



# The International Bureau of the BMBF (IB)

Networking research and education worldwide

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## The International Bureau of the BMBF (IB)





## **Our Mission**

#### We

- support the BMBF in planning and implementing international agreements and cooperation programmes
- observe relevant international developments in the fields of science, research and technology
- advise and support stakeholders in Germany's scientific community when it comes to opening up new international networking opportunities and raising Germany's profile as a hub of science, research and innovation
- are actively involved in the strategic development of the international dimension of the European Research Area





# What We Do (1)

#### We

- provide German institutions with information and advice on opportunities for international research cooperation
- support German institutions financially, thus enabling them to establish new contacts and initiate cooperation with priority countries worldwide
- implement international cooperation programmes on behalf of the BMBF and coordinate programmes for the support of young scientists
- observe international research and innovation policy developments for the BMBF and other stakeholders in the German science, research and innovation landscape





# What We Do (2)

#### We

- support the BMBF in its efforts to promote innovation in Germany
- plan and organise international conferences, forums, workshops and trade fair activities in Germany and abroad
- act as an interface and contact point for international organisations, programmes and initiatives
- coordinate and participate in EU network projects (ERA- and INCO-NETs/BILATs)
- design and maintain Internet sites and web portals (e.g., <u>www.kooperation-international.de/en</u>)





## **Supporting International Cooperation**

## In 2011, IB was in charge of a total of 1,374 projects\* and had a budget of €19.8 m.

Regions	Environmental research and	Biosciences and biotechnology	Health care and medicine	Energy	Information and communications	New materials	Geosciences	Properties of matter	Production technologies	Nanotechnologies	Marine and polar research	Physical and chemical technologies	Innovation	Education	Transport research	Security research	Space research and technology	Other research disciplines	Project-independent activities	Total
Asia, Australia and New Zealand	62	64	67	23	22	14	20	15	12	16	12	9	4	14	7	1	1	35	16	414
Americas	43	33	24	9	10	7	12	5	7	3	15	2	6	9	2		1	27	9	224
Africa and Middle East	58	38	33	27	13	17	11	10	4	4	4	9	4	2	1			24	5	264
Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)	27	34	40	6	16	17	7	8	9	19	5	11	6			3		7	10	225
Central, Eastern and Southeast Europe	19	5	10	16	10			7	2	1	3	1	4		3	1	1	10	6	99
Western Europe													1						3	4
Transnational and interdisciplinary	11	13	6	4	6	1	3	5	14	2	1		6	5	2		1	36	28	144
Total	220	187	180	85	77	56	53	50	48	45	40	32	31	30	15	5	4	139	77	1,374

\* related to countries and regions





## **Core Responsibility**

## Preparatory measures for international cooperation

On behalf of the BMBF, IB offers grants to German universities, non-university research institutions and small and medium-sized companies (SME) for fact-finding actions and the preparation of projects, including feasibility and pilot studies.

#### Selection criteria for these grants include:

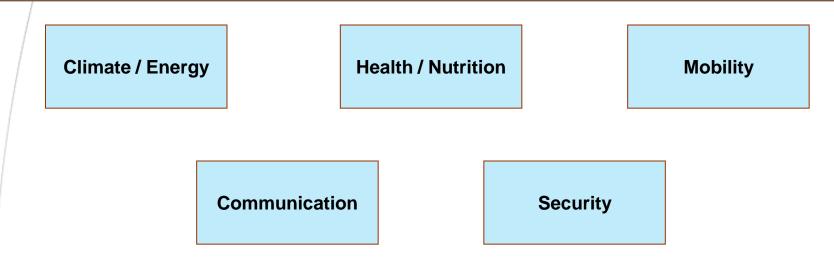
- Stimulation of new projects that are relevant to BMBF and EU funding programmes
- quality and originality of the research approach
- innovativeness and focus on application
- joint interest and benefits for the project partners
- support of young researchers and equal opportunities





## The Federal Government's High-Tech Strategy

#### 2010: Focus on five key challenges of society



- main priorities of the 17 fields of innovation
- High-Tech Strategy fosters and intensifies the existing strengths
  - generating modern future-oriented lead markets
  - $\implies$  securing internationally competitive advantages





# The Federal Government's Internationalisation Strategy

Priority objectives								
1. Strengthening research cooperation with global leaders	2. International exploitation of innovation potentials	3. Substantially strengthening cooperation with developing countries in education, research and development	4. Assuming international responsibility and mastering global challenges					
Interdisciplinary activities								

		Promoting Germany as
Presence abroad	International monitoring	research, innovation and
		higher education location





## The Federal Government's Internationalisation Strategy – New Incentives 2010

- priority objective: expansion of the Internationalisation Strategy
- new emphases: education and research as key priorities in the cooperation with emerging and developing countries

Coalition agreement between CDU, CSU and FDP, 17th election period





# **Political Context (3)**



## The international dimension of the European Research Area (ERA) (1)

IB actively participates in discussions on the strategic development of ERA's international dimension and is a recognised partner in European project consortia, including

- ERA-NETs (coordinating funding activities of EU member and associated countries with selected target regions)
   Southeast Europe, Black Sea region, Russia, Japan, India, South Korea, Africa
- INCO-NETs (bi-regional dialogue)

Southeast Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe/Central Asia, Africa, Mediterranean area, Western Balkans, Pacific, Southern Caucasus/Central Asia





# **Political Context (3)**



## The international dimension of the European Research Area (ERA) (2)

- **BILATs** (dialogue with main third countries) *Russia, Ukraine, Brazil, Chile, Argentina, USA, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand*
- ACCESS4EU (access opportunities for European researchers in third countries' research capabilities and programmes)
  Canada, Brazil, Australia and New Zealand





## Thank you very much for your attention!

## Dr. Hans-Jörg Stähle

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