

Supplementary Instructions

for Proposals for Long-Term Projects



The DFG defines long-term projects as research projects conducted in the humanities and social sciences which require continuous funding for at least 7 years and those for which, on account of their central importance to science, thorough preparation, well thought-out planning and professional management, the DFG considers longer-term funding to be desirable. The publication of editions, corpora, archaeological excavations and longitudinal studies in the social or behavioural sciences are examples. By acknowledging long-term projects as such, the DFG opens up prospects for these projects for longer-term funding. Such projects can be funded for a period of up to 12 years.

Following initial evaluation by expert reviewers, proposals for inclusion in the long-term project programme are then assessed by a cross-sectional review board made up of members of the humanities and social sciences review boards. The review board's recommendation is presented to the Joint Committee for decision.

In addition to the assessment criteria that are applied to each project proposal, two aspects specific to long-term projects will be considered during the review and must therefore be addressed in the proposal:

- the project's particular importance to science and its expected outcome, which must justify the privilege of funding as a long-term project;
- the necessity of the proposed funding duration, i.e. the long-term nature of the project.

Furthermore, in addition to the information requested in the Proposal Preparation Instructions - Project Proposals

http://www.dfg.de/formulare/54_01/

the following aspects specific to long-term projects must be addressed:

1 Project leadership

All researchers with a leadership role in the project should be named and their function described.

2 Project preparations

Long-term projects require careful preparation which should be set out in the proposal and include details such as the type and quantity of material to be handled. For editing or dictionary projects, reasons justifying an editorial or lexical presentation of the materials beyond their archival availability should be given. In general, a digital version of dictionaries and editions should also be produced.

www.dfg.de/foerderung/faq/geistes_sozialwissenschaften/index.html

Proposals must state whether the relevant material has been collected and is available and, where relevant, proof of access rights must be provided. It is recommended that documents on publishing rights and, if applicable, a publishing contract be presented.

Long-term social-science research projects should demonstrate what practical measures are planned for maintaining a panel and for continuous data management. These include statements about what institutional arrangements have been made to ensure continuation of the studies by persons other than the primary investigators.

The data documentation plans must allow for the long-term use of the data.

3 Time and work planning

The structure of the planned project and the resulting timeline, particularly the total duration, must be specified and justified. It should be determined whether the project can be broken down into relatively self-contained sub-phases with respect to subject matter and time.

For long-term social-science projects, the planned survey phases and the associated timeline are to be specified. In this context, an explanation is to be provided on how the long-term project can also yield short-term results and what intermediate results can be expected.

For archaeological projects, the timeline and work plan should distinguish between a field research phase and a processing/publication phase. The overall duration must include both phases.

4 Personnel

The qualifications of the available employees for the specific tasks should be made clear in this section. Any employment-law issues that may arise as a result of long-term employment should be given early consideration and clarified with the university administration and the DFG Head Office.

5 Funding

The proposal must be accompanied by a justifiable budget plan covering the entire duration of the project. The costs for the first proposal period (usually 3 years) must be set out in detail and reasons given.

Because they require a higher level of planning security, long-term projects are relieved of the direct financial pressure of the individual grants programme, but are still subject to strict, periodic, interim reviews. Support for long-term projects includes not only their awarded funding, but also the scientific accompaniment, which is ensured through the periodic reviews of the work reports and renewal proposals as well as the associated results and any remarks made by the reviewers, which are communicated to the researchers.

Responsibility for the funding of long-term projects and for advising project leaders and interested researchers lies with the programme directors of the particular subject areas. Questions not related to a specific project that concern the decision-making process and general aspects of long-term projects or the relationship of the DFG's funding for long-term projects to that of the academy programme can be addressed to the coordinators for long-term funding:

Humanities and Cultural Studies:

Dr. Hans-Dieter Bienert, Tel.: 0228/885-2246, Hans-Dieter.Bienert@dfg.de

Social and Behavioural Sciences:

Dr. Anne Brüggemann, Tel.: 0228/885-2213, Anne.Brueggemann@dfg.de