

## **Programme and Application Requirements - NRF-DFG**

The NRF-DFG Agreement - signed in October 1999 - allows the provision of funding for the following scientific activities:

- 1. Preparatory visits**
- 2. Consultative visits**
- 3. Joint bilateral seminars**
- 4. Joint research projects**

For the first three of the above categories financial support is restricted to travel and living expenses. The sending organisation will cover the return travel costs from its country to the first host institute, while an adequate living allowance will be provided by the organisation of the host country. Joint research projects can be supported utilising the normal funding options applicable to the respective programmes of the DFG and the NRF.

1. Preparatory visits are designed to enable interested scientists to develop co-operative research projects or seminars in the final stage. The duration of such visits will generally not exceed three weeks.
2. Consultative and research visits are designed to link complementary research, thus aiming to enhance the research output of collaborating scientists. Preliminary experiments or the study of specific techniques may be undertaken during the sojourn in the host country. Such visits usually will not exceed six months. Applications of South African scientists for preparatory or consultative visits have to be submitted to NRF, while German scientists are requested to forward their applications to the DFG using the respective "Proposal of Deputation" form. Additionally, a detailed description of the scientific background, aims and methods of the proposed research needs to be submitted in a form allowing peer review by DFG referees.
3. Bilateral seminars, held in either country, can be sponsored along the same line of financial support outlined above. Applications need to be submitted by the German and South African co-ordinator of the meeting to DFG and NRF respectively. The German co-ordinator will be responsible for managing the financial transactions of German participants while the South African co-ordinator will undertake the same task for the South African participants. Hence, a budget outlining expenses separating travel and local costs needs to be included. The proposal must be of high scientific standard and will be reviewed by scientific referees. It should contain the following information:

- A short outline of the scientific knowledge in the area concerned
- A detailed justification for the seminar as well as a description of the scientific goals
- A list of proposed German and South African participants providing details about their institutional address and their scientific contributions to the meeting
- Scientific programme
- Estimate of the required financial resources on the basis of cost effective arrangements and discount airfares
- Bank account details for all financial transfers

Processing of applications will require three to four months.

4. Joint research project applications need to comply with the respective formal requirements of the DFG and NRF. As far as the German scientists are concerned, all applications have to be designed according to the DFG Guide for Applications. Information for South African scientists about the NRF requirements have to be obtained from NRF directly (<http://www.nrf.ac.za/>). Essentially, all applications have to contain:
  - a detailed description of the aims and methods of the research project and the costs, differentiated into German and South African components
  - a detailed schedule of implementation
  - biographical data and qualifications of the scientific personnel involved