



Funding framework for the programme "Make Our Planet Great Again – German Research Initiative (Franco-German Fellowship Programme)" (MOPGA-GRI) 2018-2022

Goal and purpose

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) relies on the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) to fund the programme "Make Our Planet Great Again – German Research Initiative (Franco-German Fellowship Programme)".

The programme seeks to support international research on the goals of the 2016 Paris Climate Agreement by promoting the establishment of research groups at German sites as part of the "Make Our Planet Great Again" initiative. Visible, innovative and application-related knowledge and developments should be promoted in the areas of climate, energy and earth system research, which can be used as a basis for future political decisions favouring climate protection to meet the current global demand for action. For further information on goals, please refer to the programme call for applications: Call for Applications "Franco-German Fellowship Programme on Climate, Energy and Earth System Research - Funding of research groups within the framework of the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement (MOPGA-GRI)", see Annex 1.

Eligible projects

All projects mentioned in the above-mentioned call for applications (Annex 1) shall be eligible for funding.

Financing method

Funding to beneficiaries is provided as shortfall financing for state or state-recognised universities or institutes of the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Association (GWL).

Funding to beneficiaries is provided as partial financing for non-university research institutions (e.g., Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres, Max Planck Society, Fraunhofer Society).

Eligible expenditures

All expenditures deemed necessary and appropriate for immediate project implementation shall be eligible. This includes in particular:

Personnel

Personnel expenditures to establish a research group (incl. the research group leader).

- Group leader: TV-L up to salary group 14 (in case of senior researchers, up to salary group 15 for exceptional, justified cases),
- Research group personnel: According to the remuneration customary in the host institution pursuant to TV-L and up to salary group 13.

Technical resources

Transportation and stays of research group personnel

(e.g., execution of networking or research stays directly related to the research topic)

Expenditures connected to transportation and stays during the project can be claimed pursuant to the Federal Travel Expenses Act (BRKG). Notwithstanding the provisions of the BRKG, flights in Business Class and train travel in first class are not eligible.

Note:

- The DAAD funds itself by organising networking events in Germany.
- Franco-German conferences, organised alternately by the DAAD and its French partner CNRS, are funded directly by the DAAD and CNRS, respectively.

Other operating expenditures

In principle, all material expenditures deemed necessary and appropriate for the implementation of the project are eligible for funding. This includes, for example,

- Consumer goods
(*food, electricity, pencils, paper, etc.*)
- Business assets
(*computer, beamer, table and chairs, items for laboratories, etc.*)
- Room rental
(*Rent for meeting rooms, rent for office space, etc.*)
- Printing, publications, advertising and public relations
(*flyers, brochures, posters, scientific publications, etc.*)
- External services
(*Companies that are commissioned to provide services and procurement, e.g., catering, bus companies, repairs, IT support, etc.*)
- Other
(*teaching material etc.*)

Transportation allowance

A transportation allowance may be claimed pursuant to the attached table (see Annex 2) for the arrival and departure of the research group leader to Germany, at the beginning and end of the project.

This transportation allowance may also be claimed for other persons from abroad, who would work in coordination with the German host institution as employees of the research group in Germany.

Funding period

The funding period starts at the earliest on 01.05.2018 and ends at the latest on 31.12.2022. Within this timeframe, the duration of the research project is 4 years.

Funding amount

The total eligible expenditure of a project, including its own or other funds, shall not exceed EUR 1.0 million (Junior Research Groups) or EUR 1.5 million (Senior Research Groups).

Eligible applicants

The application is open to state and state-recognised German universities as well as non-university research institutions.

Application

The project funding application must be submitted in full and timely fashion via the DAAD online portal (<https://portal.daad.de/irj/portal>).

Application requirements

All applicants must submit via the DAAD portal a financing plan and a project description in full and abridged format.

Non-university research institutions (except institutes of the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Science Society, GWL) must submit a calculation/derivation of their own funds (see Annex 3).

Application closing date

The application deadline is 15.02.2018.

Selection procedure**Selection by the DAAD**

Applications are decided upon by a selection committee appointed by the DAAD, in the presence of representatives of the BMBF, the project sponsor, and the DAAD.

Selection criteria

Research group leader:

- Academic excellence
- Experience in research project management
- Networking in the international knowledge community

Research project:

- innovative approach
- Plausibility of the content goal and resource planning
- Plausibility of scheduling
- Plausibility of resource estimate
- Relevance of the project to the tender ("Priority Areas", see Annex 1)
- Public visibility of the project, networking potential, and sustainability
- Contribution of the German host institution.

Contact person

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Annexes to the call for applications / funding framework

- *Annex 1: Call for applications*
- *Annex 2: Transportation allowance*
- *Annex 3: Calculation tool to estimate own funds (for non-university research institutions)*