

Further information



Information on IGF:
www.bmwi.de/IGF



Funding guideline and
federal funding data base
www.foerderdatenbank.de



Information hotline on federal
support for 'research and
innovation':
www.foerderinfo.bund.de



Information on IGF
application procedure:
www.aif.de/IGF



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Collective industrial research (IGF)

Industrial research for companies



Collective industrial Research (IGF)

Substance and goals of the funding

Research done prior to product development is essential for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and their capability to deliver the latest state-of-the-art. At the same time, many SMEs are not able to finance this research. This is where the Industrial Collective Research programme (IGF) comes in.

The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy currently provides around €169 million for outstanding research projects and for creating networks between SMEs and research institutions.

Thanks to the financial support, companies are able to access applied research during the pre-competitive phase. Over 50,000 companies are already members of more

than 100 research associations within the 'Otto von Guericke' Confederation of Industrial Research Associations (AiF). They are able to bring in new ideas, develop projects together that meet their needs and commission research from appropriate institutions.

The companies along the value chain, particularly SMEs, participate during the course of the projects within committees by advising on and steering the work. As they do so, they develop company-specific solutions for new procedures, products and services.

This lastingly improves their competitiveness and their ability to innovate.

The Industrial Collective Research programme is open to all technologies and sectors.

The distribution of research findings amongst the business community is an important component of the programme.

Who is eligible for funding?

Both the companies and the research institutions can propose projects, leading to applications for funding which are gathered by the approx. 100 research associations. These associations are legally independent non-profit organisations that focus on industry. They are teamed up in the AiF and cover all technologies and sectors.

The AiF coordinates the procedure for the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy. Further information can be found here:

AiF German Federation of Industrial Research Associations 'Otto von Guericke'
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info@aif.de, www.aif.de

Guidelines for the funding of industrial joint research were published on 4 September 2012, ensuring that equal requirements need to be met by all applicants. They can be found in the federal funding database.

How does the funding work?

The funding is awarded in the form of non-refundable grants.

The funding amount is set at a maximum of 100% of expenses that are eligible for funding.

Personnel costs, expenses for equipment and third party services that fulfil the purpose of the grant, etc., are eligible for funding.

Through their co-operation in research associations, companies can directly profit from research findings and contacts with research institutions.

