

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

# The DFG: Ways of supporting international cooperation

1. DFG: Tasks, Budget, structure
2. International cooperation
3. DFG and its activities with Iran
4. Links & Contacts



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# What is the DFG?

Germany's central, self-governing research funding organisation



Hauptausschußsitzung am 19. Oktober 1929 in Weimar

- ▶ Found in 1920, as “Emergency Association for German Science”
- ▶ Main task: help universities to conduct research by granting research projects

22. Dezember 23.

An die  
Direktion der Disconto-Gesellschaft,

B e r l i n 9.8.

.D./Gh. Betr.: Girokonto-Notgemeinschaft Et. 3. 668.

Die Direktion der Disconto-Gesellschaft ersuche ich ergebenst,  
zu Lasten rubr. Kontos den Betrag von  
Mk. 70 950 000 000 000,- (Siebzigbillionenneunhundert-  
fünfzigmilliarden Mark)  
zu überweisen auf das Rentenmark-Konto des Kaiser-Wilhelm-Instituts  
für physikalische Chemie, Berlin-Dahlem, bei dem Bankhaus Mendels-  
sohn & Co, Berlin N. 56., Jägerstr. 58/59.

Der Präsident der Notgemeinschaft:

Staatsminister.

*Überweisung an Frau von Wrangell, Professorin für Chemie, für Forschungsarbeiten an der Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gesellschaft (aus: Deutsche Notgemeinschaft (Hrsg.): Vor 65 Jahren)*

# Allgemeines: Wer/was ist die DFG?

Antrag von Otto Warburg an die  
Notgemeinschaft der Deutschen  
Wissenschaft, ca. 1921.

Willem H. Koppenol, Patricia L. Bounds & Chi V. Dang  
Nature Reviews Cancer 11, 325-337 (May 2011)



Nature Reviews | Cancer

# What is the DFG?

## Main tasks and principles

### **Main tasks:**

- ▶ Funding of scientific research in all disciplines based on scientific merit and excellence
- ▶ Special focus on promoting young researchers
- ▶ Support of international cooperation in all fields of research
- ▶ Policy advice, knowledge transfer, equal opportunity
- ▶ Strengthen the research system

# What is the DFG?

Germany's central, self-governing research funding organisation

The DFG is a self governing organisation under private law

**Member institutions** include

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

**The DFG is funded by**

- ▶ German federal government            67,6 %
- ▶ German states                            32,3 %
- ▶ Private sources                            0,1 %

In 2016, the DFG funded about **30.000** new and ongoing **projects** with a funding volume of **€3 billion**.



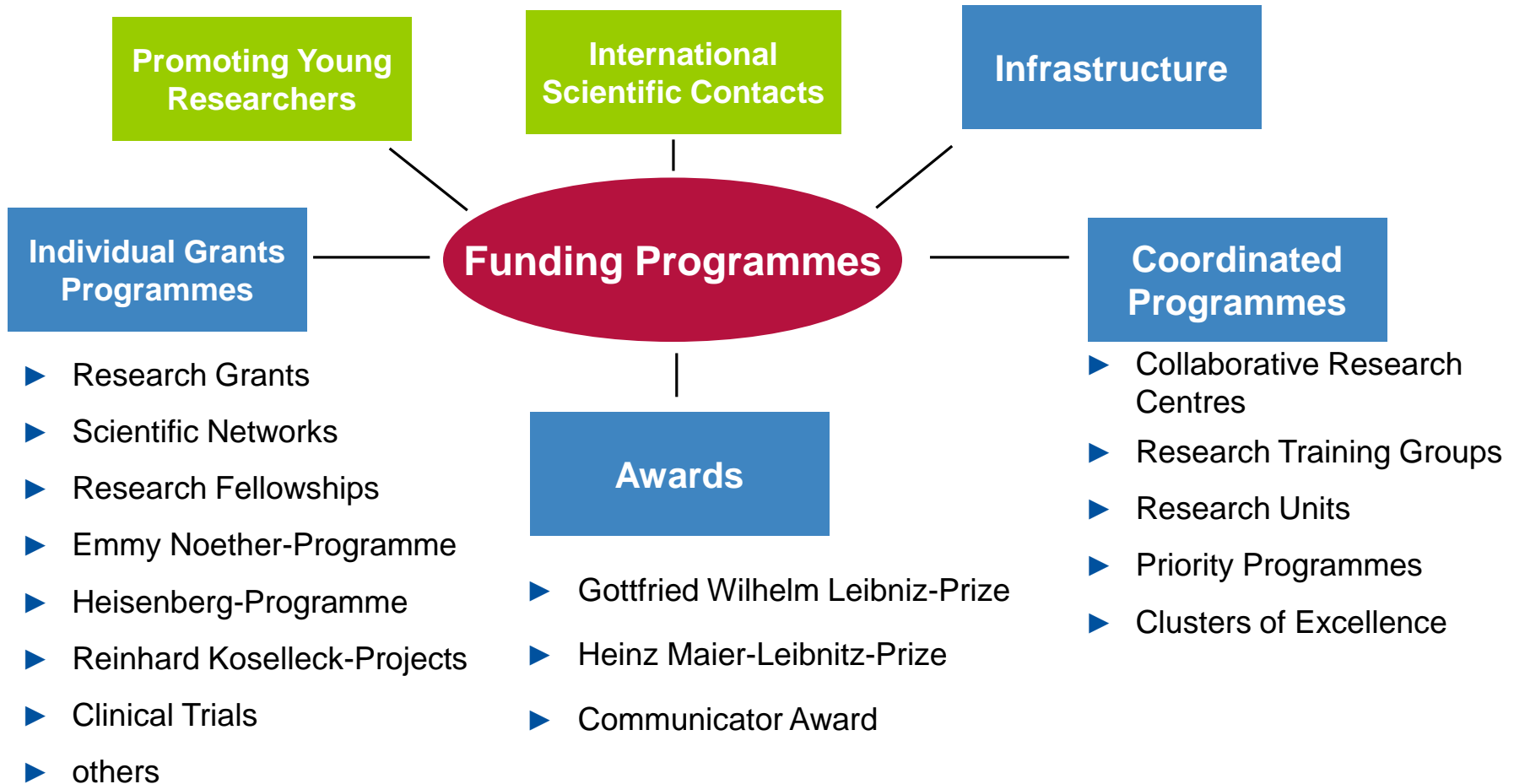


# DFG is driven by scientific demand

- ▶ DFG acts and funds bottom up
- ▶ no thematic priorities (rare exceptions)
- ▶ no regional priorities
- ▶ no political priorities
- ▶ no political influence
- ▶ everything in competition
- ▶ everything in peer review
- ▶ everything decided by scientists



# DFG Funding Programmes



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# How does the DFG promote International Cooperation?

## Proposals with international partners

### Funding principles:

- ▶ Scientists can apply for international funding like travel costs, exchange of researchers in all DFG-Funding Programmes
- ▶ DFG does not make special funds available for the funding on international projects
- ▶ Proposals for international collaborations must compete with all other proposals in the same DFG programme
- ▶ DFG funds the part of the project based in Germany
- ▶ Complementary funding by another funding organisation, the relevant university or non-university research institution, or another source.
- ▶ exception: bilateral projects with „developing countries“: Project partners may be funded directly with a DFG-research grant if the partner is insufficiently funded and unable to obtain money from a funding orga in the country

# Programme “Initiation of International Collaboration”

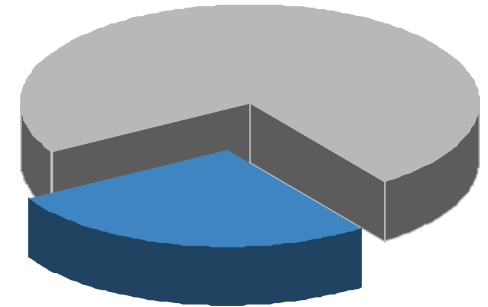
This programme

- ▶ serves to establish collaborative relationships between international partners
- ▶ 3 different modules to be combined:
  - Trips abroad (up to 3 months)
  - Research stays at partner institutions (up to 3 months)
  - Bilateral Workshops
- ▶ **No submission deadline**
- ▶ Funding period up to **1 year**



# How does the DFG promote international cooperation? Research Projects with international Partners: Individual Grants Programme

- ▶ 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 for a period of up to **3 years**
- ▶ **Participation of foreign researchers within the project in Germany**
  - Guest researcher
  - Mercator Fellow = Visiting Professorships for a research stay 3-12 months. Application through the German host institution



Part in total funding volume:  
26,5 % (2015)

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# DFG and its activities with Iran

Cooperation partners in Iran:

- ▶ **Iran National Science Foundation (INSF)**
- ▶ **Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization (ICHHTO)**
- ▶ **Iranian Academics and Specialists Association in Germany (IRASA)**



The Office of President  
Vice-Presidency for Science and Technology

**Iran National Science Foundation**



# DFG and its activities with Iran

## Iran National Science Foundation (INSF)

### Iran National Science Foundation (INSF)



Prof. Zargham – Prof. Allgöwer, signing INSF-DFG MoU

- ▶ **2016 January Agreement on Research Cooperation**
- ▶ **Funding of bilateral projects**
  - PIs from Germany submit proposal for funding German part of the project at DFG (“Initiation of Collaboration” / “Research Grant”)
  - PIs from Iran submit proposal for funding Iranian part of the project at INSF
  - Consultation (Anne Schmitz) / Preliminary review by DFG
  - First joint funded project: Workshop in the field of marine ecology on the island of Kish

# DFG and its activities with Iran

Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization (ICHHTO)

## Iranian Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization (ICHHTO)



Signment of Letter of Intent 2017 in Bonn:  
Vice-president Dr. Talebian (ICHHTO) and  
Prof. Strohschneider (DFG)



- ▶ **2017, April Letter of Intent** on Research Cooperation
- ▶ **2017 Scientific symposium** with ICHHTO on the occasion of the exhibition “Iran – Early Cultures between water and dessert” in the Bundeskunsthalle Bonn

# DFG and its activities with Iran

## Iranian Academics and Specialists Association in Germany (IRASA)

### Iranian Academics and Specialists Association in Germany (IRASA)

- ▶ 2015: DFG-participation and support of IRASA annual meeting “Advanced Science and Technologies for Sustainable Development in Iran”
- ▶ 2016: DFG-IRASA Workshop “Iranian-German Research Cooperation – Chances and Challenges from the Iranian Perspective” in Berlin, Technische Universität, as part of the STSD-Conference (Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in Iran )



# DFG and its activities with Iran

## Visit of MSRT, 2016

- ▶ Visit of University of Teheran, MSRT, Ministry of Energy and others
- ▶ Visit of DFG-President Prof. Strohschneider together with President of Max-Planck Gesellschaft Prof. Stratmann as part of the BMBF-Delegation (German Ministry of Education and Research),



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# Where Can I Find a Partner for Cooperation?

➤ **Research Explorer** (interactive map of German research landscape)

| Town                | Institutions |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Aachen              | 20           |
| Aden                | 2            |
| Althaus             | 1            |
| Allt Ruppin         | 1            |
| Amberg              | 1            |
| Arnsbach            | 1            |
| Aachenburg          | 1            |
| Agguburg            | 3            |
| Bad Harzburg        | 1            |
| Bad Hornum          | 1            |
| Bad Münsterfeld     | 1            |
| Bad Nauheim         | 1            |
| Bad Soosch-Alendorf | 1            |
| Bad Wurzach         | 1            |
| Bakum               | 1            |
| Bamberg             | 4            |
| Bayreuth            | 6            |
| Bensack-Breuer      | 1            |
| Berowitz            | 1            |

➤ **GEPRIS** (online database on current DFG-funded projects)

➤ **Funding Atlas 2012** (contains key data on publically funded research in Germany)

# DFG Head Office in Bonn

## DFG Office in Berlin

### DFG Head Office

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V.  
Kennedyallee 40  
53175 Bonn



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[anne.schmitz@dfg.de](mailto:anne.schmitz@dfg.de)

**Tel.: 0228 885 2346/2226**

### DFG Office Berlin

WissenschaftsForum (Gendarmenmarkt)  
Markgrafenstr. 37  
10117 Berlin

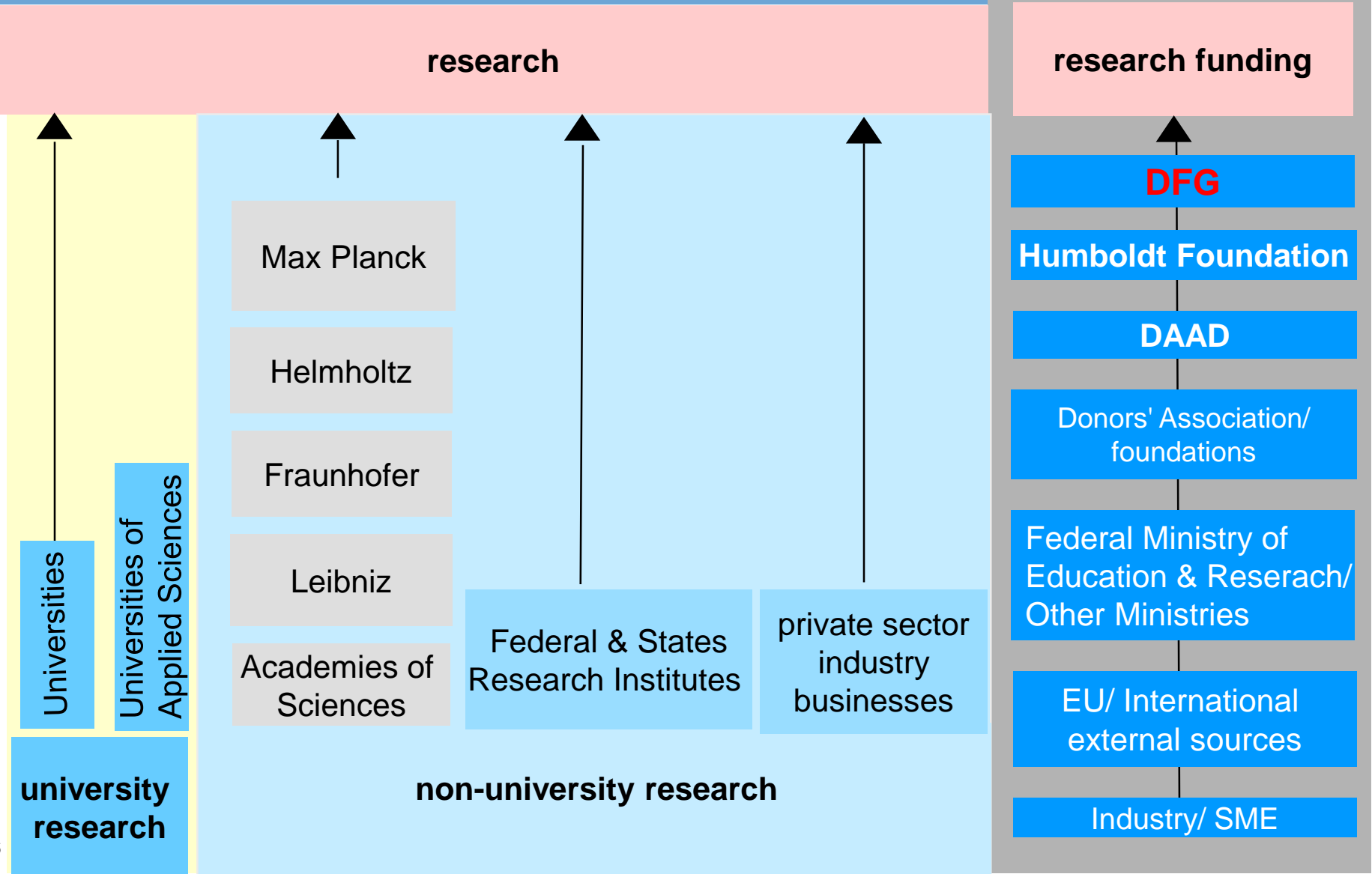
Mechthild Köhler  
Assistant International Affairs

Tel: +49 (30) 206121 - 4322

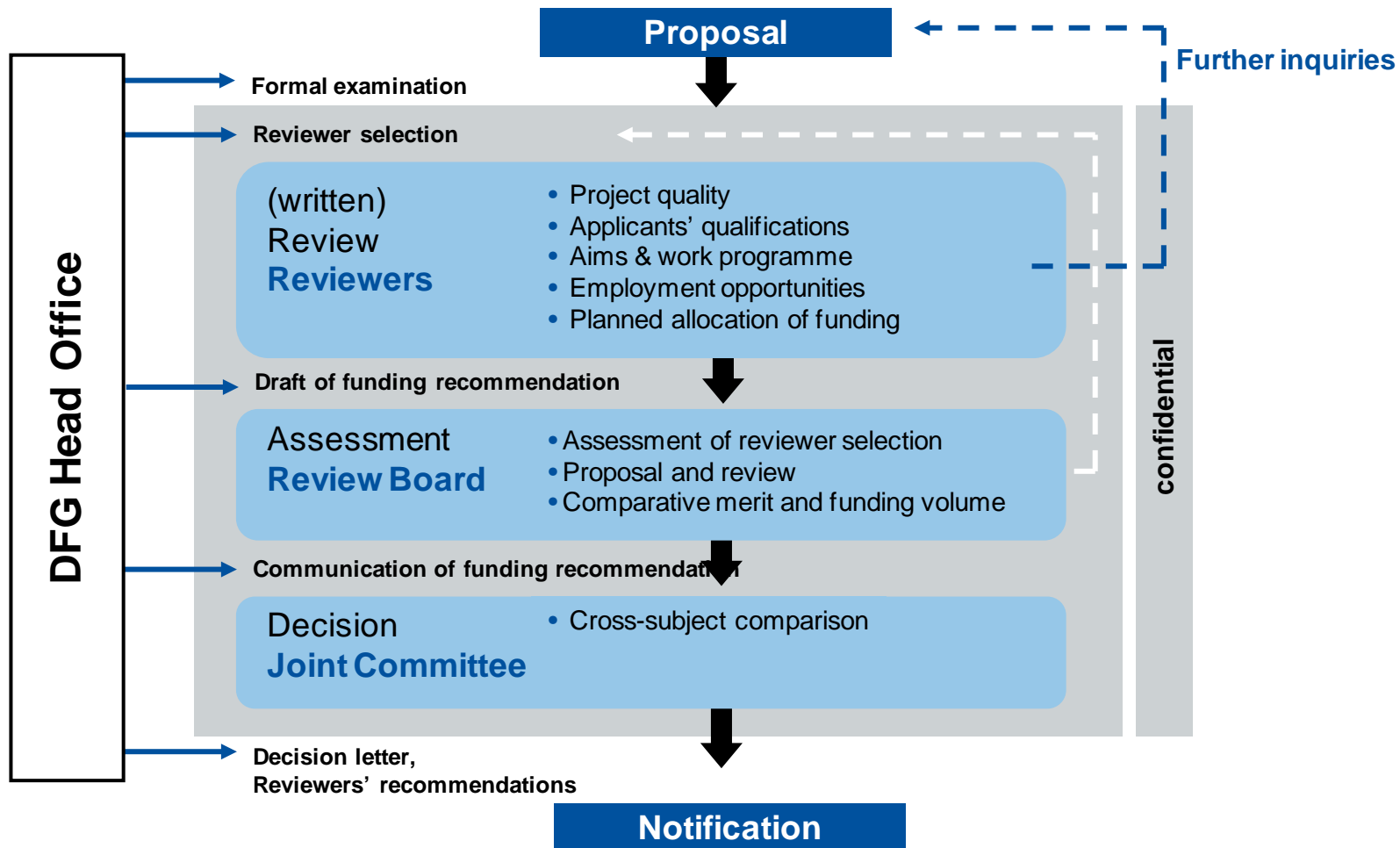
E-Mail: [Mechthild.Koehler@dfg.de](mailto:Mechthild.Koehler@dfg.de)



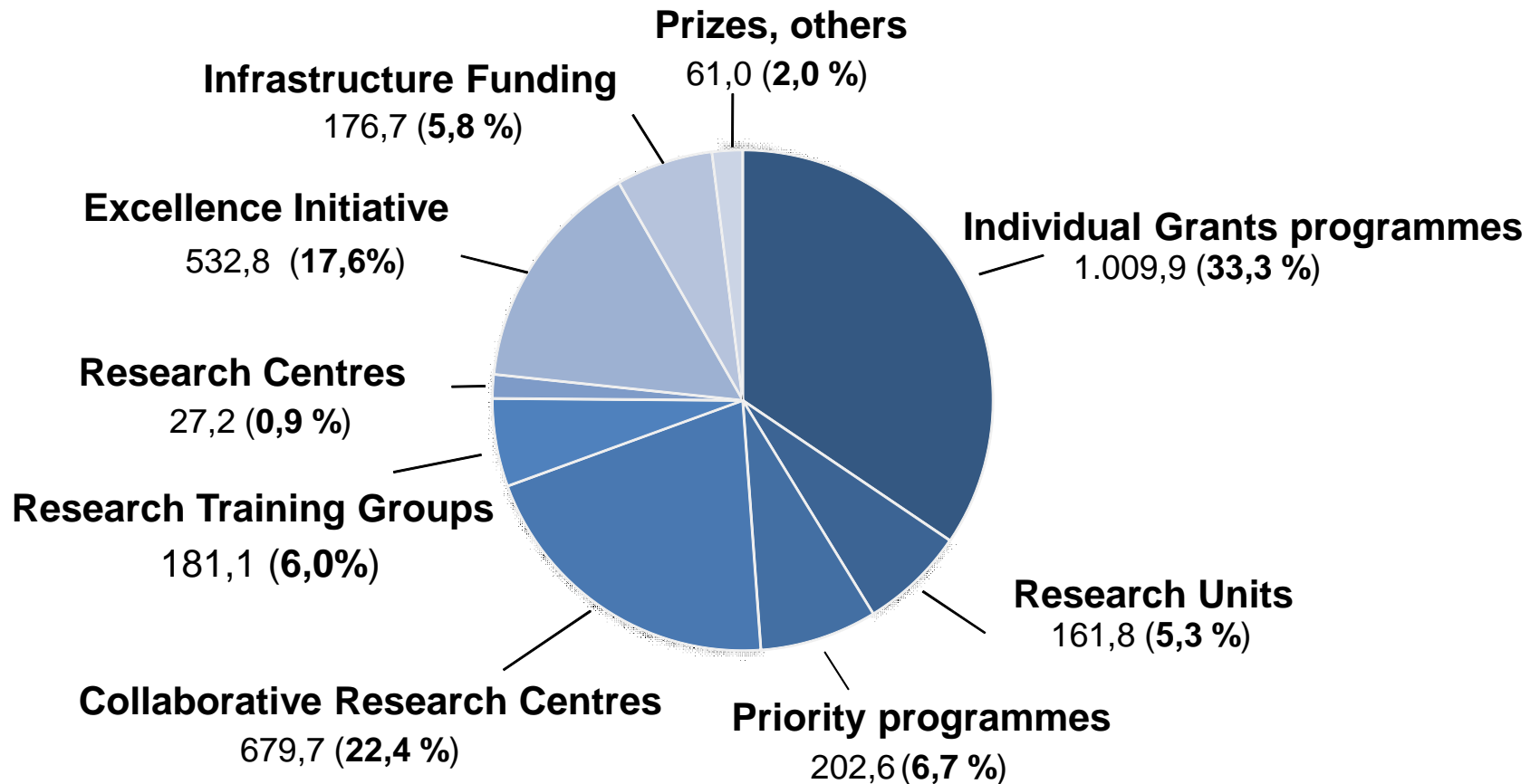
# The German Research Landscape



# How does the decision-making process work?

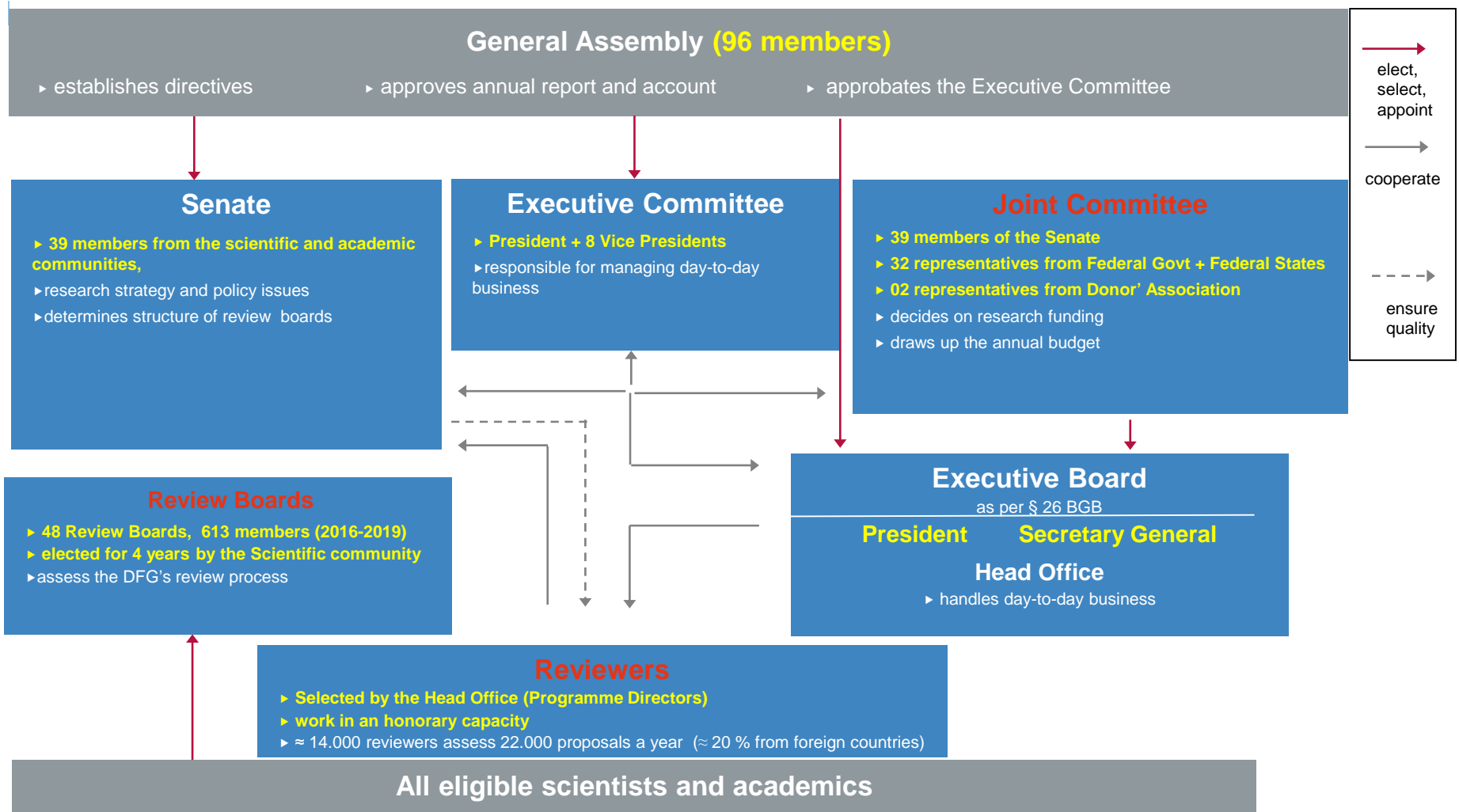


# Amount of research funding\* awarded by programme for 2016 (in €m and %)\*



\* Including programme allowance for indirect project costs (=22 % additional to project funding)

# How is the DFG structured?



# How does the DFG promote international cooperation?

## DFG representations abroad

