Commission will bring together policymakers, researchers, business leaders and the wider innovation community to discuss how research and innovation drives Europe's competitiveness, sustainability and industrial leadership, underpinning the EU's top priorities.

This year's edition will come at a pivotal moment of discussions on the EU's next long-term budget and key policy actions such as the Startup and Scaleup Strategy, the European Life Sciences Strategy, the AI in Science Strategy and the European Innovation and European Research Area Acts.

Join us for high-level discussions, engaging panels and networking opportunities that will shape the future of EU research and innovation. Whether in Brussels or online, be part of the conversation and help steer Europe's R&I agenda.

Further information:
https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/events/european-research-and-innovation-days_en

Other EU Academic Network of Saxony-Anhalt (nEUtzwerk)

The universities in the state of Saxony-Anhalt founded the "EU Academic Network of Saxony-Anhalt" at the beginning of 2011 in order to support researchers at all universities in the acquisition and use of EU funding for research and innovation by providing information, application advice and project management. By strengthening and networking the administrative and advisory skills of the universities, the aim is to increase the acquisition of EU funding for research and innovation and technology transfer.

You may contact the EU Academic Network of Saxony-Anhalt via the information provided online: https://www.euhochschulnetz-sachsen-anhalt.de/eu_hsnetz/en/

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 event, funding structures and contact details online at:
https://www.ovgu.de/en/ContactResearchFundingAdvice.html
https://www.euhochschulnetz-sachsen-anhalt.de/en/