

R&D Incentives

Research and development (R&D) are the cornerstones of the future of the German economy. Generous public funding programs contribute to the excellent conditions allowing companies from all over the world to carry out their R&D in Germany: setting the stage for international high-tech products "made in Germany."

The public and private sectors have made a significant commitment to spend around three percent of national GDP per year on R&D activity. This amounts to approximately EUR 70 billion R&D spending annually.

Germany's High-Tech Strategy

The German federal government promotes research through the so-called High-Tech Strategy. This initiative defines areas of particular significance due to their contribution to solving global challenges. Support is also granted to key technologies that act as innovation drivers.

Lead Markets and Priorities	Key Technologies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Climate/Energy · Health/Nutrition · Mobility · Security · Communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Information and Communication Technologies · Optical Technologies · Production Technologies · Materials Technologies · Biotechnology · Nanotechnology · Microsystems Technology · Innovative Services

Concrete calls for project proposal submissions specify the type of support (in the form of subsidies) that will be offered. In this way, several billion euros can annually flow into projects that focus on research and development for innovative products, processes, and services – all carried out within Germany.

R&D Subsidies for All Types of Technology

There are also subsidy programs in place for all types of technology that are primarily targeted at small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The "Central Innovation Program for SMEs" (ZIM) is the best known of these programs; its aim is to promote innovation and competitiveness at SMEs.

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