



DFG

Russian-German perspectives of cooperation in Centers of Scientific Excellence

Collaborative Research Centres (CRC)

Sonderforschungsbereiche (SFB)

Contents

1. **Structure and aims of DFG**
2. **Funding programmes of DFG**
3. **International Cooperation**
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German Research Foundation and its international Research Funding Programmes

1. Structure and aims of DFG

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Who we are and what we are doing

- ▶ founded in 1920
- ▶ annual budget in 2010: € 2,3 billion
- ▶ 750 employees at the Head Office in Bonn
- ▶ 7 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



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, Leibniz Association)
- ▶ Academies of Sciences (8), scientific associations (3)



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What are the DFG's aims?

The DFG's scientific aims are

▶ Excellence through Competition

make research funding open to all disciplines in accordance with scientific standards of quality

▶ Promoting Young Researchers

ensure the best possible support for outstanding scientists and young researchers

▶ International Collaboration

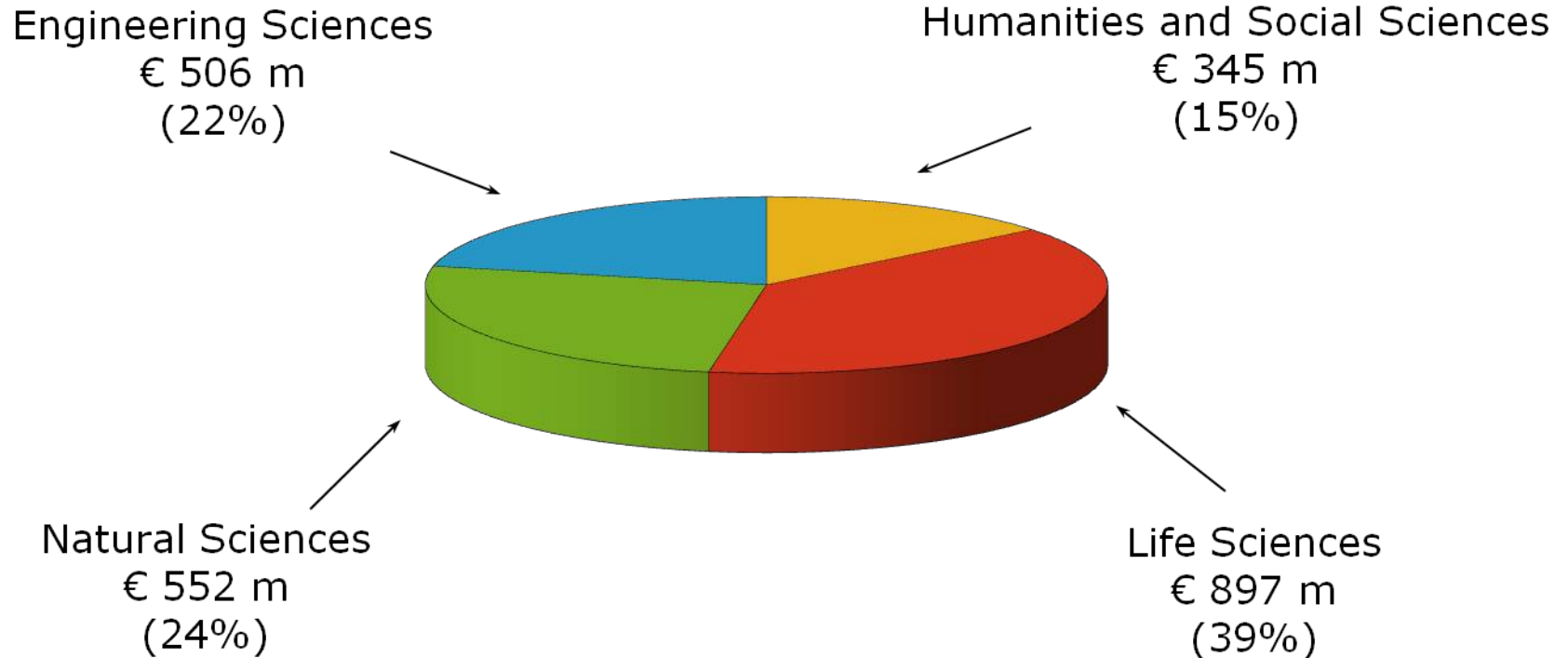
keep Germany future-oriented and internationally competitive as a scientific location



What is the DFG?

Responsibility for all research areas

Funding 2010 (Total € 2,3 billion)



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Funding Programmes of DFG

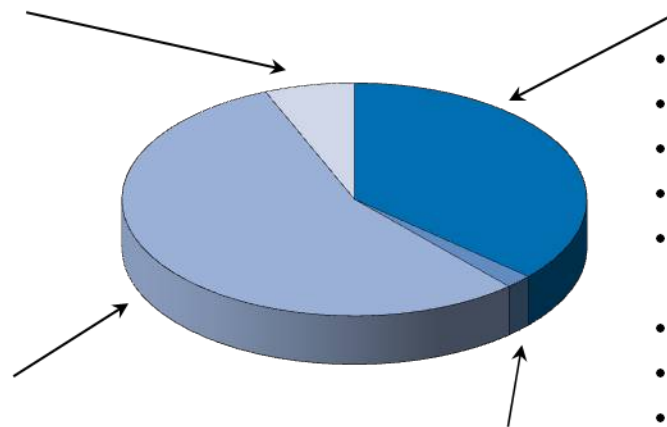
(amount of research funding awarded in 2010)

Infrastructure Support € 193.0 m

- Scientific Library Services and Information Systems
- Scientific Instrumentation - Information Technology

Coordinated Programmes € 1,502.1 m

- Clinical Research Units
- Collaborative Research Centres
- Humanities Research Centres
- Priority Programmes
- DFG Research Centres
- Research Training Groups
- Research Units



Prizes and other € 52.8 m

- Communicator Award
- Copernicus Award
- Ursula M. Händel Prize
- Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Programme
- Heinz Maier-Leibnitz Prize
- Albert Maucher Prize in Geoscience
- Bernd Rendel Prize
- Eugen and Ilse Seibold Prize
- von Kaven Awards

Individual Grants Programme € 894.4 m

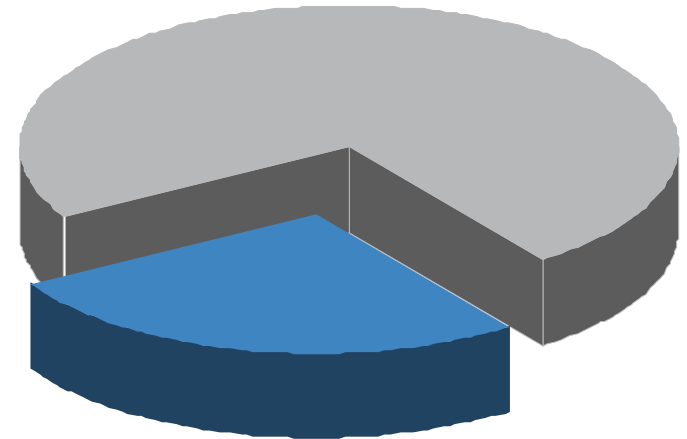
- Clinical Trials
- Emmy Noether Programme
- Heisenberg Programme
- Individual Grants Programme
- NIH-DFG Research Career Transition Awards Program
- Reinhart Koselleck Projects
- Research Fellowships
- Scientific Networks
- Temporary Positions for PI

DFG - Individual Grants Programme

(funding for a period of up to six year)

Individual Grants / Research Grants

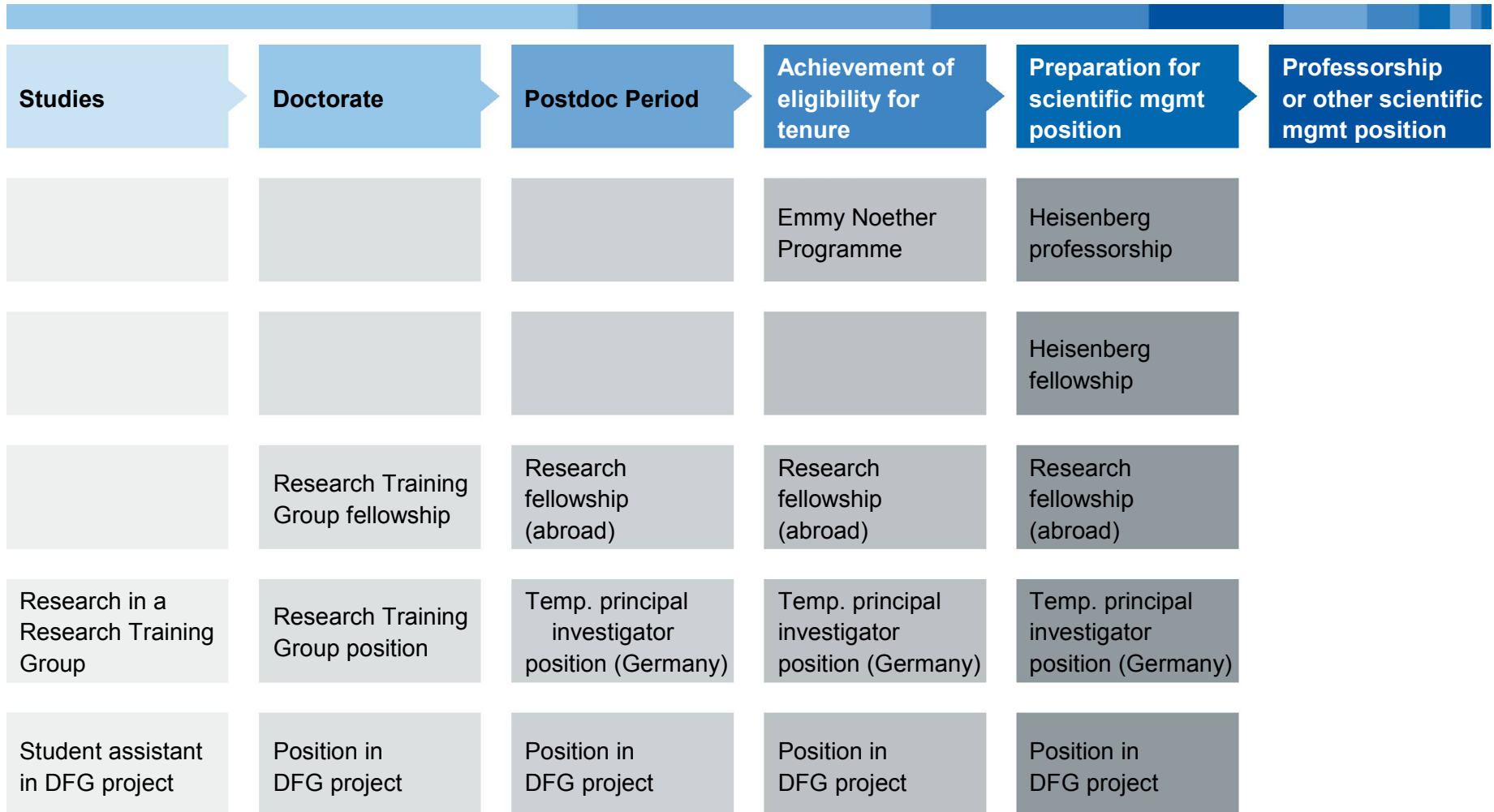
- ▶ Research project on a specifically defined topic within a limited time period
- ▶ A research grant can be used to
 - staff
 - scientific instrumentation
 - consumables
 - travel and publications
- ▶ **No submission deadline**
- ▶ **Funding decision:** General Assembly of DFG
- ▶ **Information on formalities:** DFG-Form 1.02 and DFG-Scientific Affairs



Part in total
funding volume:
27,9% (2010)

What are the DFG's objectives in funding top young talent?

To offer researchers appropriate funding options at each career stage



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DFG abroad

- Representations
- Overseas Offices
- Sino-German Centre

- Liaison Scientists
- Research Facility



How does the DFG promote international cooperation?

Special Instruments

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

You can apply for international funding like travel costs, exchange of researchers in all DFG-Funding Programmes.



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, RFFI, RGNF, universities, own funds
- ▶ Prepare and submit the proposal:
German partner - to DFG
Russian partner - to the funding organization in Russia



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Our partners

▶ Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFFI)
(Agreement from 1994)

▶ Russian Foundation for Humanities (RGNF)
(Agreement – from 2005)

▶ Russian Academy of Sciences (RAN)
(Agreement from 1970)



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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German-Russian Research Training Groups

«Enzymes and Multienzyme Complexes Acting on Nucleic Acids» (since 2006)

- ▶ Justus-Liebig-University Gießen (Prof. Dr. Peter Friedhoff)
- ▶ Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU) (Prof. Dr. Tatyana Oretskaya)
- ▶ University Marburg

Period of funding: 108 months

«Regulation and Evolution of Cellular Systems» (since 2009)

- ▶ Technical University Munich (Prof. Dr. Dmitri Frishman)
- ▶ Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU) (Dr. Michail Gelfand)

Period of funding: 54 months

Statistics 2010

- ▶ 200 funding programmes
- ▶ 17.000 new proposals
- ▶ 30-40% were approved for funding
- ▶ 32.000 programs running (7.500 new) including 15.000 individual grants (3800 new)
- ▶ 12.400 experts were involved in review process, including 2.700 foreign experts

Russia

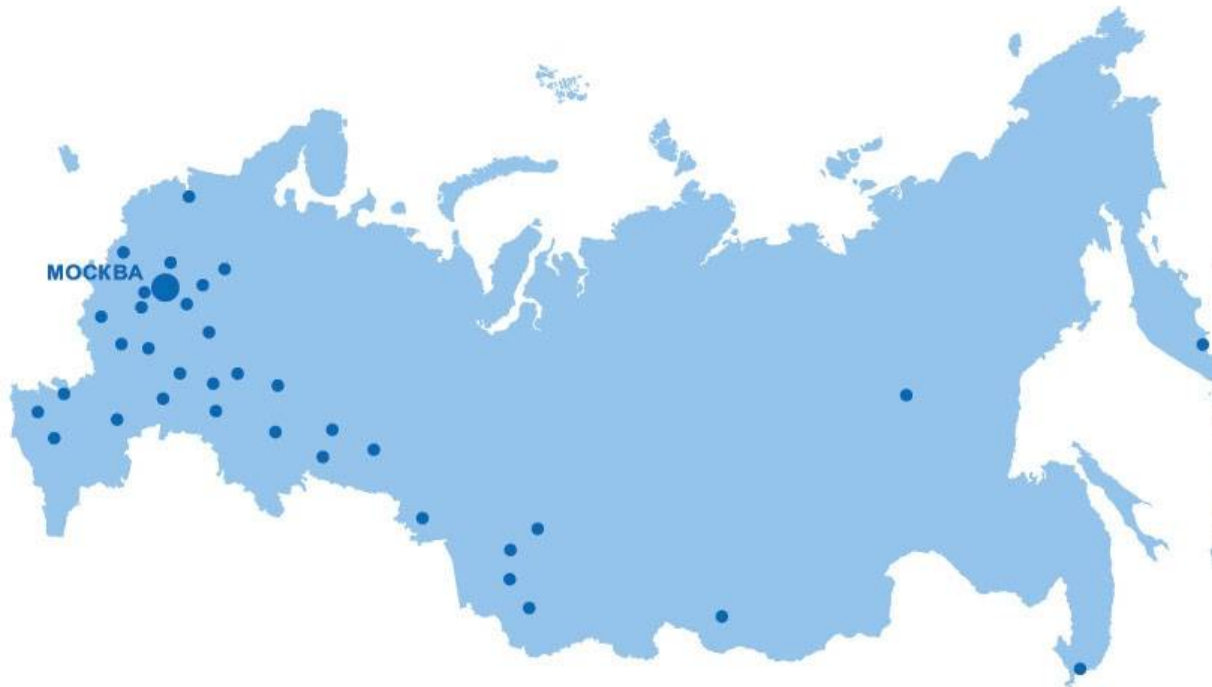
- ▶ Joint calls with partner organizations (RAN, RFFI, RGNF)
- ▶ 300 cooperations with participation of Russian scientists (individual research grants, workshops, conferences etc.)



DFG in Russia

locations of funded projects

Over 350 running projects
in 35 locations in Russia (2010)



- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Barnaul | Saratov |
| Chelyabinsk | Smolensk |
| Irkutsk | Stavropol' |
| Izhevsk | Tambov |
| Gornoaltaysk | Tyumen' |
| Kazan' | Tomsk |
| Kuban' | Tula |
| Kursk | Tver' |
| Moscow | Ufa |
| Nizhniy Novgorod | Ulyanovsk |
| Novosibirsk | Vladimir |
| Omsk | Vladivostok |
| Penza | Vologda |
| Petropavlovsk- | Volgograd |
| Kamchatskiy | Voronezh |
| Rostov-na-Donu | Yakutsk |
| Sankt-Peterburg | Yaroslavl' |
| Samara | Yekaterinburg |

The programme “Collaborative Research Centres” (CRC) general characteristics

- ▶ programme established in 1968
- ▶ funds temporary centres of excellence
- ▶ only universities can apply
- ▶ Goals:
 - fund top research
 - strengthen universities’ profiles and structures
(including: support for young researchers and gender equality)



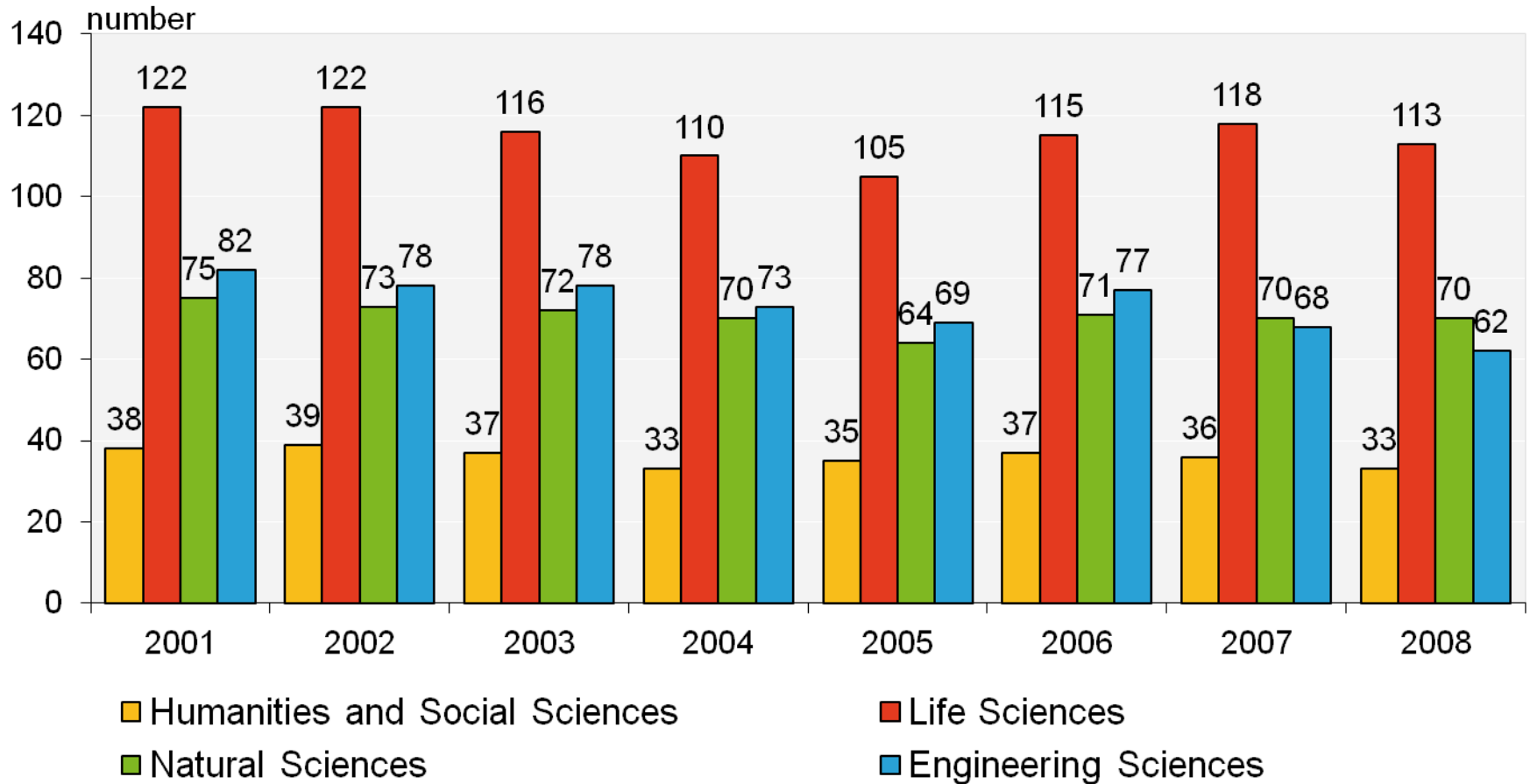
CRC

funding statistics

- ▶ **Budget for all centres:** ~ € 450 million in 2010 (~ 1/5 of DFG-budget)
- ▶ **Number of currently funded centres:** ~ 250 (> 700 funded since 1968)
- ▶ **Average annual budget per centre:** about € 1.8 million
- ▶ **Type of funding:** salaries, scientific instrumentation, consumables, travel, publication allowance, colloquia, visiting researchers, ...
- ▶ **Overhead:** additional 20% of the direct project expenses (since 2007)
- ▶ **Core support:** Basic funding by universities required

CRC

distribution of scientific disciplines



CRC

typical features

- ▶ a typical CRC consists of 12 – 25 “single projects”
- ▶ typically 15 – 30 project leaders (“principal investigators”) involved
- ▶ funding typically between 1 - 3 Mio EUR per year

- ▶ maximum duration: 12 years (3 x 4 years)
- ▶ main focus on basic research
- ▶ all single projects are projects on their own but cooperate and contribute to a common scientific aim
- ▶ university supports the centre

CRC

programme types

CRC (general type)

- ▶ Focused on one university (“location principle”)
- ▶ Participation of neighbouring universities, local non-university research institutions possible

Transregional CRC (since 1999)

- ▶ intensive transregional network
- ▶ up to three locations
- ▶ “structural impact” for each participating university required

“international CRC”

- ▶ intensive network with one or more single projects abroad (and funded from abroad)
- ▶ for German part: same requirements as for a Transregional CRC

1st dimension: single projects

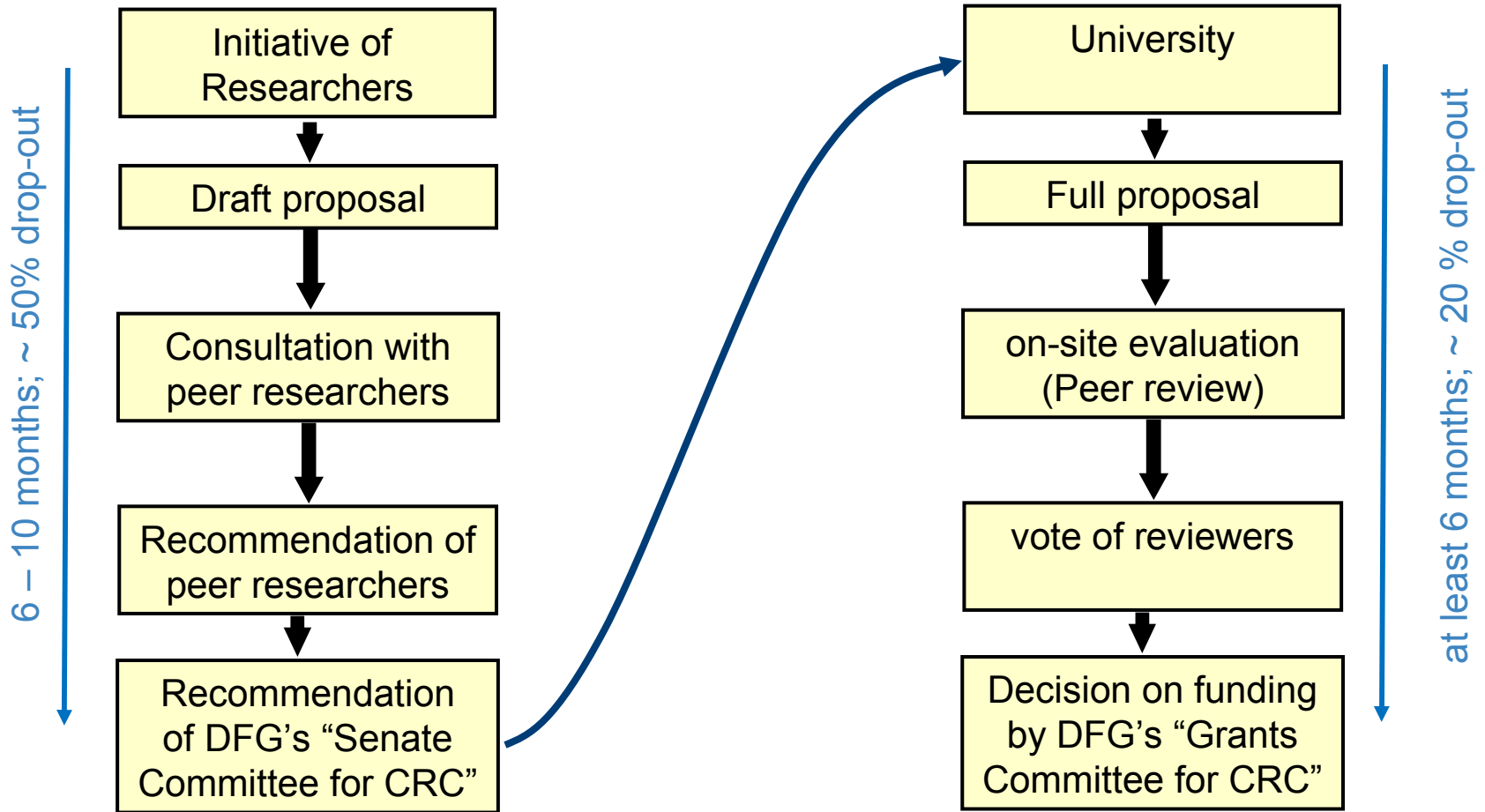
- ▶ interesting topic?
- ▶ previous work? / publications?
- ▶ experience of PI?
- ▶ work schedule? methods?
- ▶ possible outcome?
- ▶ fits to CRC?
- ▶ Adequacy of requested funding?
- ▶ ...

2nd dimension: CRC on the whole

- ▶ Actual and relevant **topic**? For 12 years?
- ▶ Scientific **quality**? International visibility?
- ▶ **Coherence**? Synergy? Added value?
- ▶ **Structural impact**?
Commitment of university? Young researchers? Gender?

CRC

Review and decision process



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Aims of the DFG Office Russia/CIS

- ▶ Be a point of contact for Russian and German researchers and research institutions
- ▶ Intensify institutional cooperation
- ▶ Advise on opportunities for DFG-funding
- ▶ 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



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DFG-Head Office in Bonn

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DFG

Thank you for your attention

Further information

- ▶ about DFG: www.dfg.de
- ▶ about all funded projects: <http://gepris.dfg.de>
- ▶ about ca. 17.000 German Research Institutions: <http://research-explorer.dfg.de>