

A blurred, 3D rendering of the letters 'DFG' in white, set against a blue background with a bokeh effect of light spots.

# Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft German Research Foundation

# Contents

1. The German Research Landscape
2. Structures and aims of DFG
3. Funding Programmes
4. Review Process
5. International Cooperation
6. Information Systems and Contacts



# Contents

## 1. The German Research Landscape

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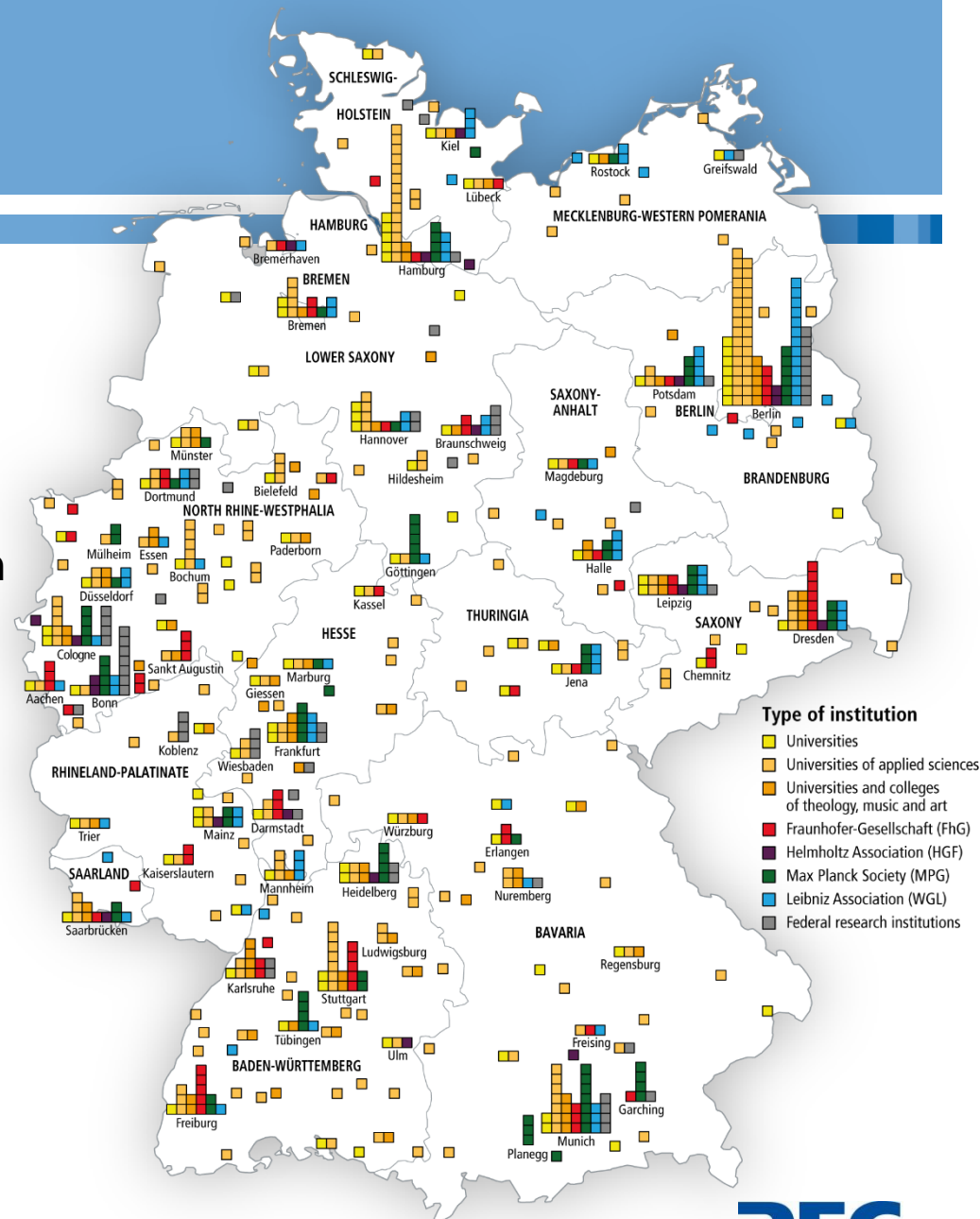
5. International Cooperation

6. Information Systems and Contacts

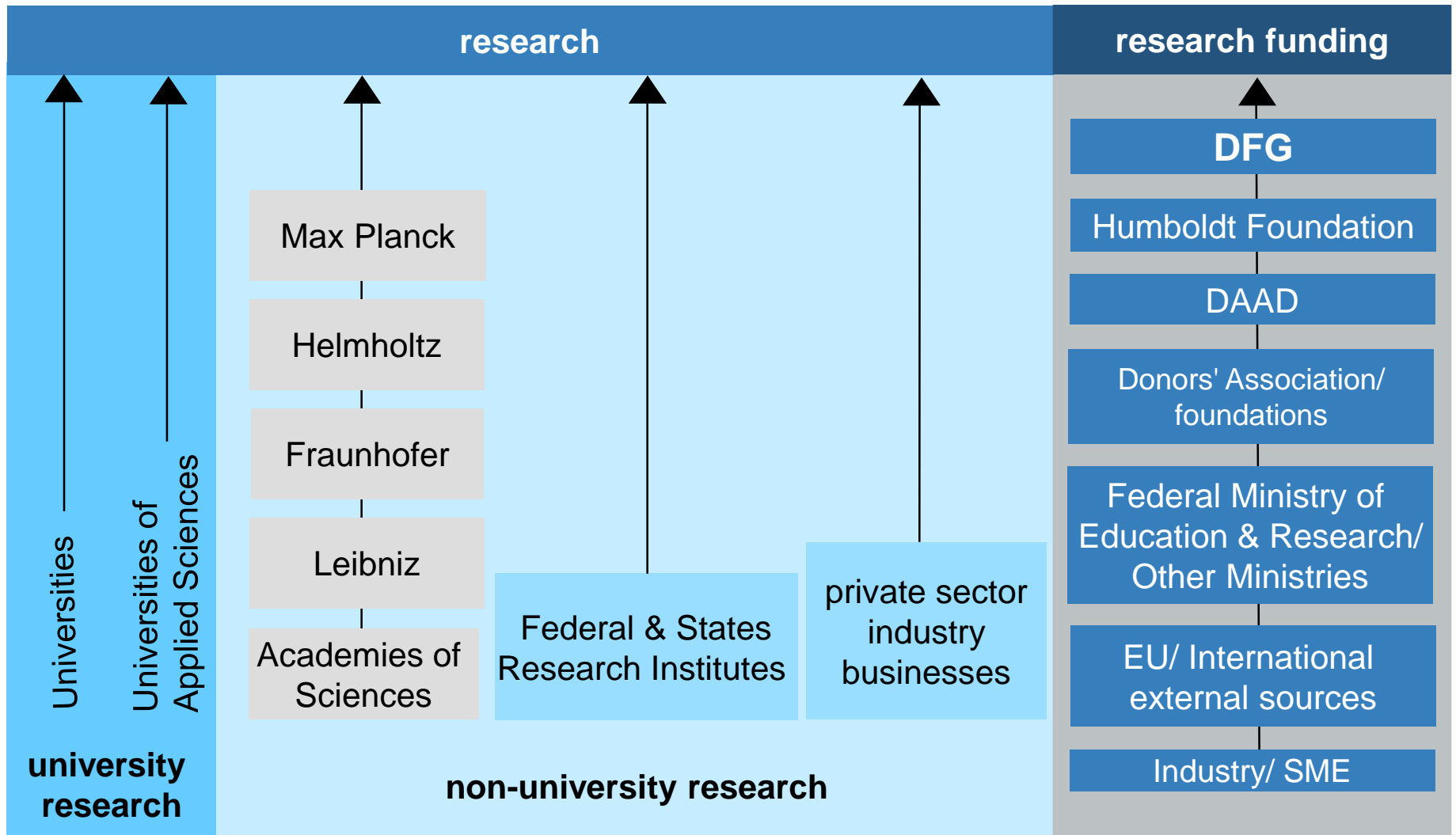


# German research landscape

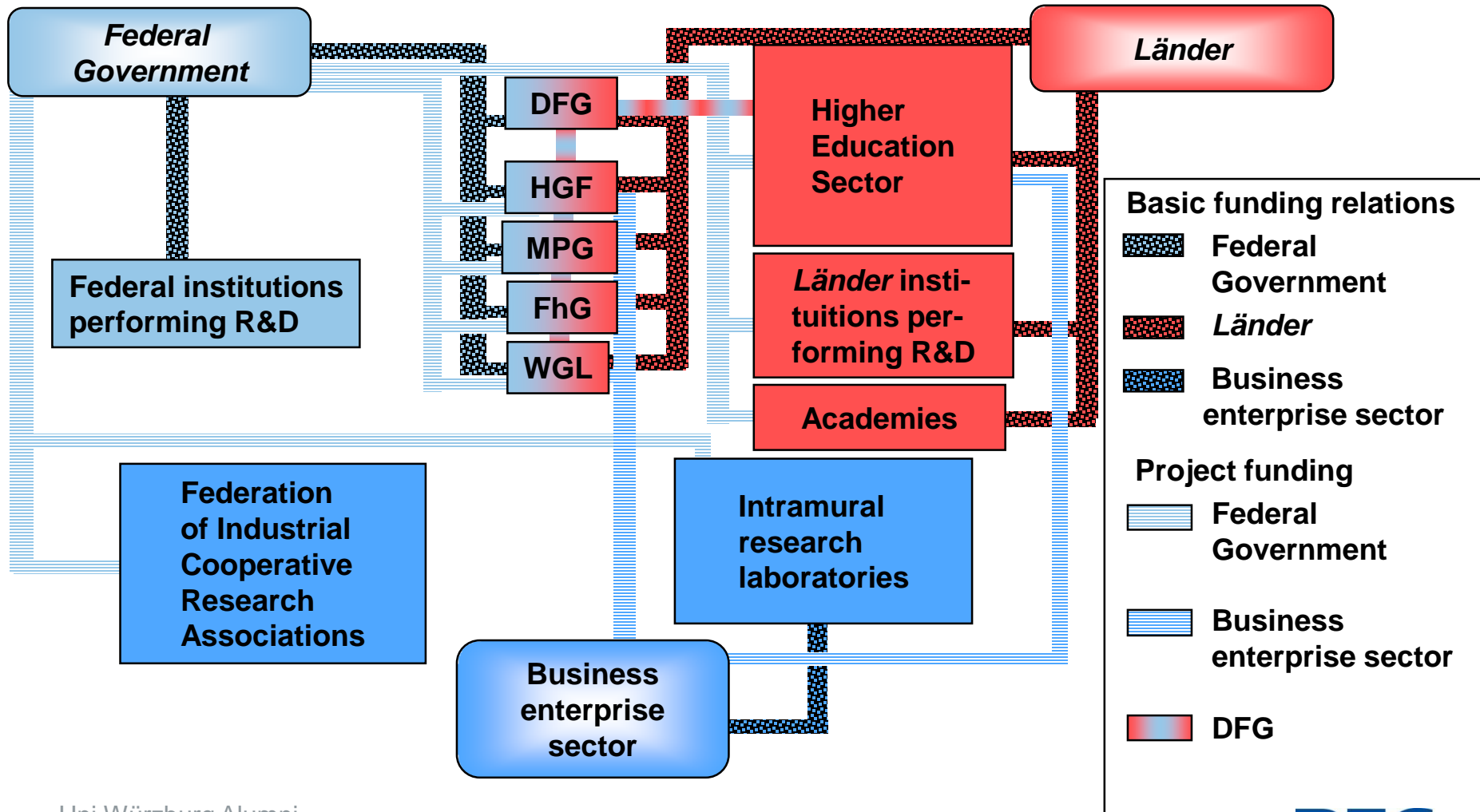
- ▶ More than 400 HEI
- ▶ 75 Institutes of Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft
- ▶ 19 Centres of Helmholtz Association
- ▶ 86 Institutes of Max Planck Society
- ▶ 96 Institutes of Leibniz Association
- ▶ 41 Federal Research Institutes



# German research landscape



# German research funding system



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# DFG – who we are and what we are doing

- ▶ predecessor organization founded in 1920
- ▶ annual budget in 2022: € 3,9 billion
- ▶ 950 employees at the Head Office in Bonn
- ▶ 6 representation offices abroad
  
- ▶ central, self-governing research funding organisation that promotes research at universities
- ▶ serving all fields of science and research and supporting scientific excellence in competition
- ▶ peer review system
- ▶ bottom up approach



Copyright: DFG





# Structure and membership

DFG is an association under private law.

DFG can only act through its governing bodies:  
Executive Board and General Assembly.

## Membership of DFG (99)

- ▶ German universities (73)
- ▶ Research organisations (15)  
(Max Planck Society, Helmholtz Association,  
Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, Leibniz-Gemeinschaft)
- ▶ Academies of sciences (7)
- ▶ Scientific associations (4)



Copyright: DFG

# The DFG's mission statement

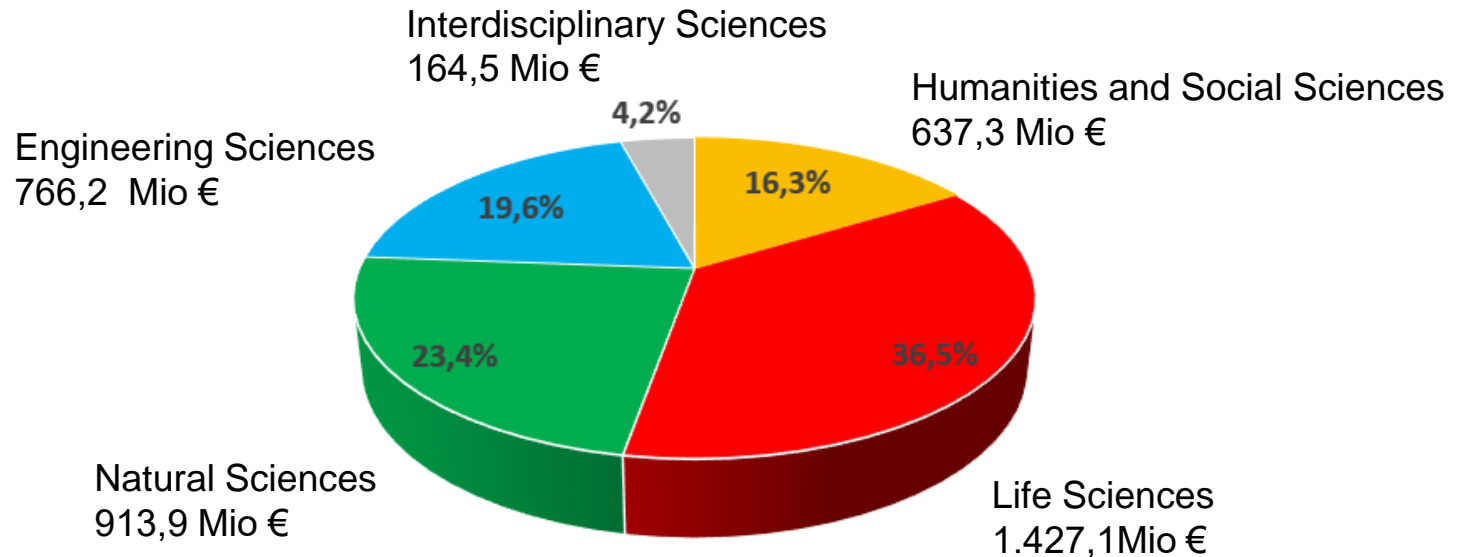
## The DFG

- ▶ serves **all branches of science and the humanities**
- ▶ fosters **scientific excellence** through competition
- ▶ supports **international cooperation in research**
- ▶ **advises** political and social decision-makers
- ▶ promotes **gender equality and diversity** in the German scientific and academic communities
- ▶ encourages the advancement and training of **early career researchers**
- ▶ supports the **transfer of knowledge** between science and industry

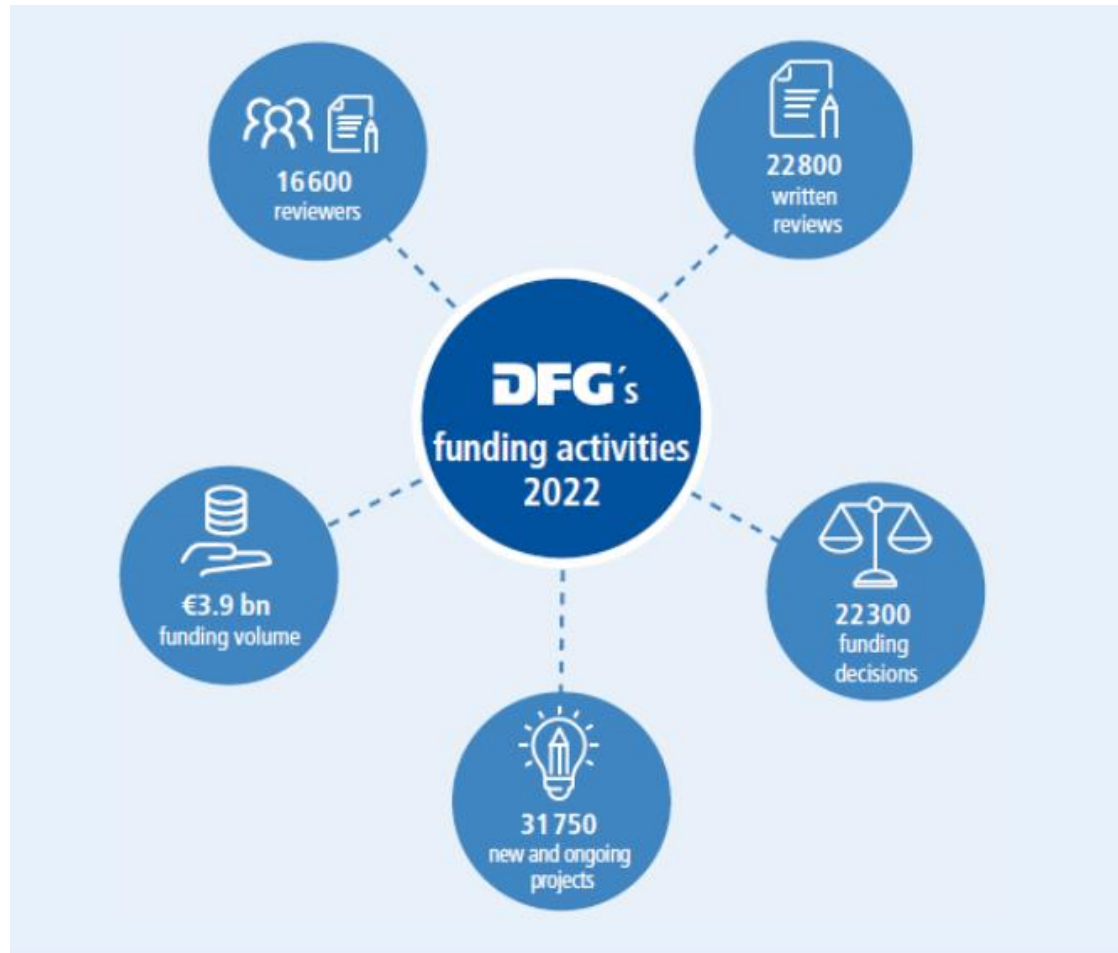


# Responsibility for all research areas

## Funding in 2022 by scientific discipline



# DFG funding activities 2022



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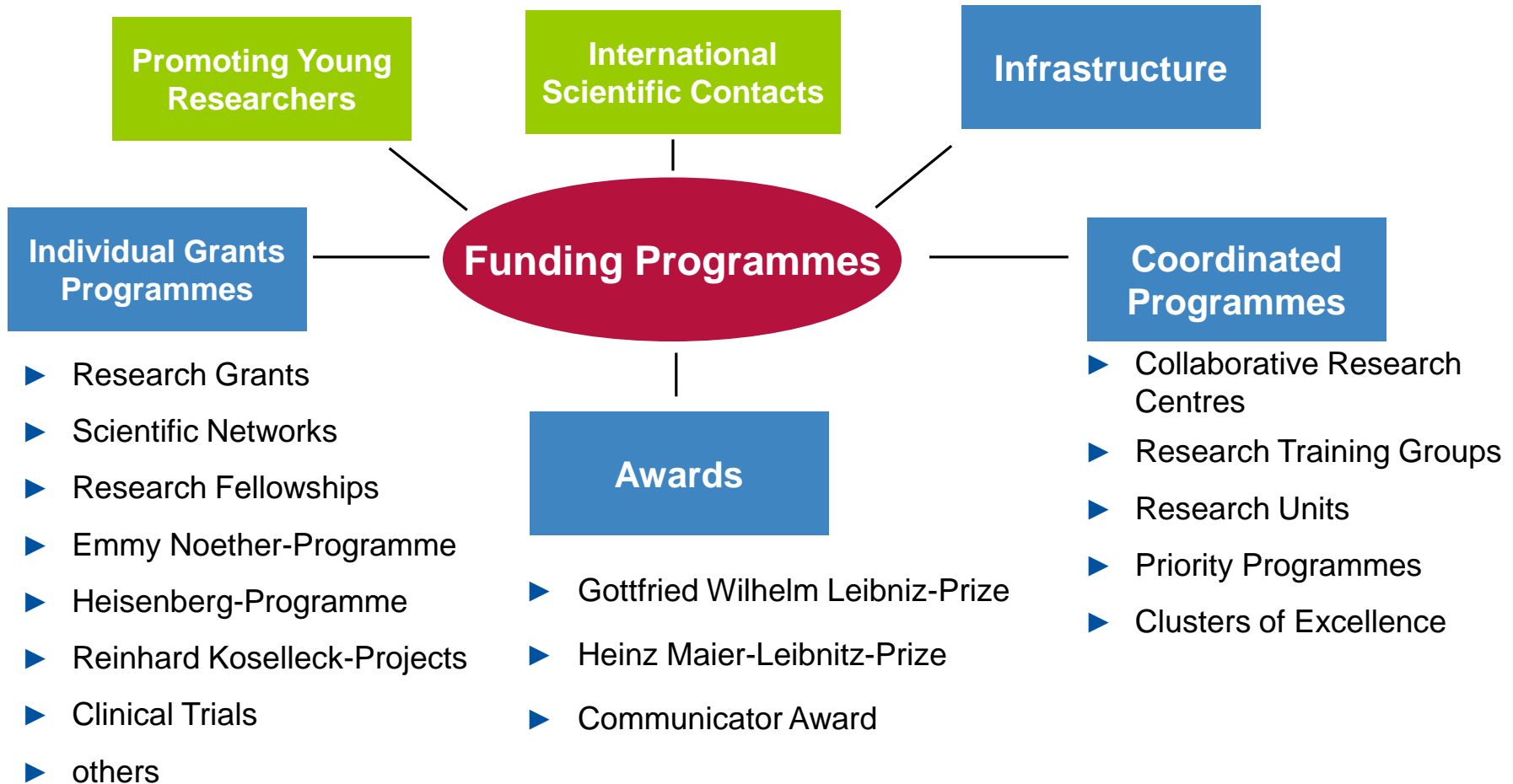
# What does the DFG fund?

The DFG receives funding proposals in all scientific fields for

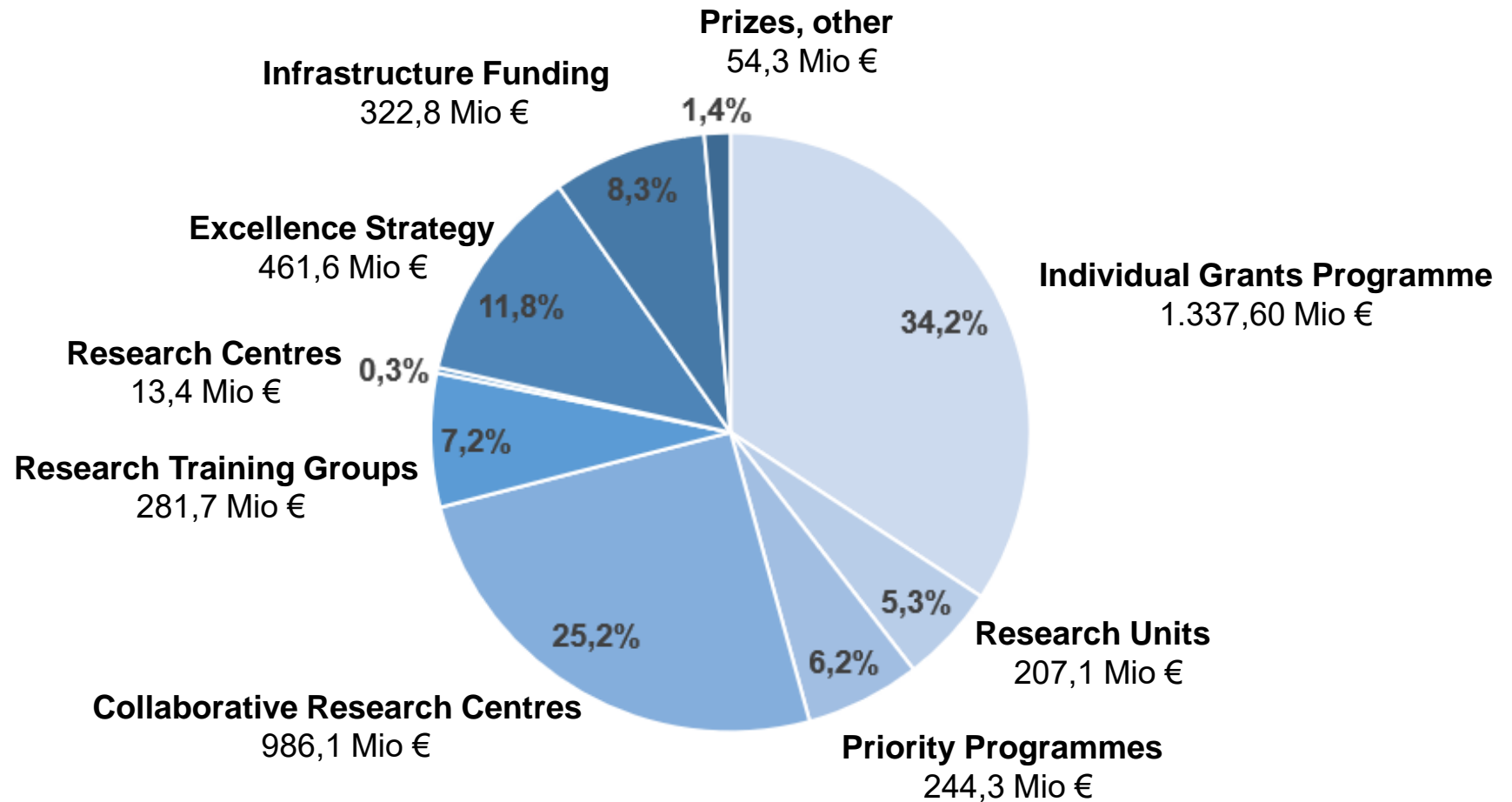
- ▶ individual projects
- ▶ coordinated research projects
- ▶ research infrastructure
- ▶ scientific contacts



# DFG Funding Programmes



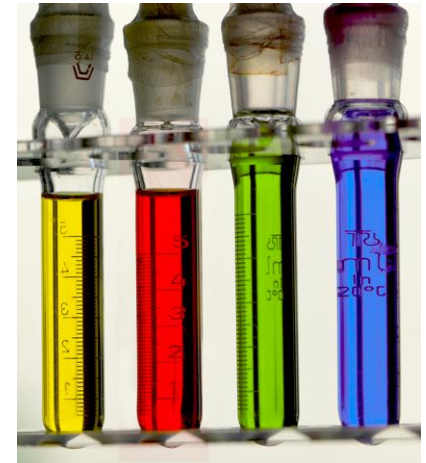
# Amount of research funding awarded by programme for 2022





# Funding Principles

- ▶ Open, bottom-up choice of **research topics**
- ▶ **Basic research** in any field of science and the humanities
- ▶ No **age** restrictions
- ▶ Individual **career phases** and family-related career breaks are considered in the review process
- ▶ No **deadlines\***

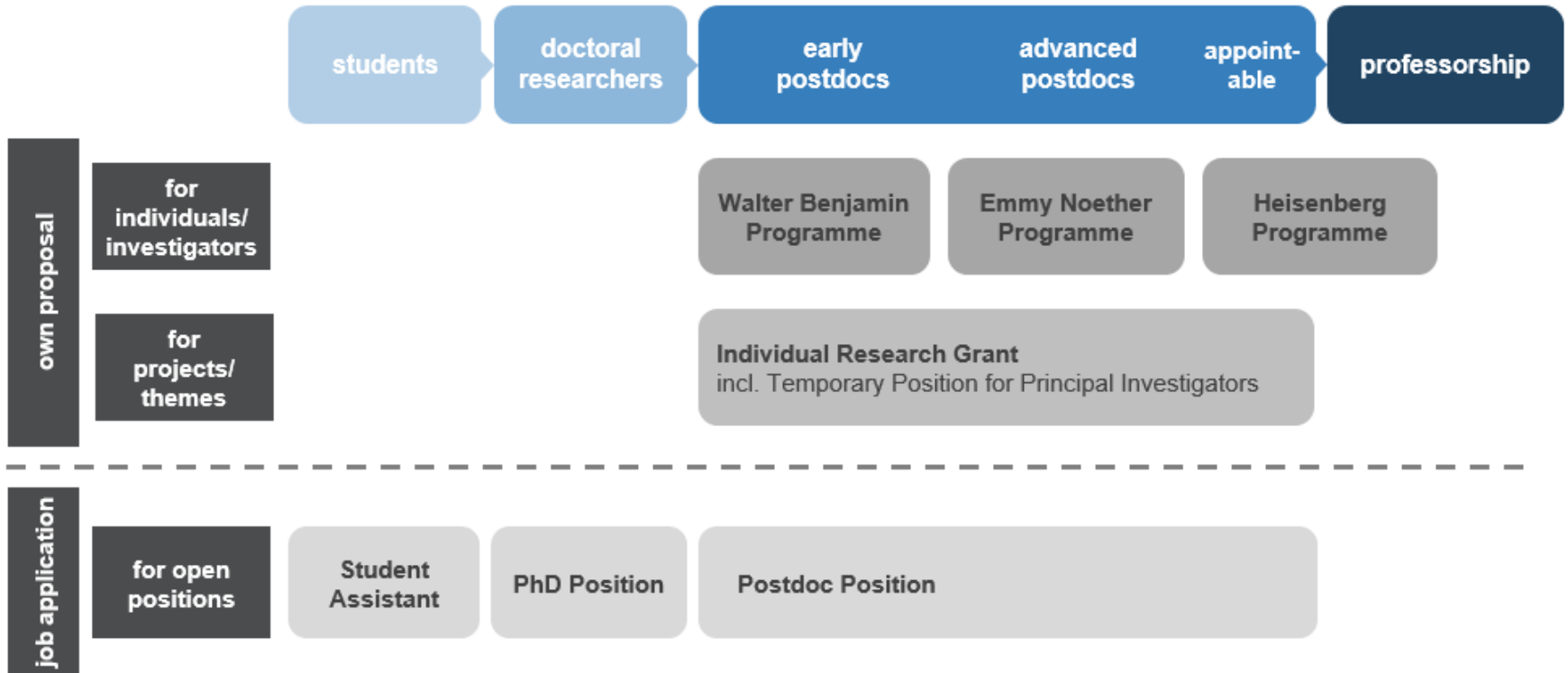


\* excl. Priority Programmes, international calls etc.

DFG Funding Opportunities for  
1/24/2024  
Early-Career Researchers

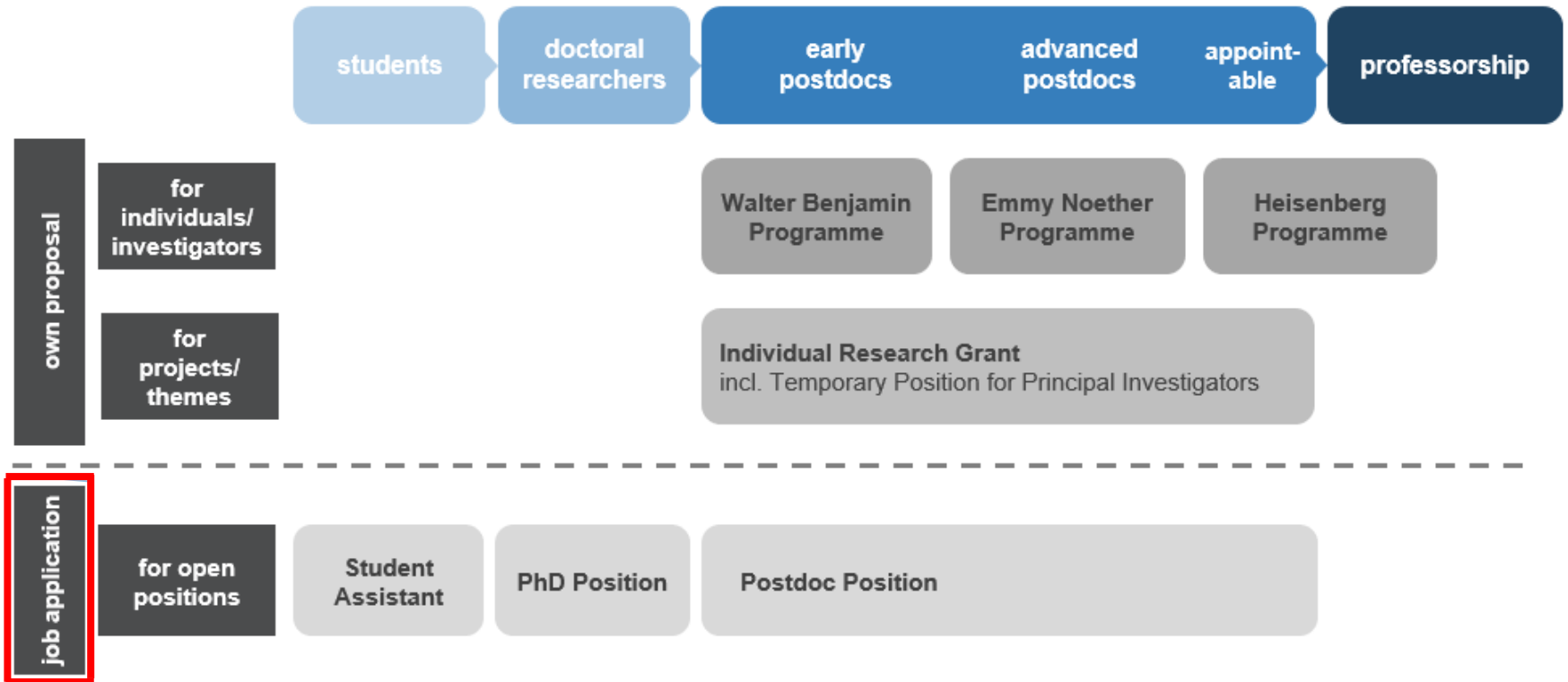
Uni Würzburg Alumni

# DFG Funding Opportunities for Research Careers



DFG-Website: [DFG, German Research Foundation - Research Careers](https://www.dfg.de/en/research-careers)

# DFG Funding Opportunities for Research Careers



# Positions in DFG-Funded Projects

**Thousands of positions for doctoral and postdoctoral researchers in DFG-funded projects:**

**Individual Grants Programmes (*Einzelförderung*)**

Individual projects on a defined topic within a set time period

**Research Units (*Forschungsgruppen*)**

Close, collaborative research on defined medium-term projects with a common topic

**Priority Programmes (*Schwerpunktprogramme*)**

Networked, multi-site interdisciplinary cooperation on an innovative research area

**Collaborative Research Centres (*Sonderforschungsbereiche*)**

Interdisciplinary cooperation on ambitious, longer-term projects that create research priorities at universities

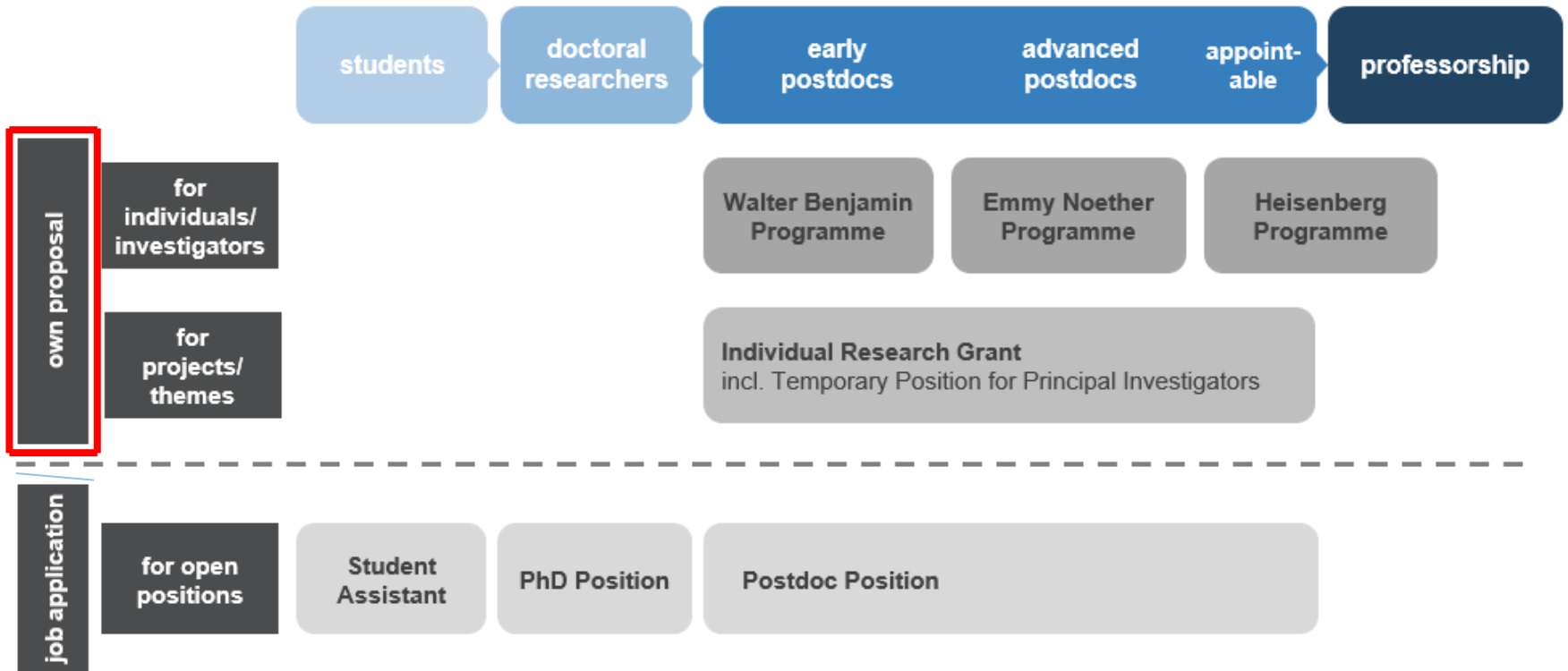
**Research Training Groups (*Graduiertenkollegs*)**

Coordinated, structured doctoral research and qualification programmes at higher education institutions

# Positions in DFG-Funded Projects

- ▶ A university or research institute **in Germany** employs you
- ▶ **Duration** of funding depends on project
- ▶ **Position:** E13-E14 TvöD/TV-L
- ▶ **Application: to the project's PI**
- ▶ Overview of DFG-funded projects: [gepris.dfg.de](https://gepris.dfg.de)

# DFG Funding Opportunities for Research Careers



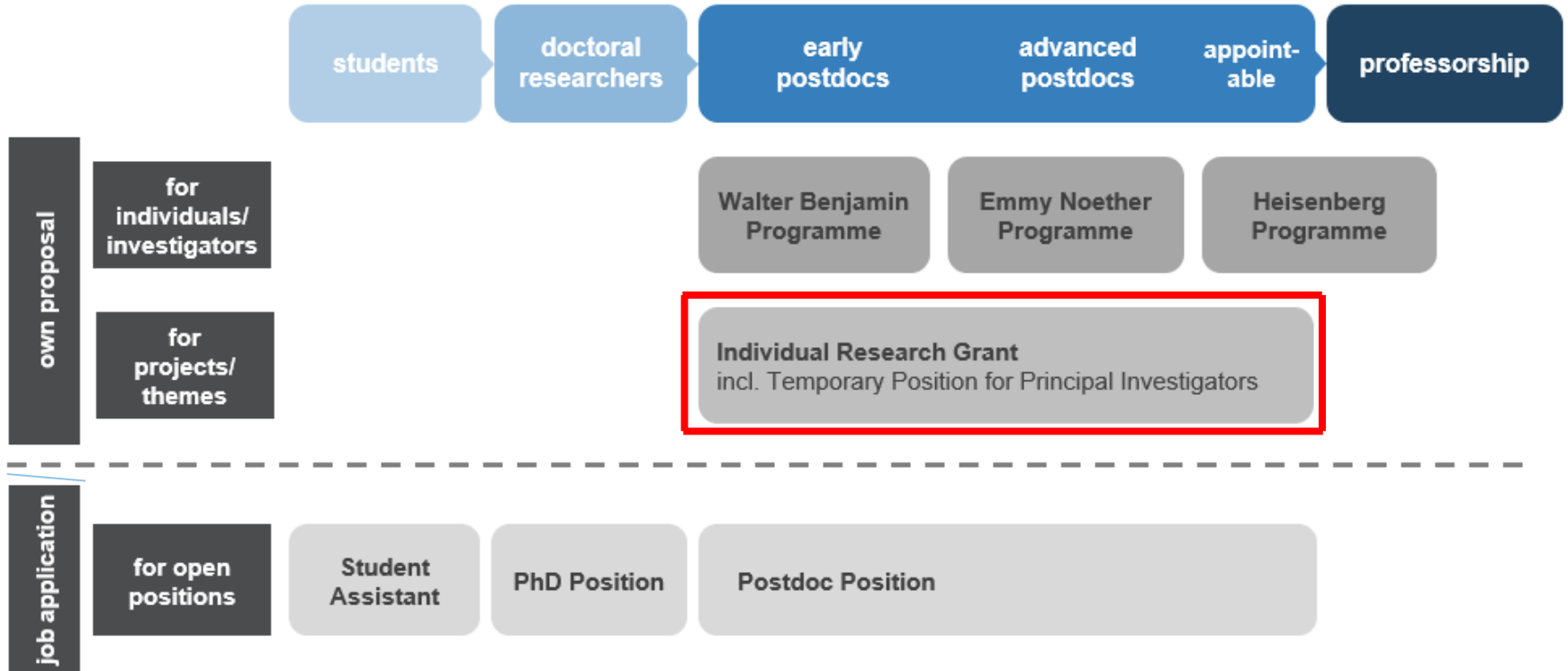
# Eligibility to apply for DFG-funding



## Researchers

- ▶ who have completed their scientific training, i.e. who hold a **doctorate** and
- ▶ who (would like to) work **in Germany**.

# DFG Funding Opportunities for Research Careers



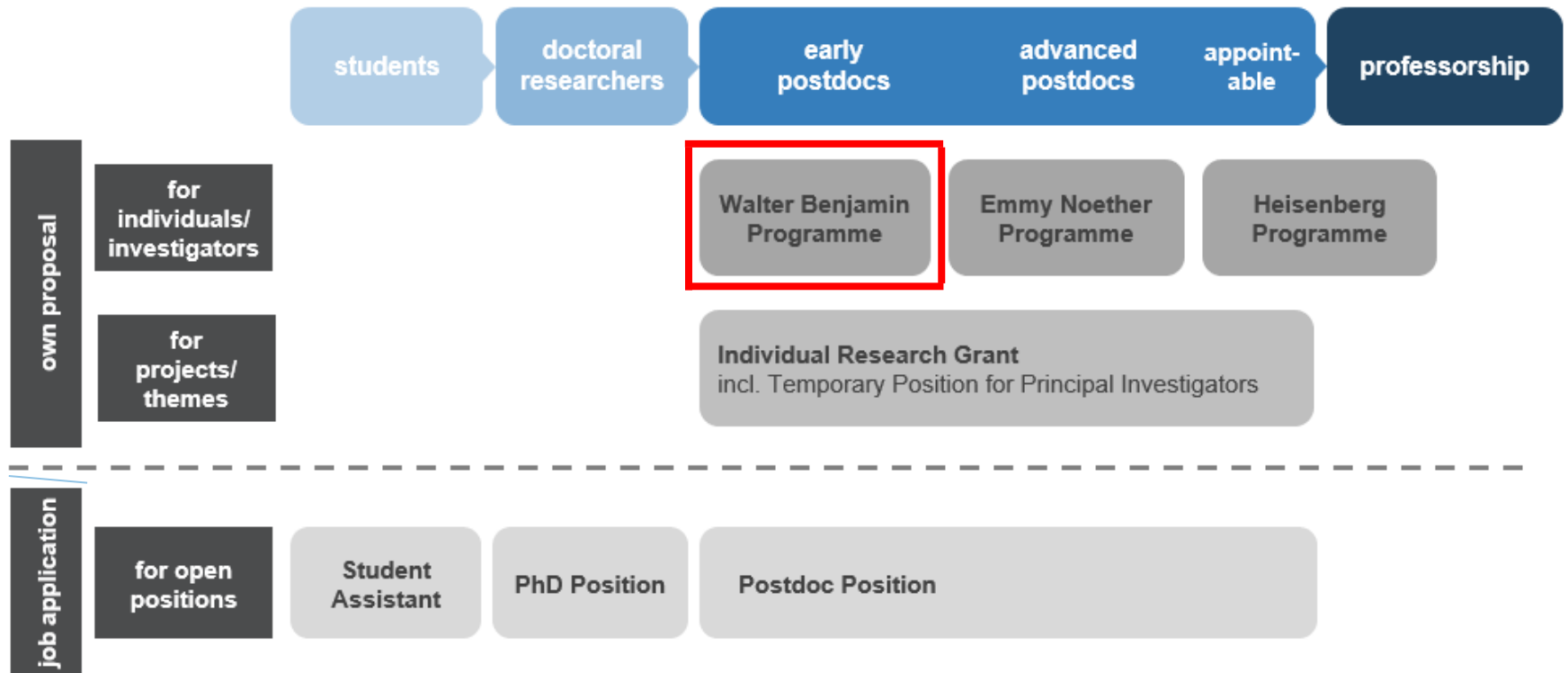


# Individual Research Grant

- ▶ Individual Grants offer you an opportunity to pursue **your research project in Germany**
- ▶ Funding generally for up to **three years**
- ▶ Flexible **funding modules**:
  - staff
  - consumables
  - travel
  - instrumentation
  - publication funding
  - public relations
  - ...
  - module »**Temporary Position for Principal Investigators**« E13-E14 TVöD/TV-L
- ▶ Your **host institution** becomes your **employer**
- ▶ Information on formalities: DFG-Form 50.01
- ▶ [DFG, German Research Foundation - Individual Research Grants](#)



# DFG Funding Opportunities for Research Careers

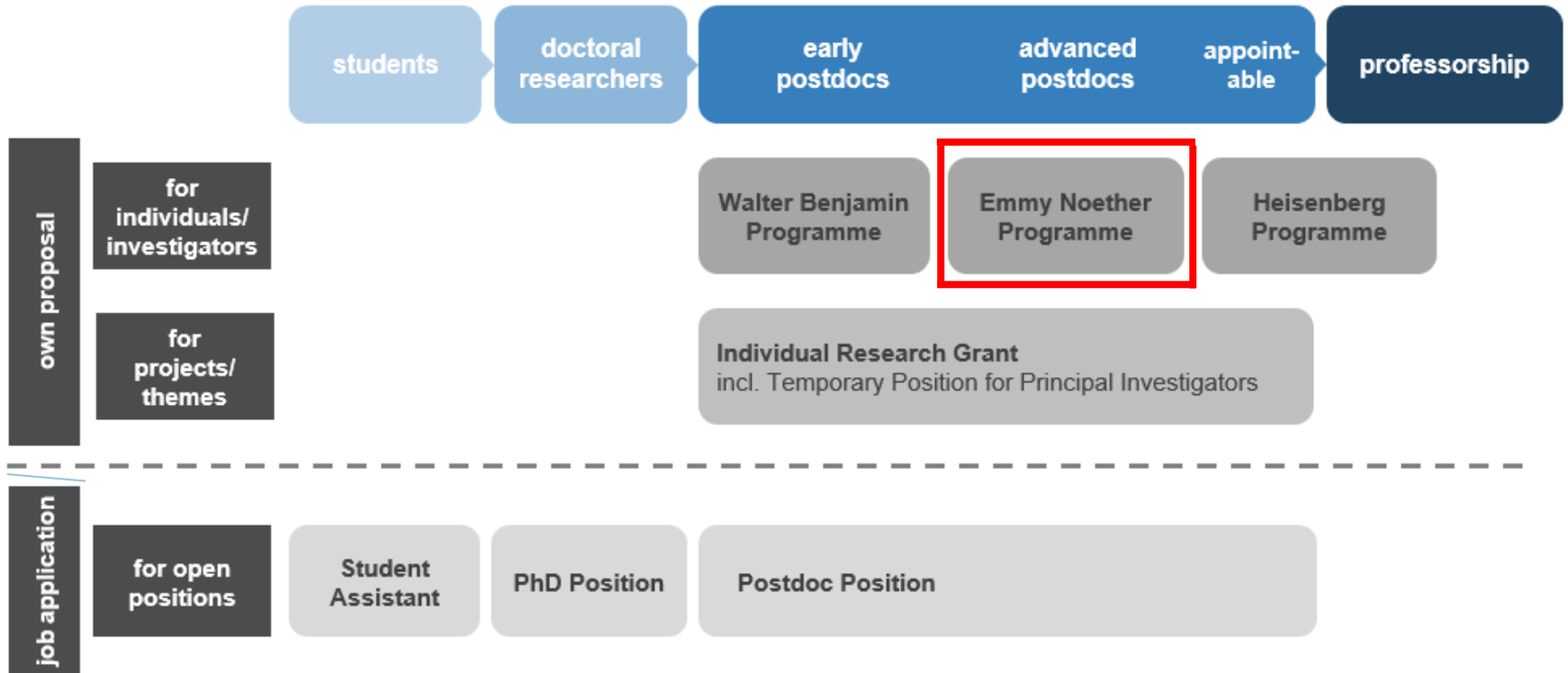


# Walter Benjamin Programme

- ▶ **For early postdocs** starting a **research career** with an **independent research project**
- ▶ Supporting **mobility**: applicants should move on to a **new host institution**, either in Germany or abroad – or combining stays at different places
- ▶ At an institution in **Germany**, a **host researcher** agrees to **advise** the grantee on his or her **research career** and to introduce him or her to **academic networks**
- ▶ **Funding for 2 years**
  - Abroad: fellowship 1.700 €/month (plus allowances)
  - In Germany: your host institution becomes your employer: position of E13-E14 TVöD/TV-L
- ▶ [https://www.dfg.de/en/research\\_funding/programmes/individual/walter\\_benjamin/index.html](https://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/programmes/individual/walter_benjamin/index.html)



# DFG Funding Opportunities for Research Careers



# Emmy Noether Programme

- ▶ Path to early **academic independence**
- ▶ **Eligibility for professorial appointment** by leading one's own **independent junior research group**
- ▶ **Funding for 6 years**
  - **position:** E15 TVöD/TV-L (or position for temporary substitutes for clinicians)
  - project funds
  - family allowance possible
- ▶ Your host institution **in Germany** becomes your employer
- ▶ **Requirements:**
  - For **outstanding** postdoctoral researchers with **2-4 years** of postdoctoral experience (medicine: up to 6 years; extensions for parents are possible)
  - Substantial **international** research experience
  - Excellent research project



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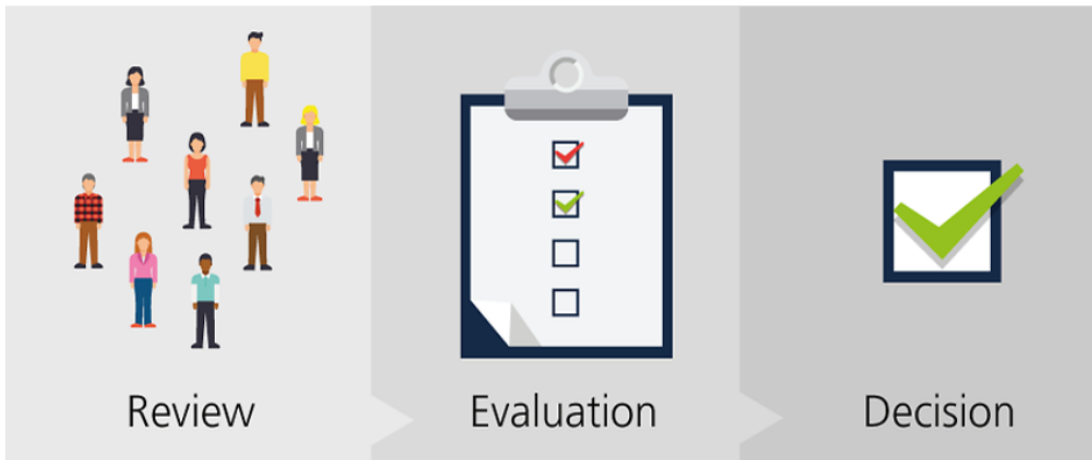
# Review Process of DFG

## ► On DFG-Homepage:

Way: DFG > Funding > Proposal and Funding Process > Decision Making Process

Link: [DFG, German Research Foundation - How does the DFG decide on funding proposals?](#)

How does the DFG decide on funding proposals?

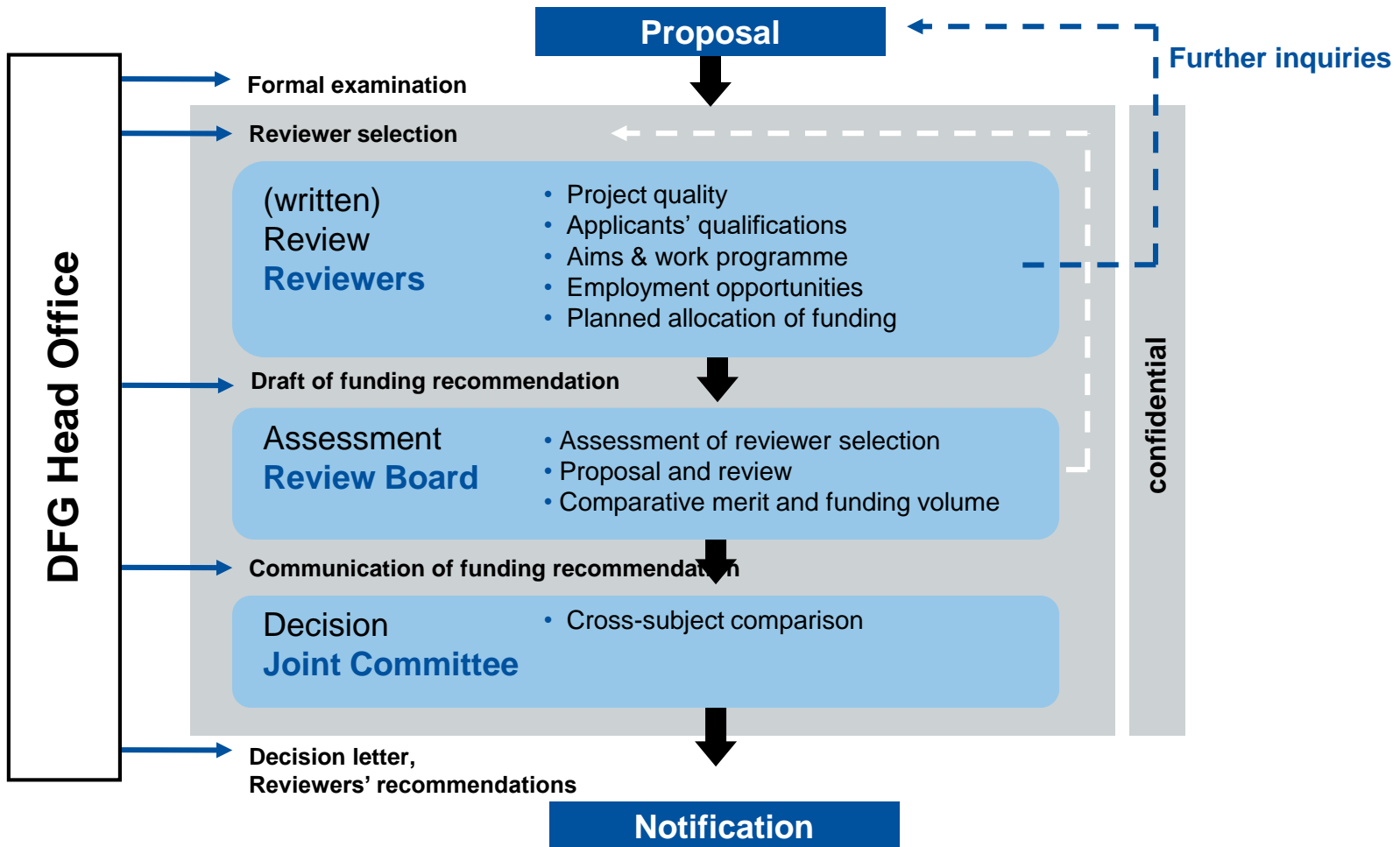


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# How does the decision-making process work?

Individual grants involve reviewers, a review board & the Joint Committee





# What are the DFG's selection criteria in individual funding?

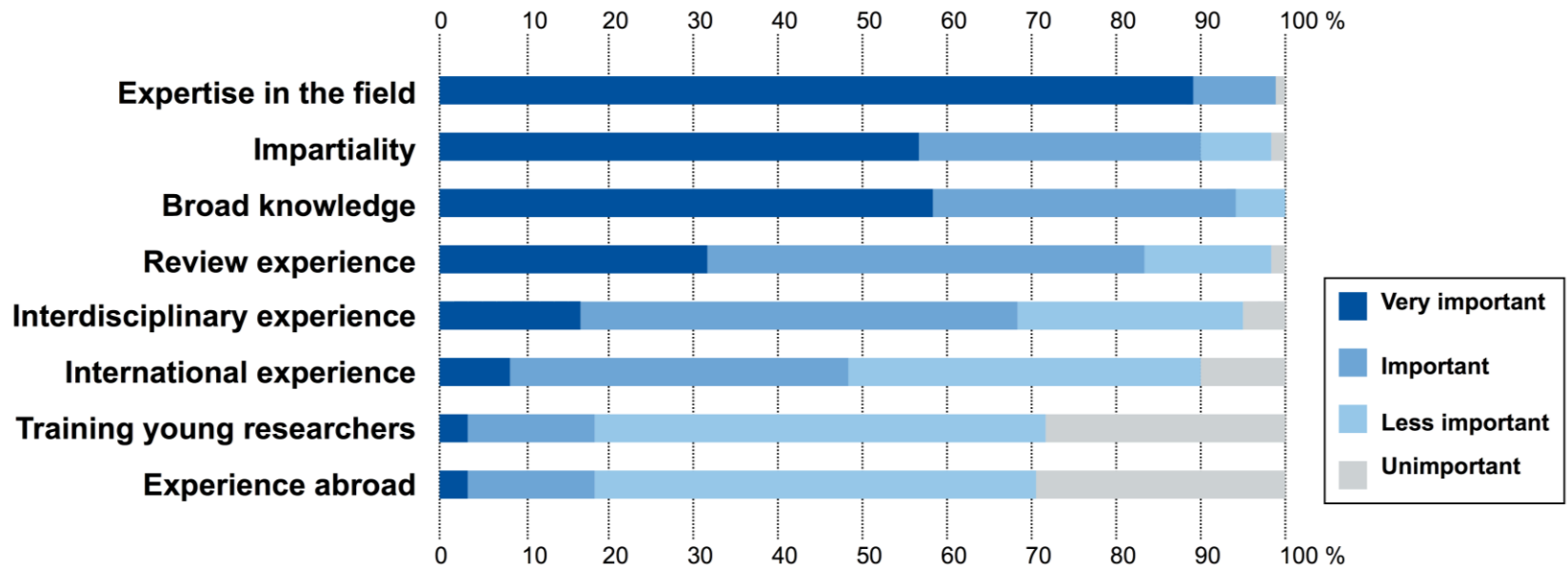
DFG reviewers judge proposals according to

- ▶ scientific quality of the project
- ▶ applicants' qualifications
- ▶ aims and work programme
- ▶ employment opportunities
- ▶ planned allocation of funding

# How are reviewers and review panel members selected?

## By the DFG's Head Office

### Selection criteria



Source: Peer Review in the DFG –Members of the Review Boards, iFQ Working Paper No. 2, November 2007

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# How does the DFG promote international cooperation?

## Special Instruments



*Pamir expedition (Tajik ASSR), 1928*



*DFG-Delegation (Argentina), 2017*

- ▶ Special Funding Programmes
- ▶ Joint Calls with partner organisations
- ▶ DFG Offices abroad
- ▶ Conferences, talks, workshops

### Links:

[DFG, German Research Foundation - International Cooperation](#)









# International Cooperation at DFG

## ► Contact persons at International Affairs:

Way: DFG > About us > Head Office > contacts A-Z > (go to Organizational chart) > Department I > International Affairs

Link: [DFG, German Research Foundation - International Affairs](#)

### Geographic Responsibilities (Countries and Regions)

Task	Contact
Africa	Knodel, Kathrin Dr.  Wilms, Marcus Dr. 
Africa: East and Southern Africa	Wilms, Marcus Dr. 
Africa: Maghreb, West and Central Africa	Knodel, Kathrin Dr. 
Australia/Pacific	Krüßmann, Ingrid Dr.  Schlepper, Gerrit Andreas 
CIS, Central and Eastern Europe	Achterberg, Jörn Dr. 
Cooperation with DFG Liaison Scientists in Latin America	Peters, Christina Dr. 

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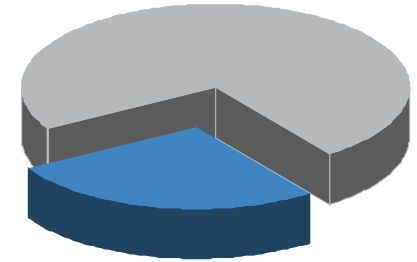


# How does the DFG promote international cooperation?

## Research Grant

### Research Grant

- ▶ Research project on a specifically defined topic within a limited time period
- ▶ A research grant can be used to
  - Staff
  - Equipment up to €10,000, software and consumables
  - **Travel**
  - **Visiting researchers**
  - **Mercator Fellows** (associated with the project over the long term)
  - Experimental animals
  - Publication expenses
  - Funding for instrumentation (€50,000 or more)
- ▶ **3 years (6 years)**
- ▶ **No submission deadline**
- ▶ **Information on formalities:** DFG-Form 50.01



Part in total  
funding volume:  
32,1% (2020)

[DFG, German Research Foundation - Individual Research Grants](#)



# How does the DFG promote international cooperation?

## Special Funding Programmes to promote International Cooperation

### Initiation of International Collaboration

#### ► Funding

- Funding max. **1 year**
- Application by the German partner
- **Mobility funding** to get to know each other
- One aim could be: prepare a joint project proposal
- DFG-Guidelines 1.813

#### ► Modules

- Workshops in Germany or abroad
- Short individual visits in Germany or abroad
- Visit up to three months



[DFG, German Research Foundation - Initiation of International Collaboration](#)



# How does the DFG promote international cooperation?

## Programme: „Cooperation with Developing Countries“

### Cooperation with Developing Countries

#### ► Funding

- Funding. **3 years**
- Application by the German partner
- **Funding of research part in the resp. country** (and German part)
- Project partner is from a country that is eligible to receive official development assistance and thus on the DAC List of OECD.
- DFG transfers fund to German Partner, who transfers part of fund to Cooperation Partner

#### ► Modules

- Funding for **staff** employed by collaborating partners on basis of customary local rates
- **Scientific instrumentation, equipment** to be used by collaboration partner. Instruments become property of collaborating partner's country
- **Consumables and commodities**



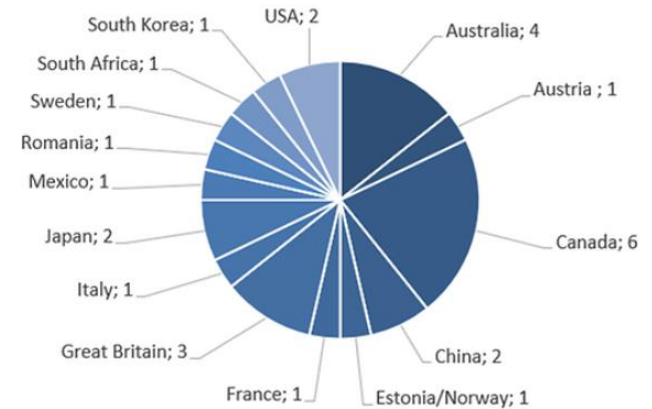
[DFG, German Research Foundation - Cooperation with Developing Countries](#)



# International Research Training Groups (IRTGs)

Taking research collaborations one step further

- ▶ Joint research and training programme with a partner institution outside of Germany
- ▶ 5-10 PIs and 10-15 doctoral students on each side
- ▶ Added value through complementarity of expertise and resources
- ▶ International co-supervision and mentoring
- ▶ Research stay abroad (6-12 months)
- ▶ complementary funding required from a non-german funding organization or other public sources



28 IRTGs in 16 countries



Proposal is submitted *jointly* to the DFG by a group of researchers at a German university and a partner group at a foreign university.

# Special funding opportunities for refugee researchers

## ► On DFG-Homepage:

Way: DFG > Funding > Special Funding Initiatives > Refugee Researchers

Link: [DFG, German Research Foundation - Refugee Researchers](#)

### Refugee Researchers

Contribution to integration in academia and society / Universities and project leaders submit proposals for additional staff / Refugee researchers can apply for Walter Benjamin positions

- [Walter Benjamin posts](#) ↓
- [Supplemental proposals/integration in current funding programmes](#) ↓
- [Special programme for Ukraine](#) ↓
- [Website relating to assistance for Ukraine](#) ↓
- [GEPRIS – German Project Information System](#) ↓
- [Further Information](#) ↓
- [Contact persons](#) ↓

The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) supports researchers who have fled their home countries by making it easier for them to join research projects and apply for funding under the Walter Benjamin Programme.

The following requirements must be met in principle:

QR-Code:



# International Cooperation at DFG

## ► DFG offices abroad

Way: DFG > Profile > International Cooperation > DFG Representation Abroad

Link: [DFG, German Research Foundation - DFG Representation Abroad](#)



The Sino-German Center



DFG Office India



DFG Office Japan



DFG Office in Latin America



DFG Office North America



DFG Office in Russia/CIS

QR-Code:



# How does the DFG support international cooperation?

## Calls with International partners

### ► On DFG-Homepage: Information for Researchers

Way: DFG > Funding > Funding Opportunities > Calls for Proposals

Link: [DFG, German Research Foundation - Information for Researchers: Calls for Proposals](#)

Information for Researchers, No. 111 | December 8, 2023

**African-German Scientific** [DFG](#) > [Funding](#) > [Funding Opportunities](#) > [Calls for Proposals](#)

**Pre-Call Announcement: Initiation of International Cooperation in the Field of Neurosciences  
between African und German Researchers**

QR-Code:



# How can you start the cooperation?

- ▶ Find a cooperation partner
- ▶ Define topic and scope of project
- ▶ Define the volume and source of funding in the partner country
- ▶ Partner in the other country has to check:
  - application details and procedures of the partner organisation
  - Co-funding only within calls (with deadlines?)
- ▶ German Partner has to check:
  - Which DFG-programme is suitable?
  - Are there current DFG-calls on my topic, with the partner country?
  - Get in contact with the responsible programme officer at the DFG Head Office
- ▶ Prepare and submit the proposal:
  - German partner to DFG,
  - Foreign partner to funding organization in the respective country



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# GEPRIS

## German Project Information System

DFG Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft

Suche Katalog Personenindex Ortsindex

Willkommen bei GEPRIS

Mit GEPRIS (Geförderte Projekte Informationssystem) stellt die DFG eine Datenbank im Internet bereit, die über laufende und abgeschlossene Forschungsvorhaben der DFG informiert. Bitte beachten Sie, dass die Projektinformationen bisher überwiegend in deutscher Sprache vorliegen.

**Suche**

Suchen Sie direkt

Projekte Personen Institutionen

Ihr Suchbegriff

→ Meine zuletzt durchgeführten Suchanfragen → Erweiterte Suche

**Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz-Preis**

Der Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz-Preis 2015 geht an acht Wissenschaftler, die vom zuständigen Nominierungsausschuss aus 136 Vorschlägen ausgewählt wurden. Von den acht neuen Preisträgern kommen jeweils drei aus den Naturwissenschaften und den Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften und zwei aus den Lebenswissenschaften. Verliehen werden die Leibniz-Preise am 3. März 2015 in Berlin.

→ Übersicht der Preisträger

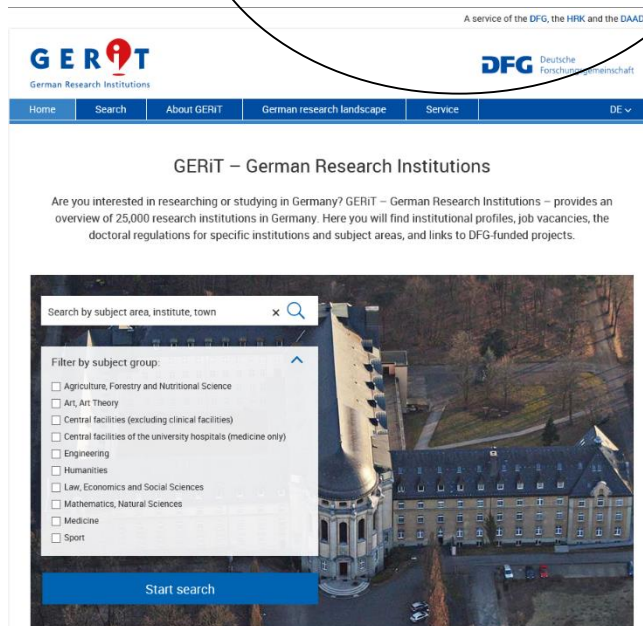
► Overview of all DFG-funded projects

► Catalogue:

- Projects
- People
- Institutions

► URL: [gepris.dfg.de](https://gepris.dfg.de)

# GERiT – German Research Institutions



- ▶ Overview of 25,000 institutes at German universities and non-university research institutions
- ▶ Search:
  - subject areas
  - geographical criteria
  - structural criteria
- ▶ Information in English and German about: disciplines represented at a particular institution, contact details, location maps and links to each institute's own website
- ▶ URL: [www.gerit.org](http://www.gerit.org)



# Contacts

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**Thank you for your attention**

**For more information**

- ▶ on the DFG: <http://www.dfg.de>
- ▶ on Funding Atlas: <http://www.dfg.de/foerderatlas>
- ▶ on DFG-funded projects: <http://www.dfg.de/gepris>
- ▶ on over 25 000 German research institutes: <http://research-explorer.de>