

A blurred, 3D rendering of the letters 'DFG' in a light blue color, set against a background of soft, out-of-focus light rays and geometric shapes in various shades of blue.

**The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft
(DFG, German Research Foundation):
Research funding programs and
international collaboration**

Introducing the DFG

Organisational structure

The DFG is

- an independent organisation in the form of an association of private law
- Germany's central, self-governing research funding organisation



Member institutions include

- German universities (69)
- non-university research institutions (16)
- German academies of sciences and humanities (8)
- scientific associations (3)

Introducing the DFG

Mission statement

The DFG's goals are to

- serve all branches of science and the humanities by funding research projects and facilitating cooperation among researchers
- support the education and advancement of young scientific researchers
- promote equality between men and women
- advise parliaments and public authorities on scientific matters
- foster relations between research and the private sector and between scientists and academics at home and abroad
- support the transfer of knowledge between science and industry



Introducing the DFG

Funds and resources

The DFG is funded by*

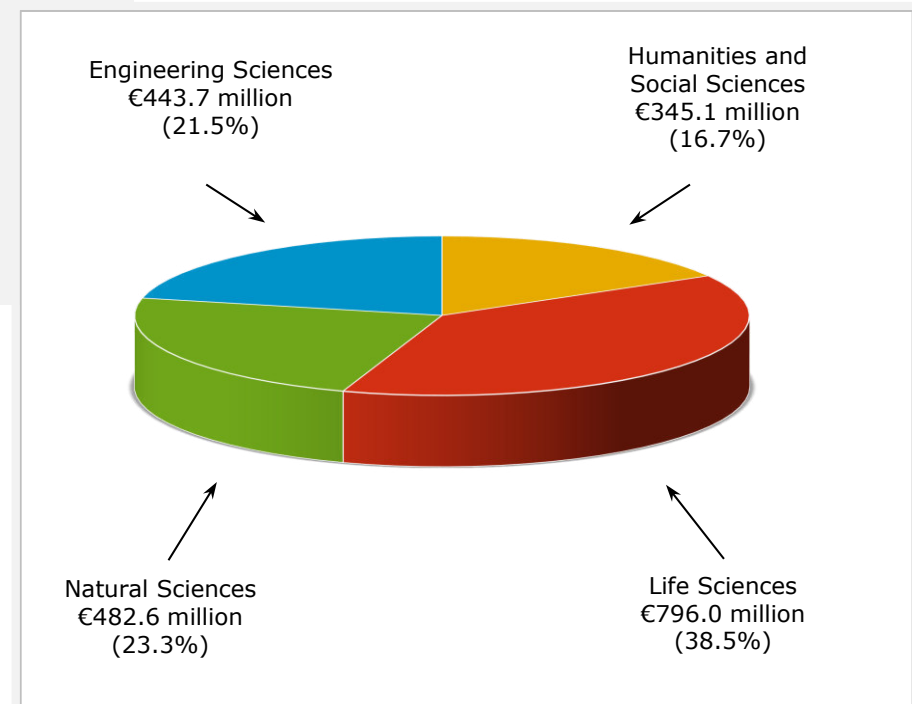
- the German federal government (67,5%)
- the German states (32.4%)
- private sources (0.1%)

* (Figures refer to revenues in 2015)

Project funding by DFG goes

- ~90% to universities
- ~10% to extra-university institutions

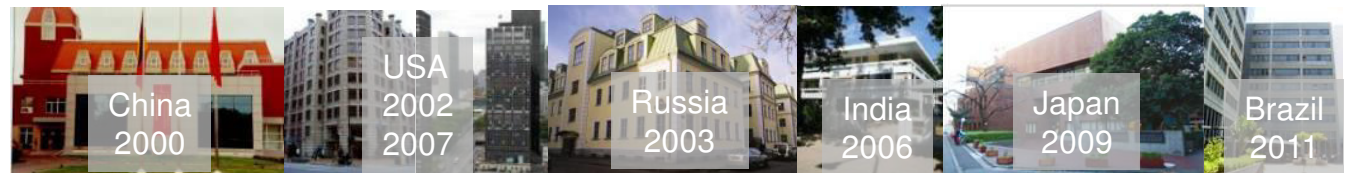
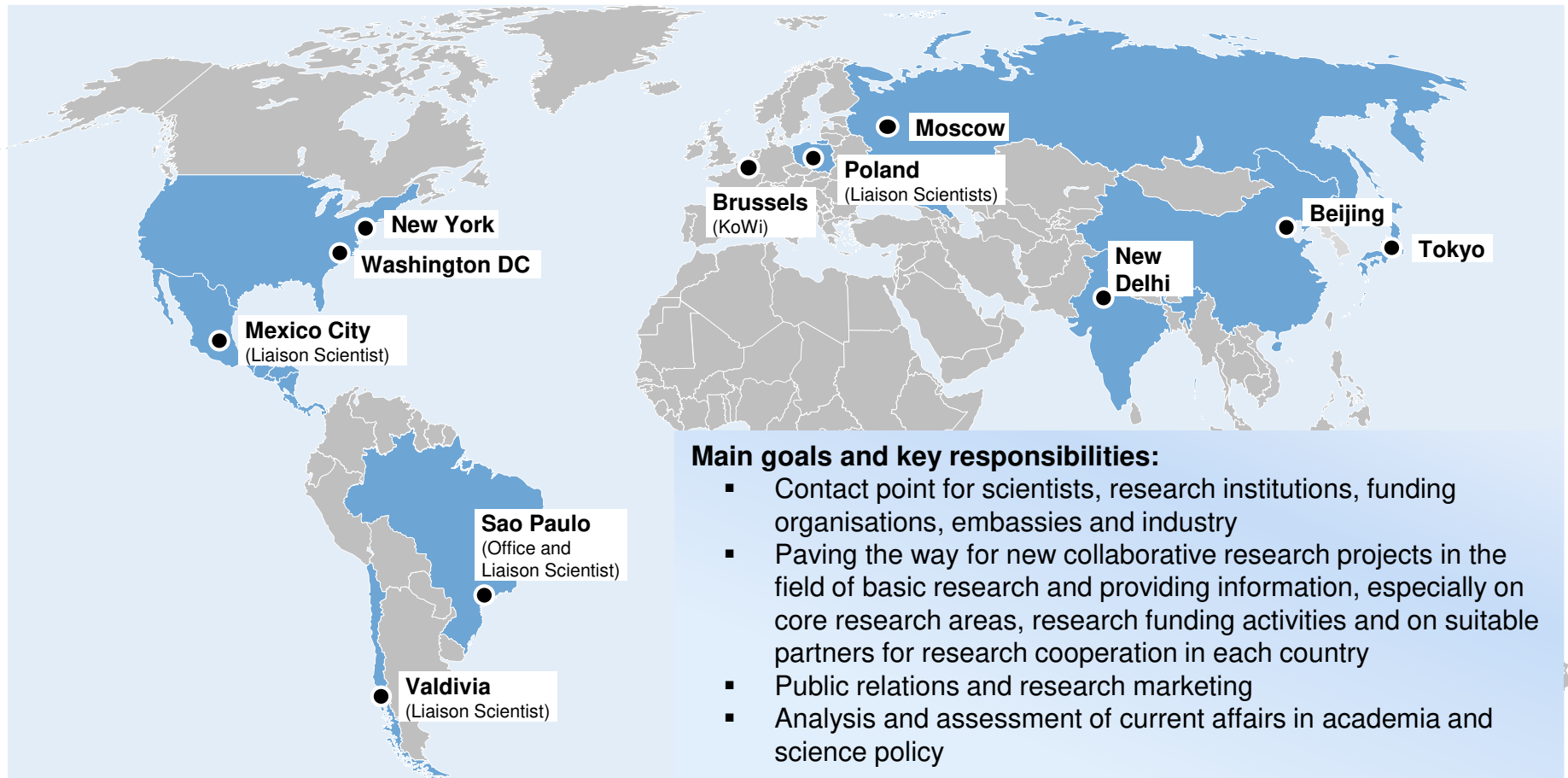
Funding in 2015, by scientific disciplines



The DFG's 2015 budget totalled approx. €2.99 billion

International scientific cooperation

DFG representations abroad



International scientific cooperation

DFG Funding Programmes for International Cooperation

The DFG fosters cooperation in all funding programmes and through specific measures including, e.g.:

- Initial funding for bilateral cooperation
- Fellowships abroad for postdoctoral researchers
- Joint calls for proposals with partner organisations
- International Research Training Groups
- International scientific events

International modules, such as additional travel expenses, personnel exchanges, etc., may be applied for in all DFG funding programmes.

There is no quota for cooperation with certain countries. Proposals submitted to DFG for cooperation with foreign countries must compete among each other by proven excellence.

There are no special funds for proposals for international cooperation. Proposals have to be characterised by an added value compared to national projects.



International scientific cooperation

DFG Funding Programmes for International Cooperation

Initial Funding for Bilateral Cooperation

- enables initial contacts and enhances cooperation with foreign partners
- offers a flexible framework for cooperation, allowing different elements to be combined (preparatory and cooperative visits, bilateral events such as workshops, etc.)
- Different elements within the above framework can be funded over a period of one year.



Research Grants

- Enable scientists to carry out a thematically defined research project within a specific time frame (usually several years)
- Are open to researchers from all disciplines at German research institutions who have completed their scientific training (in most cases by achieving their doctorates)
- Applicants can combine different funding modules they need to complete their research



International scientific cooperation

DFG partner organisations in Southeast Asia



Vietnam: National Foundation for Science and Technology Development (NAFOSTED)



Thailand: National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT)



Indonesia: Indonesian Institute of Science (LIPI)



Singapore: National Research Foundation (NRF)*

Funding principles

- The agreements allow the provision of funding for the activities within the funding mechanism for the Initiation of International Collaboration (mobility and project cooperation; workshops)
- For all therein outlined activities the sending organisation will cover return travel costs from the home country to the first host institute, while domestic transport as well as an adequate living allowance or accommodation will be provided by the organization of the host country

*An MoU is currently being negotiated

International scientific cooperation

International Research Training Groups (IRTGs)

International Research Training Groups (IRTGs)

- **Purpose:** To provide structured doctoral training under ideal conditions using well-established mentoring and qualification strategies in an international environment
- **Eligibility:** Research universities together with their foreign partner universities
- **Duration:** 4.5 years per funding period, maximum of nine years
- **Particular features:** Complementary funding through the foreign partner organisation



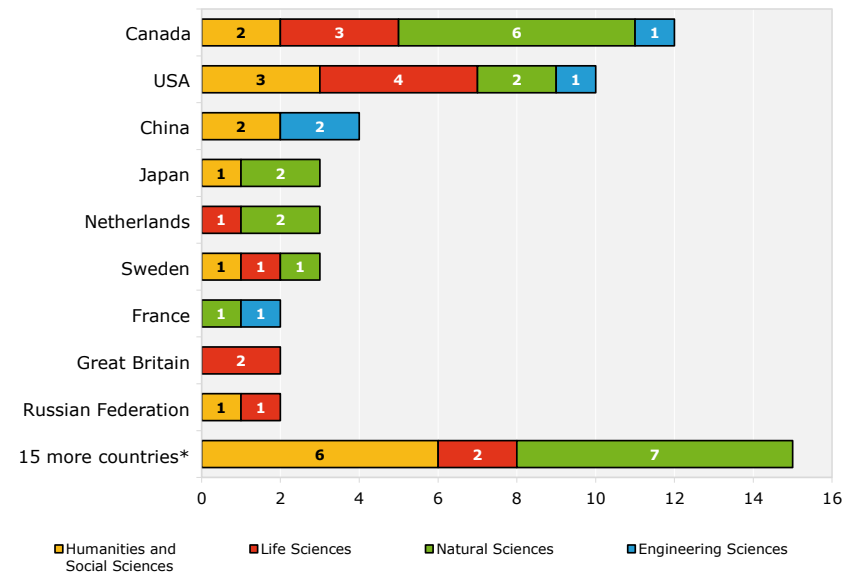
International scientific cooperation

International Research Training Groups (IRTGs)

Expected benefits

- higher scientific innovation potential
- broader theoretical and methodological training of doctoral candidates
- development of common standards for “design” of the doctorate
- symmetric approach to exchange knowledge and researchers between international institutions
- no brain drain
- new generation of international scientists!

DFG funded International Research Training Groups in:



*Argentina, Australia, Brasil, Denmark, Estonia, India, Israel, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Austria, Poland, Spain, South Korea and Czech Republic

International scientific cooperation

Collaborative Research Centres (CRC)

Collaborative Research Centres (CRC)

- **Purpose:** To create a core research focus at a university through the long-term promotion of interdisciplinary cooperation within the framework of a coordinated programme
- **Eligibility:** Research universities
- **Duration:** Up to 12 years, with each funding period encompassing four years
- **Particular features:** CRC/Transregions are supported by multiple (usually up to three) university locations



International scientific cooperation

Collaborative Research Centres/Transregio

CRC 564:

“Sustainable Land Use and Rural Development in Mountainous Regions of Southeast Asia”

- 2000-2012, concluded in June 2014
- German institutions
 - Hohenheim University



Partners in Vietnam	Partners in Thailand
Hanoi University of Agriculture	Chiang Mai University
Thai Nguyen University of Agriculture and Forestry	Kasetart University
National Institute of Animal Husbandry	Maejo University
	Silpakorn University



DFG

Thank you for your attention!