



Federal Ministry  
of Research, Technology  
and Space

# INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH COOPERATION & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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PATRICIA ROMANOWSKY





# ABOUT US

Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR)

We fund international cooperations  
across fields such as:

- Climate, environment & sustainability
- Energy transitions & green technologies
- Health sciences & life sciences
- Digital transformation, AI & data science
- Space exploration & future technologies

# 1,335

*In the year 2022, the  
BMFTR spent a total of  
1.335 billion euros on  
funding for  
international  
cooperation in  
education and research.*

# 2,278

*In the year 2022, the  
BMFTR funded a total of  
2278 international  
projects (conducted by  
German institutions in  
cooperation with  
international partners).*



# Bilateral Funding Principles

Shared Funding – Shared Ownership – Shared Responsibility

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- Projects are jointly developed and jointly funded by **both sides**
- Each side contributes its own national budget (≈ €200 000 each)
- **Central Asian partners select their German partners independently and apply together** as equals
- BMFTR cannot arrange or assign cooperation – it must arise from scientific initiative, not ministerial instruction
- Ensures authentic partnerships built on genuine interest and commitment





## Focus on Central Asia

- Central Asia is a **priority region for joint research** on climate, energy transition, water, agriculture and public health
- **4 ongoing joint projects** will receive **additional funding in 2026** to expand their activities
- By mobilising additional funds, 2 excellent projects from the reserve list can now also be supported
- Shows clear commitment to sustainable, long-term institutional partnerships across the region





# Funding Outlook

## Input of the German scientific community

Based on a 2023 position paper of the German scientific community on cooperation with Central Asia we align new funding measures with the recommended formats:

- Mobility and networking projects – with special focus on early-career researchers
- Strengthened academic mobility, also regionally between Central Asian countries
- Bi- and multilateral project formats - partly interdisciplinary
- Long-term institutional cooperation structures





# Funding Outlook

## Funding measures currently under development

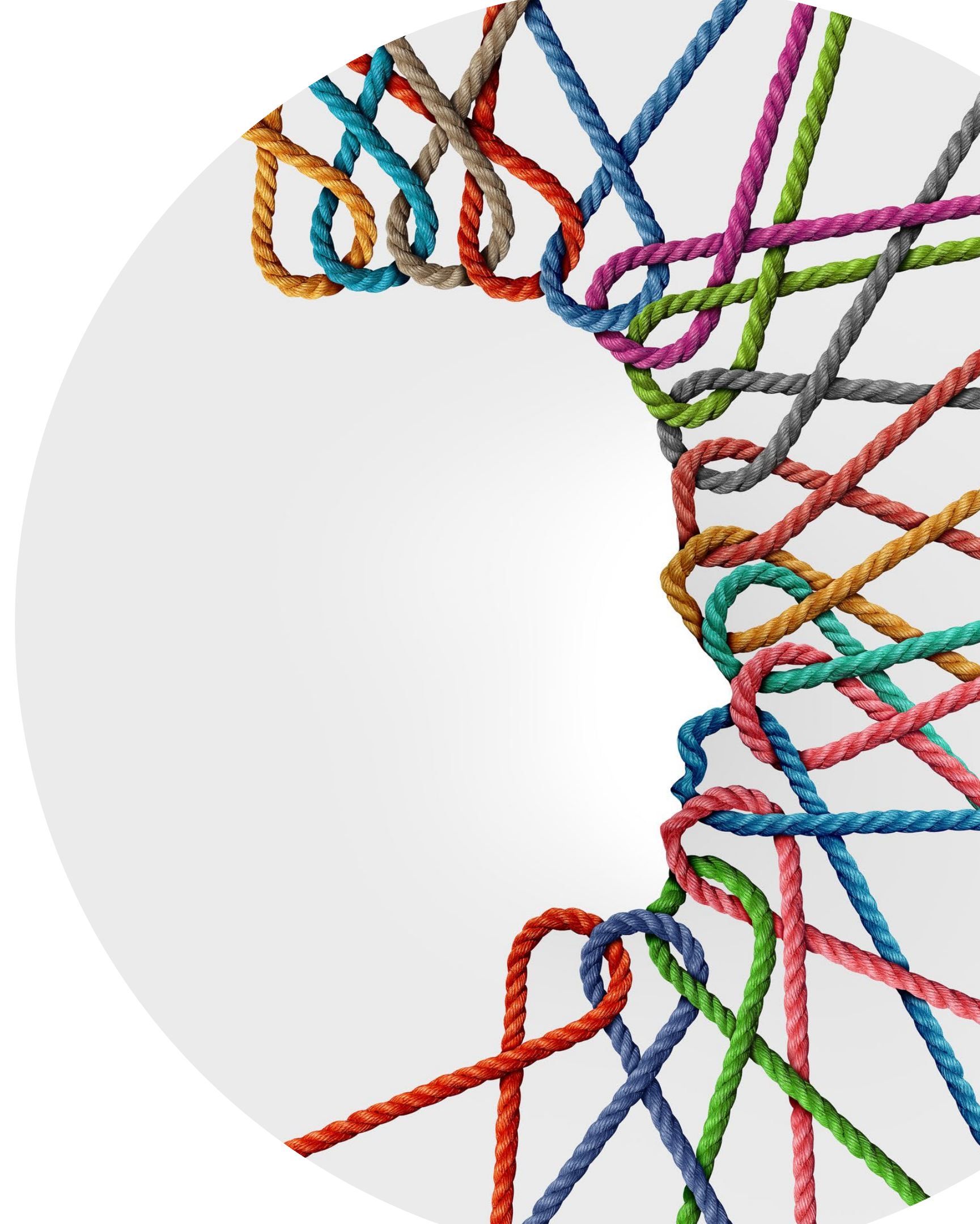
We are preparing the following measures:

A **Call on agricultural research** with a strong digital and data-driven component (aligned with the German High Tech Agenda)

- this call will be aimed at developing **early career research structures** with CA partners

- Excellence Cores → Sustainable joint **Centers of Excellence for Research and Innovation** with Central Asian partners

- Designed to **deliver excellent, application-oriented research** within **long-term institutional structures**
- Envisaged model: outstanding working groups jointly led by **leading researchers from top German and Central Asian institutions**





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# Global Minds Initiative

Connecting Global Talents with German Research

- Offer for **best minds from all over the world**
- The initiative from our Ministry enables the **Humboldt Foundation**, the **DAAD** and the **DFG** to offer **additional fellowships** & invite top researchers to Germany
- **Target group:** Individuals who are engaged in research activities abroad and are interested in continuing their career in the German science system
- Initiative comprises an **extensive portfolio of funding formats** for all career stages **after** completion of PhD

## OUR AIM:

To attract the best minds  
in the world to 🇩🇪 :

- **top-class researchers**
- **established scientists**
- **postdocs**

In return, we guarantee  
**scientific  
freedom.**

Which is not a  
universal given!



**PUSHING  
GERMANY FORWARD**

**WITH SMART MINDS  
FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD!**



## Your contacts

Further information is available on the websites of the mentioned organizations:

AvH

DFG

DAAD

Alexander von  
Humboldt Foundation



Further information:  
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[Website ↗](#)

German Research  
Foundation



Further information:  
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[Website ↗](#)

German Academic  
Exchange Service



Further information:  
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[Website ↗](#)

Research in  
Germany  
  
Land of Ideas

[research-in-  
germany.org](https://research-in-germany.org)



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## CASIB Contact

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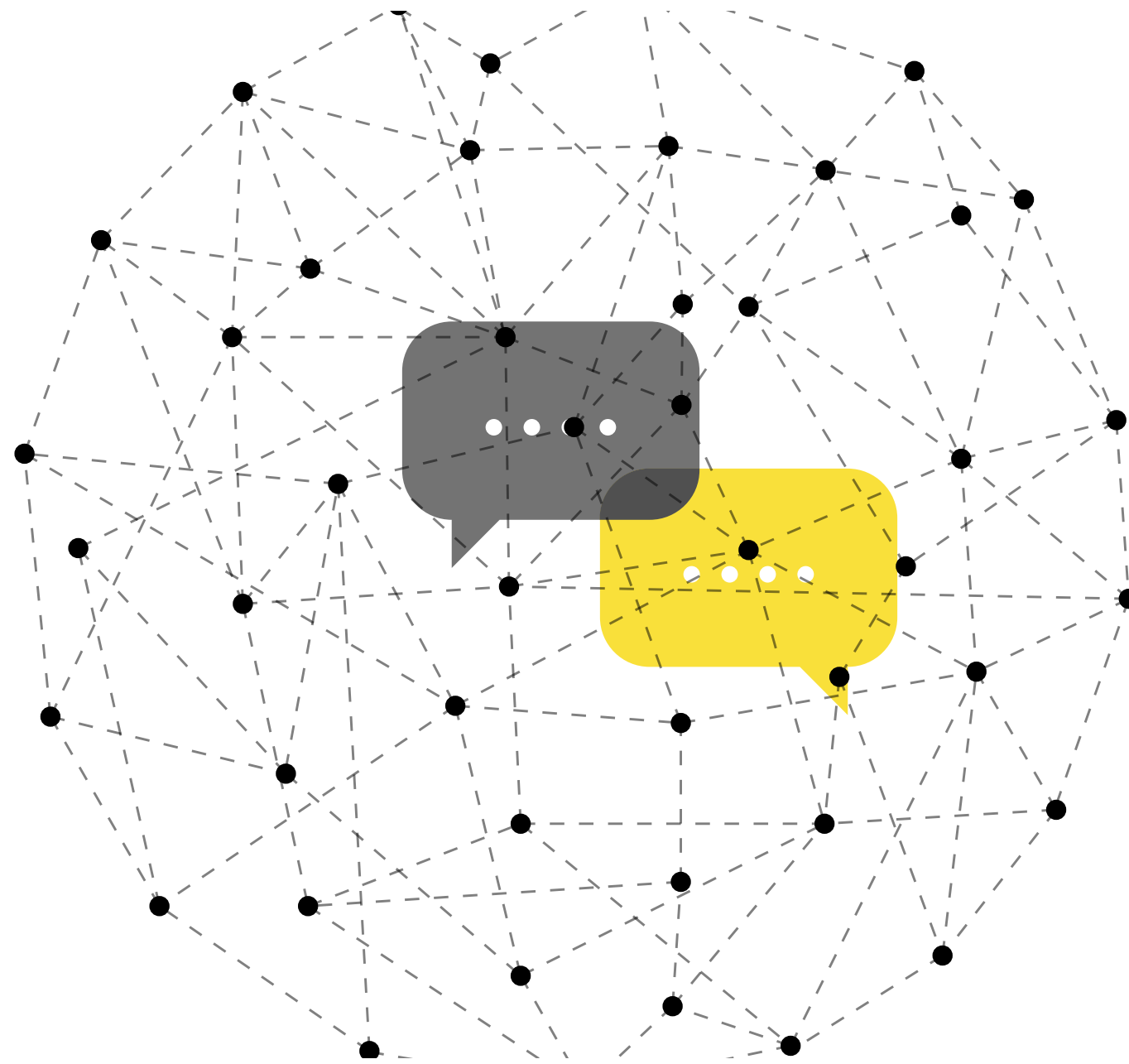
# CASIB

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Central Asia Sustainable  
Innovation Bureau

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**THANK YOU**

