



Programme Information

Funding for Research Group Linkage

Programme

In the framework of its alumni programme, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation sponsors long-term research collaborations between academics in Germany and abroad.

The funding of research group linkage is one of the alumni support tools designed to build a sustainable basis for long-term international academic collaboration. Another of its aims is to integrate (doctoral and post-doctoral) junior researchers as potential candidates for an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation research fellowship into these collaborations.

Funded activities, funding amount and period

In the Research Group Linkage Programme sponsorship is available for:

- **research assistance** (up to 20% of the funding amount)
- **reciprocal research visits** (travel and accommodation) of up to three months each annually by the applicants and their staff at the respective partner institute;
- **joint specialist conferences**, workshops or similar events (up to 20% of the funding amount may be used to cover travel and accommodation expenses for participants from partner institutes as well as the costs of organising and holding the conference);
- **scientific equipment** (up to 20,000 EUR, for partner institutes abroad only);
- **publications and consumables.**

In addition, the German partner institute may receive an **administrative lump-sum** of up to 15 % of the funding amount.

Funding amount and period:

- The **maximum funding amount is 55,000 EUR**, taking into consideration the above-mentioned restrictions.
- The funding period is **up to 3 years**.

Application requirements

- One of the applicants is working at a research institute in one of the countries on the [current list](#) (excepting, in particular, institutes in Australia, , Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Western Europe and the USA) and is an alumnus of an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation fellowship or award programme (“Humboldtian”).
- One of the applicants is working at a research institute in Germany.

Application procedure

Applications may be sent to the following address at any time:

**Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
Selection Department
Jean-Paul-Str. 12, 53173 Bonn, Germany**

Please be sure to only use valid application documents, which can be downloaded from the [Alexander von Humboldt Foundation website](#) or obtained from the Foundation directly.

Reviewing the applications takes four to six months. Further information on the selection procedure can be found in the [FAQs](#) on the Humboldt Foundation's website.

Furthermore, applications and funding are subject to the [Rules of Good Scientific Practice](#) as well as the [regulations on the use of funds](#).

Please submit:

- the completed **application form**;
- a **time and expenses schedule**, broken down by years, indicating the intended use of funds (form);
- a **budget plan**, explaining the time and expenses schedule;
- if applicable, estimates** for equipment items requested, preferably in the form of a concrete quotation;
- a **detailed research plan**;
- curriculum vitae and list of publications** for the last five years for all academics involved;
- statements from the directors** of the institutes involved.

The completed applications will undergo an independent review and then be submitted to the appropriate committee for a final decision.

Assessment criteria:

- the originality of the proposed research project;
- the applicants' academic credentials;
- the extent to which the project will promote long-term reciprocal academic collaboration;
- the relevance of the proposed research project to development policy (for collaborations with partners in developing countries);
- the planned integration of qualified junior researchers, as described in the application;
- the appropriateness of the funding amount requested as well as the extent to which the activities to be funded are conducive to the realisation of the proposed research project.