

## **Joint Research Bases**

### **Guide for Applicants**

#### **1. Objectives**

Germany regards the expansion of successful research cooperation to form joint research bases with distributed project groups as a significant element in developing the European Research Area.

Joint research bases are intended to network the staff, organization and funding of outstanding research and education establishments and industrial research in the relevant disciplines in both countries on the basis of existing cooperation schemes and in the interest of both sides. The aim is to create sustainable structures for the joint development of research potential and the introduction of more dynamic product and process innovation structures in the field of innovation-oriented applied research. Joint project groups or institutes – if necessary geographically distributed – are to be established with a networked organizational structure on the basis of binding cooperation agreements and involving further strategic partners. This includes joint leadership structures and a steering body consisting of representatives from research and industry as appropriate.

It is planned that both countries will share the start-up investments for the concept and development phase of these partnerships, which is to last up to one year. These investments include both governmental start-up funding as well as contributions from the institutions involved. After this one-year concept and development phase, for which start-up funding will be provided, the partnerships will have to be financed through the acquisition of funding and contracts from regional, national (German and foreign) and European funding programmes. The aim is to create a stable basis for the new structures within a period of four or five years by systematically securing third-party funding and tapping new markets. This will ensure a new quality of cooperation characterized by sustainability and competitiveness. It will make a decisive contribution towards strengthening cooperation between the two countries and helping Europe become a more innovative region.

It is planned that the BMBF will fund the implementation of proposals which have received positive evaluations with up to 50,000 euro each during the one-year concept and development phase and will also provide accompanying support for these projects. When drafting their applications, applicants should take into account the following structure and the further information provided under section 2 (description of project).

## 2. **Application/description of project**

The application may be made using the appropriate application forms (AZA or AZK), which can be downloaded at <http://www.kp.dlr.de/profi/easy/formular.html>. The description of the project should be structured in accordance with the following example. The project description should focus on explaining the project's new approach, added value and qualitative improvement compared with previous cooperation.

### **Example structure of the application**

#### **I. Project framework**

##### **Object/Field of research**

##### **Idea/Motivation**

- Innovativeness and relevance of the topic
- Attractiveness and significance of the structure in an international context
- Contribution towards the Europeanization/European orientation of the facilities/organizations and/or the R&D area involved
- Contribution to bilateral cooperation.

##### **Objectives**

- Taking on technology/market leadership in the sector in question (in the participating countries/in Europe)
- Establishment of a distributed project group/virtual institute/research institution/ as a basis for the establishment of long-term cooperation facilities or structures
- If appropriate, the construction of prototypes to demonstrate expertise
- Acquisition of industrial contracts and third-party funding
- Concept and introduction of a new bilateral cooperation model.

##### **Institutions involved and project officers on both sides**

#### **II. Description of project (Overall project)**

**State of the art of science and technology in the relevant field of R&D and preparatory work** (structure into relevant priorities within the field of research)

##### **International trends**

**Preparatory work conducted by the project participants in Germany and the partner country, as well as the status of cooperation in the R&D sector concerned**

**Current and future fields of application/future products**  
(Concepts for realization)

##### **Market and job creation potential**

#### **III. Detailed description of the planned work of the distributed project group in the concept and development phase lasting up to 12 months**

- Work plan: Contents/structures  
Description of the individual work packages (objectives/implementation/results)  
Research work/pilot investigations  
Specification of the organizational model, etc.

- Time schedule, expenditure and cost plan (based on the individual work packages)
- Preparation/submission of applications to the appropriate BMBF Directorate-General and, if applicable, foreign funding organization and acquisition of industry contracts and further third-party funding (DFG, *Länder* programmes, EU including Structural Funds, ...)
- Planning the transitional phase (What happens after the concept phase until establishment as a self-financing unit (without further start-up financing)?)

#### **IV. Funding**

**Overall funding framework over 4-5 years (Germany and partner country)** – use the enclosed tables "Cost and Funding Model" for this purpose

**Overview of sources of funding / funding commitments to date**

**Detailed funding planning for the concept phase (first year): Overall funding and funds requested from BMBF, Directorate-General 2**

# Joint Research Base

## Cost and Funding Model

### Costs

Costs in thousand €	1 <sup>st</sup> Year	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	4 <sup>th</sup> Year	5 <sup>th</sup> Year	Total
<b>in Germany</b>						
Personnel						
Travel						
Events						
Third-party services						
Infrastructure						
<b>Total Germany</b>						
<b>in the partner country</b>						
Personnel						
Travel						
Events						
Third-party services						
Infrastructure						
<b>Total partner country</b>						
<b>Sum Total</b>						

## Funding Model

Costs in thousand €	1 <sup>st</sup> Year	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	4 <sup>th</sup> Year	5 <sup>th</sup> Year	Total
<b>in Germany</b>						
BMBF structural measures						
BMBF project funding						
Contribution from the coordinator's R&D institution						
German <i>Länder</i>						
Own share German partners						
Industry in Germany						
Other						
<b>Total Germany</b>						
<b>in the partner country</b>						
Funding programme of the partner country						
EU Structural Fund: R&D infrastructure						
Regional Fund (Regional Council)						
Own share foreign partners						
Industry in the partner country						
Other						
<b>Total Partner Country</b>						
<b>International</b>						
EU programmes						
Industry in other countries/international						
Other						
<b>Total International</b>						
<b>Sum Total</b>						

### Joint Research Base (Name .....)

Example of the organizational structure of a joint distributed project group / virtual institute

