

A blurred, 3D-style logo of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) in white, set against a blue background with light rays.

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) German Research Foundation

*International and intersectoral mobility
in DFG-funded Research Training Groups*

Dr. Astrid Evers
EUA-CDE Annual Meeting 2019, Brescia

The official DFG logo in blue, consisting of the letters 'DFG' in a bold, sans-serif font.

DFG

Germany's largest independent research funding organisation

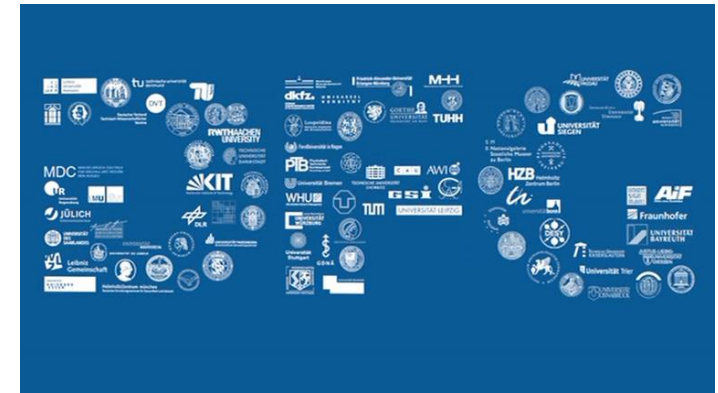
- ▶ Total budget approx. € 3.2 billion in 2017
- ▶ In 2017, the DFG funded over 32,000 projects
- ▶ Funding is provided by:
 - German federal government (67,9%)
 - German states (31,2%)
 - Private sources (0.9%)
- ▶ Type of research: basic research in any field of science and humanities
- ▶ Research topics: open, bottom-up, no thematic calls or target areas
- ▶ Evaluation through multi-level peer-review



DFG

the self-governing organisation for science and research in Germany

- ▶ Association under German private law
- ▶ Member institutions include:
 - universities
 - non-university research institutions
 - academies of sciences and humanities
 - scientific associations
- ▶ Advises parliaments and public authorities on scientific matters



Research Training Groups (RTGs)

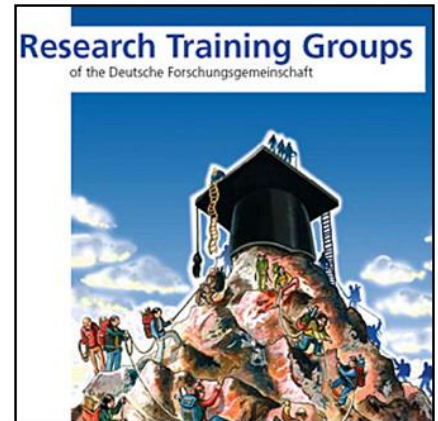
Structured PhD training

- ▶ 5-12 PIs as supervisors
- ▶ Thematically focused interdisciplinary research and study programmes at universities
- ▶ Tailored study programme
- ▶ Regular, structured supervision of PhD students; mentoring programme
- ▶ Maximum funding period: 9 years
- ▶ Currently 221 RTGs funded: www.dfg.de/gk/en/



Research Training Groups (RTGs) Funding

- ▶ Three-year positions for 10-15 PhD candidates,
+ max. 2 Postdocs
- ▶ Research Students (assistants)
- ▶ Consumables
- ▶ Support for coordination, recruitment, sabbaticals etc.
- ▶ Funds for scientific networking:
 - International Summer Schools & conferences
 - Invitation of guest scientists
 - Research stays abroad
- ▶ Dedicated support for PhD students with children



International Research Training Groups (IRTGs)

Taking research collaborations one step further

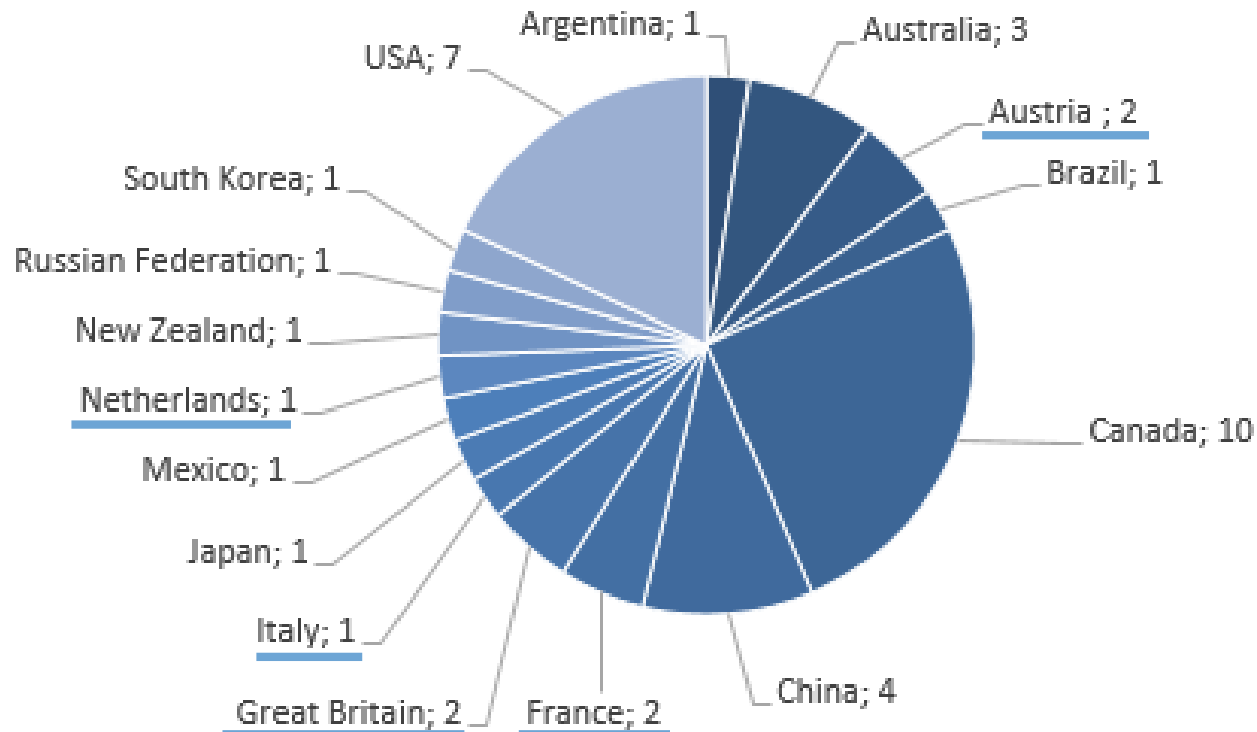
- ▶ 5-10 PIs and 10-15 doctoral students on each side
- ▶ Joint research and training programme with a partner institution outside of Germany
- ▶ Added value through complementarity of expertise and resources
- ▶ International co-supervision and mentoring
- ▶ Research stay abroad (6-12 months)
- ▶ Complementary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



International Research Training Groups

Global cooperation

- ▶ 39 IRTGs in 16 different countries = 17,6 % of 221 RTGs



(International) Research Training Groups (IRTGs)

Societal Dimension

- ▶ Funding decisions based on scientific criteria
- ▶ Societal Impact not central in the evaluation of the research programme
- ▶ Qualification Programme: training of new skills (for different sectors); often including partners from industry
- ▶ Intersectoral mobility through “transfer projects” and/or industry internships
- ▶ opportunity for higher education institutions to experiment with new training formats and cooperative arrangements – e.g. with universities of applied science, cultural institutions, or businesses – that would otherwise not be available
- ▶ Bottom-up



(International) Research Training Groups (IRTGs) Public Outreach

DFG public @dfg_public

Hier twittet die Presse- und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit der Deutschen Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG). Impressum: dfg.de/service/kontak...

dfg.de

Beigetreten Januar 2016

Tweets **Tweets & Antworten** **Medien**

DFG public @dfg_public · 17 Std.
Tweets sind einfach zu kurz! An #SPP2089 sind außer dem @UFZ_de beteiligt: @unibt, @fz_juelich, @unikold, @UniHohenheim, @IPKGatersleben, @UniBonn, @BOKUvienna, @kieluni, @UniCologne, @JKI_Bund, @Thuener_aktuell, @TU_Muenchen, @presseunikassel, @Uni_Stuttgart, @FAU_Germany.

Susanne Schreiter @SusaSchreiter
Antwort an @dfg_public @UFZ_de
Not just @UFZ_de. In fact 10 working groups taking samples today and they will be shared with even more program partners.

DFG public @dfg_public · 18 Std.

Neu bei Twitter?
Melde dich jetzt an, um deine eigene, personalisierte Timeline zu erhalten!
Registrieren

Vielleicht gefällt dir auch
Aktualisieren

BMBF @BMBF_Bund

250 **Humboldt-Stiftung** @AvHStiftung

https://twitter.com/dfg_public

- ▶ Social media
- ▶ Nights of Science
- ▶ Exhibitions
- ▶ PhD researchers explain their fascination for science and why it is relevant to a broad audience

International Research Training Groups

Benefits – for whom?

► Doctoral researchers

- Attractive, high quality research programme
- Structured supervision and training
- Access to additional resources
- International networking and visibility through mobility
- Intercultural competence / personal development



► Principal Investigators/Participating scientists

- Expansion of own research field
- Deepening existing and creation of new collaborations
- Increase of international visibility
- Access to additional resources (infrastructures etc.)

► Universities

- Building block for existing and new int'l cooperation agreements
- International visibility
- Internationalisation of the doctorate itself
- 22% overhead funding



(International) Research Training Groups (IRTGs)

Societal Dimension

- ▶ What can we as a funding organization do to further support mobility and public outreach?
- ▶ What are best practice examples?



For more information

- ▶ on the DFG: www.dfg.de
- ▶ on DFG-funded projects: www.dfg.de/gepris
- ▶ on IRTGs: astrid.evers@dfg.de
- ▶ on over 25,000 German research institutes: www.gerit.org