


# Leaflet

## Transregional Collaborative Research Centres



The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) established a new funding scheme called Transregional Collaborative Research Centre on July 1, 1999. Within the framework of Collaborative Research Centres, the Transregional Collaborative Research Centre is an alternative to the classical funding scheme for Collaborative Research Centres, but which, in principle, follows their general funding guidelines.

Only universities are eligible to submit proposals. Other research institutions may participate with the consent of the universities.

The universities and other research institutions are required to provide appropriate basic resources, including personnel and infrastructure, for the duration of the funding. Awards are made on the basis of recurring evaluations, and the maximum duration of a Transregio is twelve years.

Like any proposal in the Collaborative Research Centres programme, the proposal for a Transregio must meet high scientific standards. Unlike the traditional form of a Collaborative Research Centre, which is restricted to one location, a Transregio is characterized by two to three locations. The partners for cooperation at these sites can be chosen freely.

The contributions of each partner to the common research goal have to be essential, complementary and synergetic. Similar scientific interests or other motives for cooperation are not sufficient. The scientific merit must also manifest itself in the novelty of the topic and in the depth and breadth of scientific interaction between participating groups.

The common research goal must be focused in a way that the selection of partners, the coherence of projects across the locations, and the structural goals aimed for (i.e. local and transregional networks of interdisciplinary research and material resources) can be derived from it.

Universities and other research institutions involved are expected to regard the Transregio as a common research focus. One of the universities will act as the head institution. A qualitatively and quantitatively equal participation of the locations is expected. The number of projects and the overall budget depend on the specific circumstances of the collaboration in each case.

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The spatial distance between the participating institutions does not influence funding decisions, which are solely based on the criteria mentioned above. This applies also to international collaborations, which are encouraged and may be included in the proposal. Universities intending to submit a proposal have to choose between the traditional scheme of funding, which focuses on strengthening a local profile, and the funding scheme Transregio with the dual structural aim of creating a local and a transregional network. A combination of both funding schemes is not possible.

DFG will not receive additional funds for supporting Transregios. Both alternatives compete within the Collaborative Research Centres programme.

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