

Applications

The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy plans to publish the sixth research programme for civil aviation in autumn 2018.

In response to a notice in the Federal Gazette (Bundesanzeiger), applications are submitted in a two-step procedure: 1. submission of the draft project proposals, review by an external panel of experts from industry and science, prioritization and selection of projects which are, in principle, eligible for funding; 2. invitation to submit applications.

The Federal Government's Funding Database offers comprehensive information on the funding programmes of the federal government, the federal states (Länder) and the European Union:
www.foerderdatenbank.de

Further information and applications

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Federal Ministry
for Economic Affairs
and Energy

LuFo – the Federal Aviation Research Programme

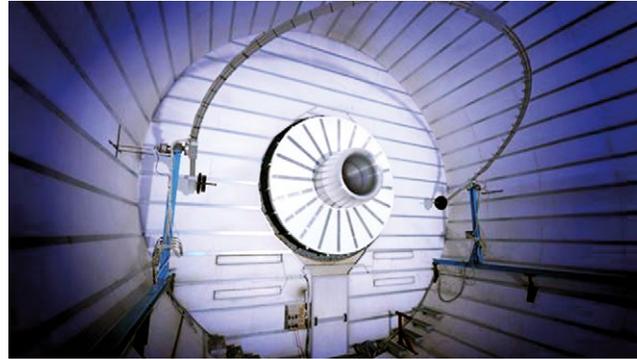
A grant programme of the Federal Ministry for
Economic Affairs and Energy

Importance of air transportation

Air transportation is becoming increasingly important for the mobility of the world's population, and this is resulting in an impressive growth rate in global air traffic. In Germany, which has the highest level of traffic in Europe, this yields significant potential for growth and employment.

Increasing environmental requirements for future air transport and growing international competition are presenting new challenges for the German aviation industry – reasons why the industry is one of the most research-intensive sectors in the German economy.

A special feature of the aviation industry is product cycles of more than 50 years and high safety and certification requirements. As a result, technical innovations can only be introduced with long lead times, while even high market shares only allow for relatively few units compared to other industries.



LuFo – the Aviation Research Programme

The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) supports Germany's international competitiveness by sponsoring research and development within the framework of the Aviation Research Programme of the Federal Government.

The research programme follows the objectives of the ACARE Vision 2020 (ACARE = Advisory Council for Aviation Research and Innovation in Europe) and of Flightpath 2050. The aims include maintaining and improving public acceptance of aviation by reducing pollutant and noise emissions. Funding goes towards research and technology projects that address known challenges.

Key selection criteria are the technological excellence of the projects and a credible prospect of future commercial exploitation in Germany.

The funding takes the form of a grant.

The level of funding

- amounts to up to 50% of the eligible costs for large enterprises,
- amounts to up to 65% of the eligible costs for small and medium enterprises (SMEs according to the EU definition),
- amounts to up to 100% of the eligible expenditures for universities and non-university research institutions.

The EU framework for State aid for research and development and innovation of 27 June 2014 (RDI Union framework) is binding for the definition of the eligible costs.

Research and technology projects are funded for the following programme lines:

- **Eco-efficient flight:** For initiatives and projects of universities to carry out technology research for the 2030 - 2050 application period. The programme line covers all topics and disciplines of the air transportation system and civil aircraft.
- **SMEs:** SMEs can apply for R&D funding for all aviation-related technologies. They are given the opportunity to become active in product niches of interest to them. Where research alliances are formed with other SMEs and scientific institutions, one SME is expected to take the lead.
- **Technology:** Funding for industrial research projects can go towards issues like passenger-friendly and eco-efficient cabins, efficient, safe and economical systems, quiet and efficient engines, innovative structures for aircrafts, flight physics, aviation-specific aspects of Industrie 4.0 in development, production and maintenance, and safe, efficient and environmentally compatible aviation processes and flight guidance.
- **Demonstration:** Projects bridging the gap between technology and product development are supported. These include the integration of individual technologies to create a system or a relevant subsystem and the strengthening and development of capabilities and skills at the overall system level.

