INDEPENDANT RESEARCH FUND DENMARK

DANMARKS FRIE FORSKNINGSFOND

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

457 RESEARCH IDEAS FUNDED BY 1.4 DKK BILLION

INDEPENDANT RESEARCH
FUND DENMARK

DANMARKS FRIE
FORSKNINGSFOND

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH FUND DENMARK

FUNDS 457 researcher-initiated and ground-breaking research ideas with 1.4 DKK billion.

GRANTS 234 DKK million for thematic research within the programmes “Green research” and “Strengthened clinical and independent research”.

OFFERS its funds in free competition to encourage original, research-driven ideas within Danish research.

ACTS as advisor for the Minister of Higher Education and Science, the Government and the Danish Parliament.

THE BOARD CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

THE YEAR OF BREAKTHROUGHS

Breakthroughs bring about more nuanced approaches, forms, perspectives, and research-based breakthroughs have often proved to be crucial for the solution of important challenges in society, in areas as e.g. environment, climate and health. 2022 has been yet another year of breakthroughs. Independent Research Fund Denmark has granted funds for 457 ground-breaking, excellent research ideas – the highest number of grants in six years. The funds have been given, among others, to 41 gifted research leaders through Sapere Aude: DFF Starting Grant; these are talented people preparing to set up research groups to support their field of research.

For the first time since the COVID-pandemic, the fund had the pleasure of welcoming participants at the DFF-Research Conference, this time focusing on breakthroughs in research. The fund awarded the prize "The Original Idea of the Year 2022" to a gifted, young researcher with an idea showing an original approach: "The laboratory in the apple orchard" involves both a physical location, a collaboration between natural historians, beekeepers, gardeners and plant breeders as well as a place for knowledge to develop – a laboratory in nature and nature as a laboratory.

The development of a Danish research system that helps the best researchers gain an opportunity to follow their best and most innovative ideas, is a task that the fund and all fund members make an effort to solve in close collaboration. I am genuinely impressed by the enthusiasm and care everybody involved shows in their approach to this task.

In Independent Research Fund Denmark, we make an effort to support and develop a Danish research system that will create a fertile breeding ground for breakthrough ideas. But we do not stand alone. We work with a range of skilled organisations and people that want to create the best possible framework and conditions for Danish research. On behalf of the fund, I would like to thank all the partners with whom we worked together in 2022.

FOCUSING ON THE APPLICANT

In 2022 Independent Research Fund Denmark funded 457 new projects; this gives a success rate of 15 % relative to the number of applications. That is a record number of new research ideas to receive funding and also one of the better success rates in the history of the fund. To make it easier for the individual applicant to identify the right funding instrument for the application, the fund has worked to define its funding instrument portfolio more clearly, among other things, by focusing on the applicant's PhD age within each funding instrument. Once again, I have to acknowledge that there are incredibly many amazing research ideas out there, and that the fund still receives (too) many applications that will not receive any funding.

One of the important tasks for the fund in 2022, was to grant funding for the two politically determined themes: "Green research" and "Strengthened clinical and independent research". The funds for those two themes were distributed through open and broadly phrased calls that ensured a good basis for encouraging the best researchers to contribute with their best ideas. The result was an abundance of good applications and a total of 95 excellent research projects obtaining funding. Those are all projects that will eventually make a real difference to a lot of Danish patients and to the green transition in general.

As part of the Agreements on the research reserve 2023, the fund will again be responsible for distributing funds for ground-breaking research ideas within various politically determined thematic research areas, more precisely within green research, clinical research and research within the fields of children and young people, psychiatry and vocational education. These are areas that are important for our society in general, and it is a task that the fund will approach with careful attention.

INTERNATIONAL IMPACT: WIDE PRESENCE ABROAD AND A BROADER ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Independent Research Fund Denmark works with international partners both when distributing funds for research that may be of crucial importance for our society, and in its work with research policymakers all over the world to develop the international research system that is to set the framework for supporting this research. In October 2022 the fund thus signed the *Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment*. This means that Independent Research Fund Denmark commits itself to work for implementing the agreement's commitments that will further a broader and more holistic approach to how we assess research. The work on implementing the Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment will continue until 2027, and I am happy to see that many other players in the Danish research community also support this agenda.

In May 2022, 26 research project were selected within the international CHANSE-programme. 9 of those projects had Danish participants. The fund is part of CHANSE together with 26 other research foundations from 24 European countries. The Danish applicants were thus among those with the programme's highest national success rate. The aim is to provide funding for the best international research within social sciences and the humanities.

Independent Research Fund Denmark is also a member of the Joint Committee for Nordic research councils in the Humanities and Social Sciences (NOS-HS) that in 2022 issued a call with the aim of promoting free research within the humanities and social sciences. The call was also aimed at young researchers that wish to establish Nordic network partnership across borders in the Nordic countries.

2023 is well on its way. The field of research has a new, committed minister with whom I am looking forward to working together. Much as I am looking forward to continuing the collaboration with other policymakers and people involved in the field of research in order to create the best possible conditions for free, independent and curiosity-driven research in Denmark.

" Proper conditions for free, curiosity-driven research give the most gifted researchers an opportunity to pursue their best ideas for the benefit of society in general "

Professor Maja Horst
Board chairman

KEY FIGURES 2022

3,100
applications

10.7 DKK billion
funding applied for

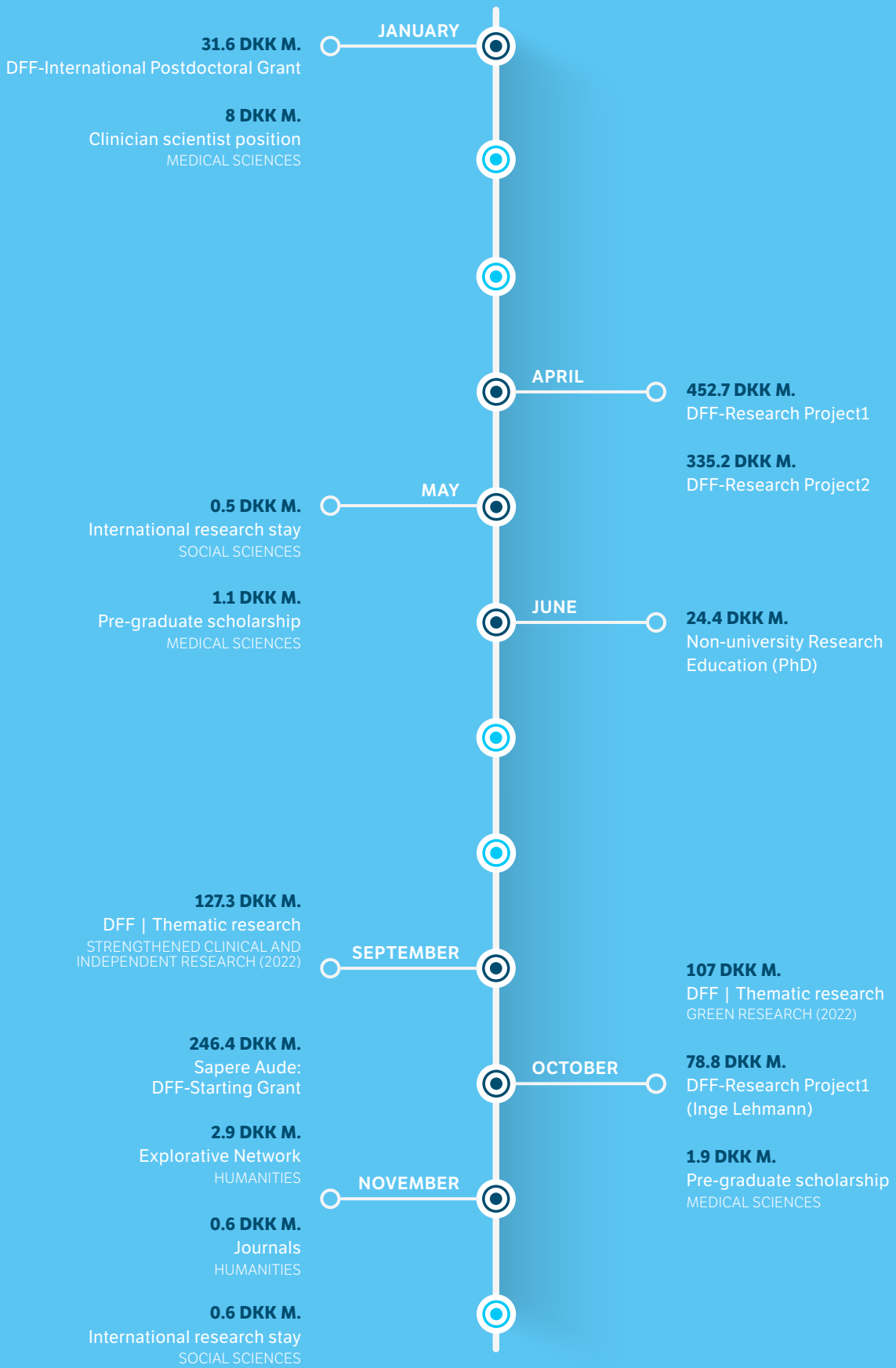
457
grants given

1.4 DKK billion
funding granted

15% success rate, applications

13% success rate, funding

GRANTS 2022


JANUARY
31.6 DKK M.
DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant
8 DKK M.
Clinician scientist position
MEDICAL SCIENCES
APRIL
452.7 DKK M.
DFF-Research Project1
335.2 DKK M.
DFF-Research Project2
MAY
0.5 DKK M.
International research stay
SOCIAL SCIENCES
1.1 DKK M.
Pre-graduate scholarship
MEDICAL SCIENCES
JUNE
24.4 DKK M.
Non-university Research Education (PhD)
127.3 DKK M.
DFF | Thematic research
STRENGTHENED CLINICAL AND INDEPENDENT RESEARCH (2022)
SEPTEMBER
107 DKK M.
DFF | Thematic research
GREEN RESEARCH (2022)
246.4 DKK M.
Sapere Aude:
DFF-Starting Grant
OCTOBER
78.8 DKK M.
DFF-Research Project1
(Inge Lehmann)
2.9 DKK M.
Explorative Network
HUMANITIES
1.9 DKK M.
Pre-graduate scholarship
MEDICAL SCIENCES
NOVEMBER
0.6 DKK M.
Journals
HUMANITIES
0.6 DKK M.
International research stay
SOCIAL SCIENCES

FUNDING INSTRUMENTS 2022

In 2022 the fund granted funding for excellent, curiosity-driven research through 13 different funding instruments:

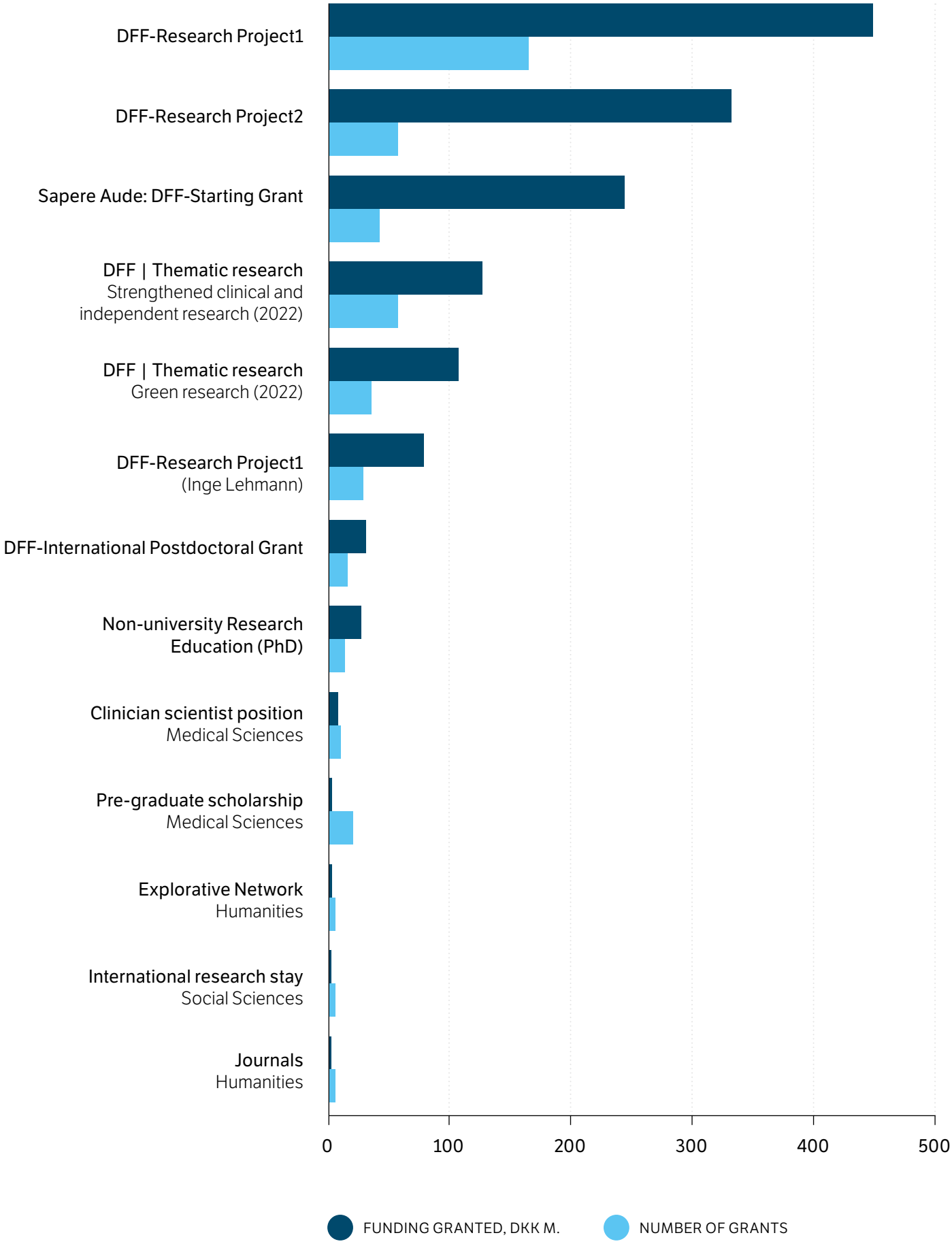
- 9 funding instruments set by Independent Research Fund Denmark
- 2 politically determined funding instruments
- 2 funding instruments with politically determined themes.

The instruments set by the fund support bottom-up research based on the researchers' own best ideas and are implemented through the fund's five research councils. For a description of the five research councils, see page 53. The politically determined instruments support free research and are aimed at specific groups of applicants, e.g. non-university researchers (PhD).

The instruments with politically determined themes support excellent research within areas set by the politicians.

For a detailed description of the fund's 13 funding instruments, see page 31.

NUMBER OF GRANTS AND FUNDING GRANTED ACROSS FUNDING INSTRUMENTS



INDEPENDENT RESEARCH FUND DENMARK – FUNDING INSTRUMENTS 2022

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND GRANTS 2022	Applications number	Grants number	Succes rate number	♂ succes rate number males	♀ succes rate number females
DFF-Research Project1	1,177	167	14%	15%	13%
DFF-Research Project2	519	56	11%	12%	9%
Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant	356	41	12%	9%	16%
DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant	99	16	16%	18%	12%
Explorative Network Humanities	17	4	24%	22%	25%
Journals Humanities	10	5	50%	57%	33%
International research stay Social Sciences	24	5	21%	25%	13%
Clinician scientist position Medical Sciences	26	9	35%	40%	27%
Pre-graduate scholarship Medical Sciences	69	20	29%	35%	22%
Subtotal, Independent research	2,297	323	14%	14%	13%
DFF-Research Project1 (Inge Lehmann)	211	29	14%	0%	14%
Non-university Research Education (PhD)	49	10	20%	25%	18%
Subtotal, politically determined instruments	260	39	15%	17%	15%
DFF | Thematic research Green research (2022)	338	38	11%	9%	17%
DFF | Thematic research Strengthened clinical and independent research (2022)	205	57	28%	29%	27%
Subtotal, instruments with pollitically determined themes	543	95	17%	15%	22%
Total	**3,100**	**457**	**15%**	**14%**	**15%**

AMOUNT APPLIED FOR AND GRANTED 2022	Funds applied for, DKK m.	Funding Granted, DKK m.	Succes rate amount	♂ Succes rate amount males	♀ Succes rate amount females
DFF-Research Project1	3,178.4	452.7	14%	15%	13%
DFF-Research Project2	3,020.2	335.2	11%	12%	9%
Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant	2,147.0	246.4	11%	9%	16%
DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant	187.7	31.6	17%	19%	13%
Explorative Network Humanities	12.1	2.9	24%	23%	25%
Journals Humanities	1.2	0.6	50%	57%	33%
International research stay Social Sciences	5.8	1.1	19%	26%	7%
Clinician scientist position Medical Sciences	25.7	8.0	31%	34%	26%
Pre-graduate scholarship Medical Sciences	9.4	2.9	31%	37%	24%
Subtotal, Independent research	8,587.5	1.081,5	13%	13%	13%
DFF-Research Project1 (Inge Lehmann)	578.5	78.8	14%	0%	14%
Non-university Research Education (PhD)	122.8	24.4	20%	23%	18%
Subtotal, politically determined instruments	701.3	103.2	15%	15%	15%
DFF | Thematic research Green research (2022)	960.4	107.0	11%	9%	17%
DFF | Thematic research Strengthened clinical and independent research (2022)	461.1	127.3	28%	28%	27%
Subtotal, instruments with pollitically determined themes	1,421.5	234.3	16%	14%	22%
Total	**10,710.2**	**1,419.0**	**13%**	**13%**	**14%**

BREAK-THROUGHS IN RESEARCH

A few highlights from the DFF-Research Conference 2022

In 2022, for the first time since the COVID-pandemic, Independent Research Fund Denmark held its annual research conference under the headline “Breakthroughs in Research”. The conference focused on how a willingness to take risks and working across disciplines have an impact on the opportunity for making breakthroughs in research.

Honours award

SAPERE AUDE: DFF-STARTING GRANTS 2022

Together with the board chairman, Maja Horst, the Minister for Higher Education and Science Jesper Petersen handed diplomas and flowers to the gifted and talented researchers that received a Sapere Aude: DFF Starting Grant in 2022. The 41 new research leaders come from all corners of the scientific world and are all young researchers that have conducted excellent high-quality research within their field. With a Sapere Aude-grant and the ensuing approx. 4.3 DKK million for research projects with a duration of up to 4 years, these talented researchers will be able to develop and strengthen both their scientific idea and their research management skills.

In his speech to the new Sapere Aude: DFF Starting Grant research leaders, the Minister for Higher Education and Science Jesper Petersen, among other things, said: "*Today we celebrate excellent research and excellent researchers. Original ideas. We celebrate curiosity. And the courage to make mistakes and try again and again. We honour the young talents. Now is the time to explore the things you really feel strongly about. This is a great opportunity and a great responsibility (...). Thanks to all of you for your effort. You help safeguarding the power of science.*"

In her speech to this year's Sapere Aude: DFF Starting Grant recipients, the board chairman, Maja Horst, said: "*With their good and ground-breaking ideas, the most gifted young researchers in Denmark help renew and develop the knowledge we have today. It gives hope for the future when every year we see so many talented researchers that may help ensuring that Danish research will keep contributing to the solution of the challenges of society for many years ahead.*"

Panel discussion

WILLINGNESS TO TAKE RISKS - A FUNDAMENTAL PREMISE FOR BREAKTHROUGHS?

Is it necessary for a researcher to be willing to take a risk to be able to make a breakthrough in research? This was the topic for discussion between the five participants on stage while the conference participants were asked to share their stand during the debate. Among other things, they were asked whether they felt that the willingness to take risks is important in order to make breakthroughs in research, and whether they themselves were willing to take risks in their research. The vast majority of those present agreed that the willingness to take risks was important, but only few saw themselves as risk-taking individuals.

Panel participants from left:
Henrik Kjærgaard, Professor, University of Copenhagen, and Chair of DFF Natural Sciences.
Anders Eldrup, Chairperson, Innovation Fund Denmark.
Dorthe Gert Simonsen, Associate Dean for Research and Impact, University of Copenhagen.
Anton Pottegård, Professor, University of Southern Denmark, EliteForsk award winner 2022 and Sapere Aude recipient 2021.
Stinus Lindgreen, Member of the Danish Parliament and research spokesperson for The Danish Social Liberal Party (Radikale Venstre).

Talk and dialogue

INTERDISCIPLINARITY AND EXCELLENCE - WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT FOR MAKING BREAKTHROUGHS?

Grouped at round tables, the conference participants shared their experience of working across disciplines and discussed, among other things, the barriers and gains they experienced in their interdisciplinary work.

Karin Kjær Madsen, Head of Secretariat, The Danish Council for Research and Innovation Policy (DFiR), gave a talk on the DFIR report on interdisciplinarity in research and innovation ("God tværfaglighed i forskning og Innovation"). The main conclusions to be drawn were: *Interdisciplinarity and diversity in research and innovation have enormous potential, but interdisciplinarity doesn't just succeed on its own. The right structures and tools must be available to support interdisciplinarity. When the quality of interdisciplinarity is assessed, there is a bias in favour of monodisciplinarity. Also, devoting enough time is an important element for establishing interdisciplinarity and can be a good investment. Physical co-location among partners is a clear advantage for interdisciplinarity as well. Moreover, a strong commitment and leadership may strengthen successful interdisciplinarity. Overall, the many good examples of interdisciplinarity show that there isn't one good recipe for how to support interdisciplinary research and innovation.*

The talk inspired a series of questions and a good discussion among the participants on, among other things, the current structures in society for supporting interdisciplinary research and the relationship between interdisciplinarity and breakthroughs in research.

DFIR'S REPORT ON GOOD MULTIDISCIPLINARITY IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

YOUNG HISTORIAN OF SCIENCE HONOURED FOR THE ORIGINAL IDEA OF THE YEAR

In 2022 Independent Research Fund Denmark awarded its prize of honour, The Original Idea of the Year, for the third time. The prize went to the young historian of science Christoffer Basse Eriksen for the idea behind the project 'Orchard Laboratory: Beekeeping, Plant Breeding, and the Enlightenment Discovery of Insect Pollination'.

The idea of a mutual connection between the flowers and the bees is as old as mankind itself, is probably what most people would think. But it was actually not till sometime in the 18th century that the flowers and the bees were discovered to be part of a shared ecosystem.

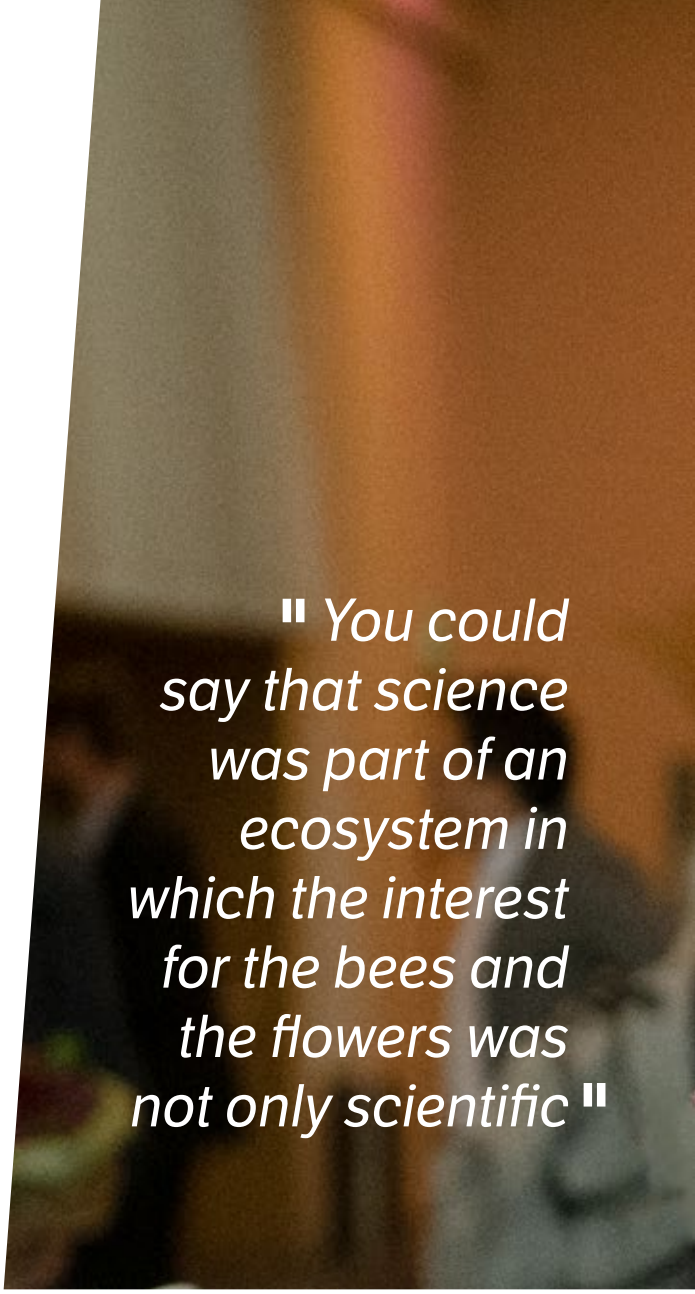
"*Today, when we see a bee fly from one flower to the next, we see pollination because we know that is what the bees do. But the idea that the bees harvesting pollen may also be a benefit for the plants, and that the dependence between the flowers and the bees is thus mutual and together they form an actual ecosystem that wasn't discovered till sometime during the 18th century,*" the historian of science and prize winner Christoffer Basse Eriksen says.

Scientists began working with bees because they wanted to optimise agriculture and introduce plants from the colonies and thereby increase growth in 18th-century England. "You could say that science was part of an ecosystem in which the interest for the bees and the flowers was not only scientific, but also practical and political: They wanted to understand in order to optimise nature," Christoffer Basse Eriksen says.

The bee is still today a significant political symbol of both biodiversity and climate fight. And it is precisely in order to understand the origin of those ideas, that Christoffer Basse Eriksen thought of starting the project about the flowers and the bees.

THE LABORATORY IN THE APPLE ORCHARD: NEW KNOWLEDGE ON ECOSYSTEMS

Christoffer Basse Eriksen's research idea is expected to lead to completely new knowledge that may throw light on our perception of not only the ecosystem of the bees and the flowers, but also of how the ecosystem of science relates to the rest of the world. It will thus clarify the development of a more holistic perception of and approach to nature as well as the idea of ecosystems.



The board chairman for Independent Research Fund Denmark, Maja Horst, adds: "*The project is original in its approach with the idea of 'the laboratory in the apple orchard' involving both a physical location, a collaboration between natural historians, beekeepers, gardeners and plant breeders as well as a place for knowledge to develop – a laboratory in nature and nature as a laboratory.*"

The idea and Christoffer Basse Eriksen were honoured at the annual research conference of Independent Research Fund Denmark, but already in 2021 Christoffer Basse Eriksen received a research grant of 1.6 DKK million from the fund for his international postdoc-position based on this project idea.

FACTS:
ABOUT PRIZE WINNER CHRISTOFFER BASSE ERIKSEN

Christoffer Basse Eriksen has a master in history of ideas and German from Aarhus University, 2013. In 2018 he received his PhD in history of ideas at the Department of Philosophy and History of Ideas, Aarhus University.

Lately, from 2019 to 2022, Christoffer Basse Eriksen was at University of Cambridge, Department of History and Philosophy of Science as a Carlsberg Foundation Internationalisation Fellow.

In January 2022, Christoffer moved to Berlin with his family where he recently started the project "Orchard Laboratory: Beekeeping, Plant Breeding, and the Enlightenment Discovery of Insect Pollination" at Humboldt-Universität.

ABOUT THE ORIGINAL IDEA OF THE YEAR-PRIZE

The prize is given to a researcher that, within the past 12 months, has presented a research idea that shows a noticeable degree of originality – this could be in choice of subject, approach, methodology etc.

2022 was the third time that the fund awarded its prize for the original research idea of the year.

The prize consists of a work of art and flowers. The basic idea behind the prize is to honour original thinking – a crucial factor in advancing Danish research.

CLINICAL RESEARCH

Interview and cases

In 2022 the fund distributed a total of 127.3 DKK million for research at hospitals and universities across the country within the theme “Strengthened clinical and independent research”. The funds were given to 57 new, clinical research projects that will make a difference for patients in both the short and long term.

INTERVIEW

CLINICAL RESEARCH IS RESEARCH CLOSE TO THE PATIENT

In brief, clinical research is the practically oriented part of health science research which deals with the description of patients’ pathological pictures and course of disease. It may also be research dealing with the assessment of diagnostic methods and testing of various forms of treatment. The research will typically be conducted at hospitals or other parts of the health service where patients are treated. In 2022 Independent Research Fund Denmark distributed the first funding instrument for strengthened clinical and independent research. The politically determined thematic funds were particularly targeted clinical fields with limited commercial interest or opportunities for external funding from e.g. research foundations.

Consultant and professor Henrik Toft Sørensen, in 2022 chair of the expert committee DFF ‒Thematic Research – Strengthened clinical and independent research, says: "*In 2022 we made a significant contribution to clinical research that will make a difference for the patients. Researchers have offered interesting ideas within a broad spectrum of clinical and point-of-care issues, ranging from the very close and concrete, e.g. constipation in connection with surgery, to new ways of fertility treatment and the use of artificial intelligence in making ethical decisions relative to health. I am really looking forward to following the results of those project initiated in 2022.*"

Research project:
ORAL LAXATIVES AFTER HIP FRACTURE SURGERY: A RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL

Researcher: Anton Pottegård, Professor
Grant: approx. 2.0 DKK million.
Duration: 2023-2025
Institution: Odense University Hospital

ABOUT THE GRANTS FOR STRENGTHENED CLINICAL AND INDEPENDENT RESEARCH 2022

- 127.3 DKK million have been allocated to new research projects that will study the effect of new forms of treatment and the potential for improving existing treatments.
- The success rate is 28 % measured by the number of projects that have received funding.
- The fund received 205 applications for the funding instrument "Strengthened clinical and independent research".
- In brief, clinical research is described as the practically oriented part of health science research which deals, amongst other aspects, with the description of patients' pathological pictures and course of disease, assessment of diagnostic methods and thorough testing of various forms of treatment, including independent and researcher-initiated trials, studies etc. and fields with limited commercial interest or limited opportunities for external funding, e.g. from research foundations.

In 2023, funds have once again been allocated for clinical research as part of the Agreements on the research reserve 2023.

"*An economic injection for the clinical field is a major step in bringing Danish point-of-care research to the highest possible level. Clinicians have a natural and legitimate focus on the patients. This is an opportunity to fund research ideas with a great clinical potential and immediate relevance for patients within, among others, diagnostics and treatment,*" board chairman Maja Horst says.

FUNDS WERE CRUCIAL FOR DOING POINT-OF-CARE RESEARCH

One of the projects with the potential for being of great and material relevance for many patients, is a project focusing on the many individuals that every year undergo hip surgery. A Danish study has previously shown that 70 % of all patients with a broken hip will suffer from constipation for some days after their surgery. In 2022 Anton Pottegård, professor at University of Southern Denmark, was given funds for his project that will look at constipation in connection with hip surgery.

Constipation leads to discomfort, reduced mobility and reduced quality of life, and if protracted, it can lead to serious complications such as intestinal obstruction and severe pain. Complications lead to longer hospitalisation and increased nursing time and health expenses. Anton Pottegård says about the grant for his clinical research: "*The aim of the project is to determine how to prevent constipation after hip surgery in the best way with the use of laxatives. The study will remedy a huge and often seen clinical problem by helping clinicians to determine whether the patient should be treated with laxatives, and if so, using which drug and how the treatment should be.*"

Anton Pottegård adds:
"*If I had not received funding from Independent Research Fund Denmark, the project would not have materialised even though this is a project that will eventually help ensuring a much safer treatment with less severe complications for the patients.*"

WILL BALL BLANKETS HELP CHILDREN WITH ADHD SLEEP AT NIGHT?

They are already widely used. This, however, is the first time that a scientific study will investigate whether ball blankets have an actual, positive effect on the night sleep of children with ADHD. The hope is that ball blankets may be recognised as an actual treatment.

Time for bed is approaching, but the body is still shivering after a long day of sensory input. For children with ADHD, these inputs are difficult to handle and therefore the nervous system often finds it difficult to relax.

A new research project will now try to find a scientific answer as to whether ball blankets could become a tool for treating children with ADHD suffering from sleep disturbance. Ball blankets are blankets containing small balls of a certain weight.

"*At present, ball blankets are seen as a possible aid, but not as actual treatment. This is because there is no evidence of ball blankets having an effect on sleep,*" Ina Olmer Specht explains. She is PhD and senior researcher at Bispebjerg and Frederiksberg Hospital, Copenhagen.

With the funding from Independent Research Fund Denmark, she will be leading the project that is planned to run for two years.

BALL BLANKETS ARE ALREADY IN USE TODAY

Already today ball blankets are used at some Danish psychiatric wards for children. The blankets are used when normal sleep hygiene turns out to be an insufficient remedy. That is when, for example, it is not enough to go to bed at a set time, to ensure you don't look at a screen just before going to sleep and avoid eating just before going to bed.

Sleep problems in children with ADHD can take up a lot of space in everyday life, both for the individual child and for parents and siblings.

"*If children with ADHD have slept poorly, this will make their core symptoms worse. They will become more hyperactive, irritable and have problems concentrating,*" Ina Olmer Specht says.

150 CHILDREN WILL BE PART OF THE PROJECT

She hopes to find 150 ADHD-children who have sleeping disturbances, and make them part of the project.

The primary aim is to look at how long it takes the children to fall asleep when sleeping with either a ball blanket or a normal blanket. Moreover, the project will include a series of other questions, e.g. the impact of ball blankets on the children's quality of life and the parents' stress level.

"*We hope to show that ball blankets do have an effect. It would be nice if you could offer those children a ball blanket instead of sleeping medicine,*" Ina Olmer Specht points out.

HOPES TO GIVE MORE TIME AND ENERGY IN DAILY LIFE

The theory behind ball blankets builds on the idea of sensory integration. During the day, children with ADHD accumulate all the sensory input they receive. They are unable to sort the inputs in their heads and are therefore often overstimulated and find it more difficult to interact with other people.

A ball blanket may in theory help the children by stimulating the sense of touch as well as muscles and joints. The stimulation happens because the balls will continuously move around with some weight and thus increase body awareness and soothe the nervous system. Each time the child moves because the brain starts to work, the balls will thus stimulate the body and induce calm.

"*If ball blankets can give the children a little more energy, this may help them to feel better in the company of children their age,*" Ina Olmer Specht says.

She thus also hopes that the project will be able to prove that ball blankets is a way to improve daily life for the parents of children with ADHD.

FACTS:

THIS IS HOW THE RESEARCHERS SET TO WORK

When children with ADHD have difficulties sleeping, they and their parents will often approach a psychiatric ward for children for help. Here the staff will try to help them to a healthy sleep hygiene. That is, they will be advised on how sleep can be improved by regular bedtime, by avoiding to look at electronic screens just before bedtime and by not eating too late in the day etc.

If a good sleep hygiene does not help, the children may become part of the new project. The aim is to include 150 children in all. The group will be divided in two by draw, such that half the children will be sleeping with a normal blanket while the other half sleeps with a ball blanket.

The researchers will primarily be looking at how long it takes for the children to fall asleep from the moment they are put to bed.

Research project:
BALL BLANKETS, A NON-PHARMACOLOGICAL RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL
Improving sleep disturbance among children with ADHD.

Researcher: Ina Olmer Specht, PhD, postdoctoral candidate
Grant: approx. 2.0 DKK million
Duration: 2023-2025
Institution: Bispebjerg and Frederiksberg Hospital, Copenhagen.

CASE | Strengthened clinical and independent research | DFF-Research Project2

IMPROVED DIAGNOSIS OF MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION MAY SAVE WOMEN'S LIVES

Women and men are different, but undergo the same examination when suspected of having a heart attack. A new research project wants to test whether cardiac care units may diagnose in a more exact manner by distinguishing between men and women.

When you arrive at A&E with chest pain, they will examine you to see if you have had a heart attack.

Part of the examination is about establishing the concentration of the protein troponin in the blood as a blot clot in your heart will make the body produce more of it.

Up until now, hospitals have worked using one specified reference limit. If the concentration of troponin in the blood is above this limit, the patient will receive treatment.

"*It is, however, a well-known fact that healthy women have a lower concentration of troponin in their blood than men. This has not yet been taken into consideration. Internationally it is recommended that reference limits are set based on the population and one's own environment, as well as distinguishing between men and women,*" Kasper Karmark Iversen explains. He is consultant at the Department of Cardiology at Herlev Hospital.

He is heading a project that with funds from Independent Research Fund Denmark is to implement sex-specific reference limits in the hospitals' cardiac care units.

THE PRACTICE IS IMPLEMENTED OVER A TWO-YEAR PERIOD

The aim of the project is to look at whether different reference limit for men and women will make an actual difference. If so, this could also help establishing whether heart attacks have until now been overlooked in some women, while some men may have received unnecessary treatment.

Every month the sex-specific reference limits are being applied in a new hospital. The roll out to the 22 hospitals in total will happen from 2022 to 2024.

The new troponin reference limits have been determined by analysing blood samples from blood donors. This has resulted in the reference limit for women being lowered while the reference limit for men has been increased.

"*With this project we will find out whether this practice is better or not. I do, of course, hope for it to be a good idea and that we will make things a little better for women and improve treatment for everybody. But even if we find out that the different reference limits have no relevance, this will also be important. Because then there is no reason for determining different reference limits around the world,*" Kasper Karmark Iversen says.

THE AIM IS BETTER DIAGNOSES

While sex-specific reference limits may potentially save the lives of women, they may also be relevant for men. Because if the concentration of troponin in your blood is above the reference limit, you will be sent for a coronary artery examination which involves inserting a catheter into your heart.

"*It's a relatively safe examination, but there may always be complications when inserting needles into patients and a catheter into the heart,*" Kasper Karmark Iversen says, and he adds:

"*The sex-specific reference limits will hopefully result in us giving treatment to the right people. And thus use our resources where they should be used.*"

FACTS:

IMPLEMENTING REFERENCE LIMITS

The researchers have determined the troponin reference limits in the blood in women and men, respectively. This has been done by analysing blood samples from almost 2,300 active and previous blood donors.

The new sex-specific reference limits are to be implemented in 22 cardiology departments across the country. Every month a new hospital is included. First came Nordsjællands Hospital on 1 April 2022, and Regionshospital Randers will be the last hospital to introduce the new reference limits on 1 January 2024.

In this way the researchers are able to compare data continuously from hospitals diagnosing with or without the new reference limits.

The sequence of hospitals included was established by draw.

All in all, the researchers expect that approx. 7,000 patients will be part of the research project eventually.

It is expected that the first results from this research will be available in the spring 2025.

Research project:
THE DANISH STUDY OF POPULATION AND SEX-SPECIFIC CUTOFFS OF TROPONIN (DANSPOT) - A randomized clinical trial (RCT) of population and sex-specific troponin cutoffs for ruling out acute myocardial infarction.

Researcher: Kasper Karmark Iversen
Grant: approx. 2.1 DKK million
Duration: 2023-2025
Institution: Herlev Hospital, Department of Cardiology

2022 IN NUMBERS

Annual Report 2022

On the following pages you will find an overview of all applications for and grants from Independent Research Fund Denmark grouped across the five research councils and according to gender. The research councils and committees are described on page 53.

MAIN NUMBERS

TOTAL	In total	♂	♀
Number of applications	3,100	1,966	1,134
Number of grants	457	285	172
Succes rate measured in numbers	15%	14%	15%
Funds applied for, DKK m.	10,710.2	7,011.0	3,699.2
Funding Granted, DKK m.*	1,419.0	896.8	522.2
Succes rate measured in amount	13%	13%	14%

HUMANITIES	In total	♂	♀
Number of applications	391	189	202
Number of grants	52	25	27
Succes rate measured in numbers	13%	13%	13%
Funds applied for, DKK m.	1,531.0	736.2	794.8
Funding Granted, DKK m.*	177.7	74.0	103.6
Succes rate measured in amount	12%	10%	13%

NATURAL SCIENCES	In total	♂	♀
Number of applications	544	406	138
Number of grants	79	59	20
Succes rate measured in numbers	15%	15%	14%
Funds applied for, DKK m.	2,144.7	1,640.4	504.3
Funding Granted, DKK m.	289.0	225.7	63.3
Succes rate measured in amount	13%	14%	13%

SOCIAL SCIENCES	In total	♂	♀
Number of applications	362	207	155
Number of grants	41	21	20
Succes rate measured in numbers	11%	10%	13%
Funds applied for, DKK m.	1,303.4	781.5	521.9
Funding Granted, DKK m.	138.3	71.0	67.2
Succes rate measured in amount	11%	9%	13%

MEDICAL SCIENCES	In total	♂	♀
Number of applications	635	363	272
Number of grants	105	66	39
Succes rate measured in numbers	17%	18%	14%
Funds applied for, DKK m.	1,736.7	1,034.5	702.2
Funding Granted, DKK m.	241.9	146.2	95.8
Succes rate measured in amount	14%	14%	14%

TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTION SCIENCES	In total	♂	♀
Number of applications	547	402	145
Number of grants	74	55	19
Succes rate measured in numbers	14%	14%	13%
Funds applied for, DKK m.	2,242.2	1,668.0	574.3
Funding Granted, DKK m.	293.9	223.7	70.2
Succes rate measured in amount	13%	13%	12%

CROSS-COUNCIL COMMITTEE	In total	♂	♀
Number of applications	78	46	32
Number of grants	11	6	5
Succes rate measured in numbers	14%	13%	16%
Funds applied for, DKK m.	330.7	213.2	117.5
Funding Granted, DKK m.	43.9	26.6	17.3
Succes rate measured in amount	13%	12%	15%

THEMATIC - GREEN RESEARCH	In total	♂	♀
Number of applications	338	245	93
Number of grants	38	22	16
Succes rate measured in numbers	11%	9%	17%
Funds applied for, DKK m.	960.4	695.6	264.8
Funding Granted, DKK m.	107.0	61.2	45.7
Succes rate measured in amount	11%	9%	17%

THEMATIC - CLINICAL RESEARCH	In total	♂	♀
Number of applications	205	108	97
Number of grants	57	31	26
Succes rate measured in numbers	28%	29%	27%
Funds applied for, DKK m.	461.1	241.6	219.4
Funding Granted, DKK m.	127.3	68.3	59.0
Succes rate measured in amount	28%	28%	27%

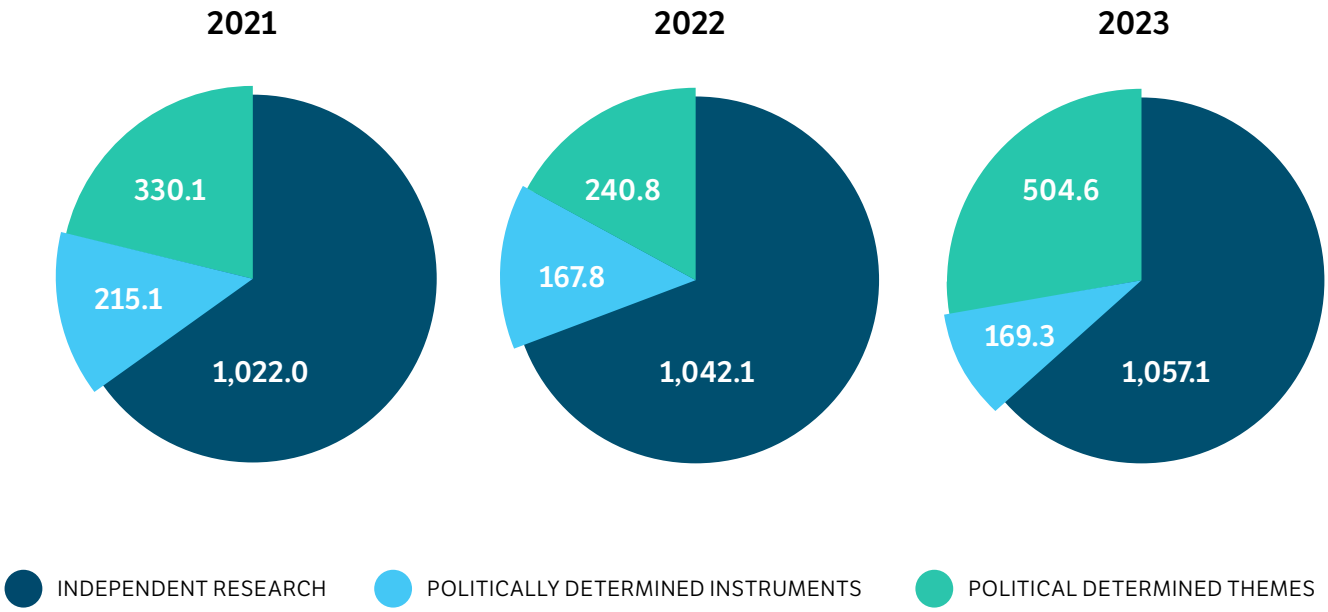
Applications and grants under Independent Research Fund Denmark | Cross-council Committee have been processed in collaboration by two councils and are therefore only included under the Cross-council Committee and not under the individual councils.

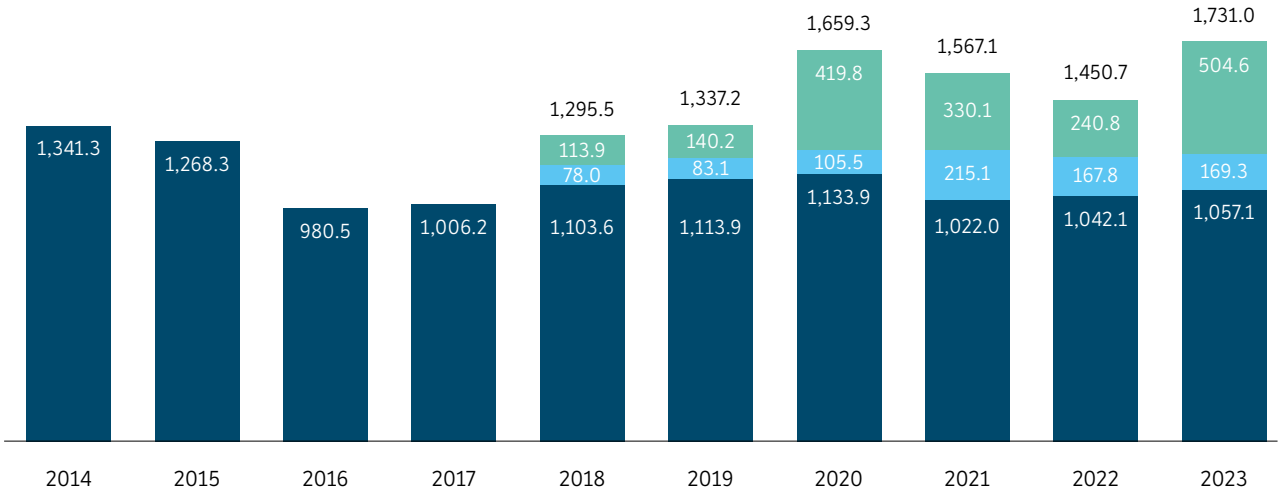
NATIONAL BUDGET GRANT FOR INDEPENDENT RESEARCH FUND DENMARK 2014-2023

Independent Research Fund Denmark has experienced an increase in the total national budget grant since 2018 whereas funding for independent research has declined within the same period. In 2018, 1,103.6 DKK million were allocated for independent research equalling 85 % of the fund's total national budget grant. In 2023, 1,057.1 DKK million are allocated for independent research equalling 61 % of the budgeted grant.

The remaining share of the national budget grant is either allocated politically for specific funding instruments, what we name "Politically determined instruments", e.g. Non-university Research Education (PhD), the Sapere Aude programme and the Inge Lehmann programme, or allocated for specific thematic areas, what we name "Politically determined themes", e.g. green transition or clinical research.

NATIONAL BUDGET GRANT FOR 2014-2023 (PL-23, DKK M.*)





*(All amounts have been adjusted compared to current prices in 2023 (PL-23, DKK m.)

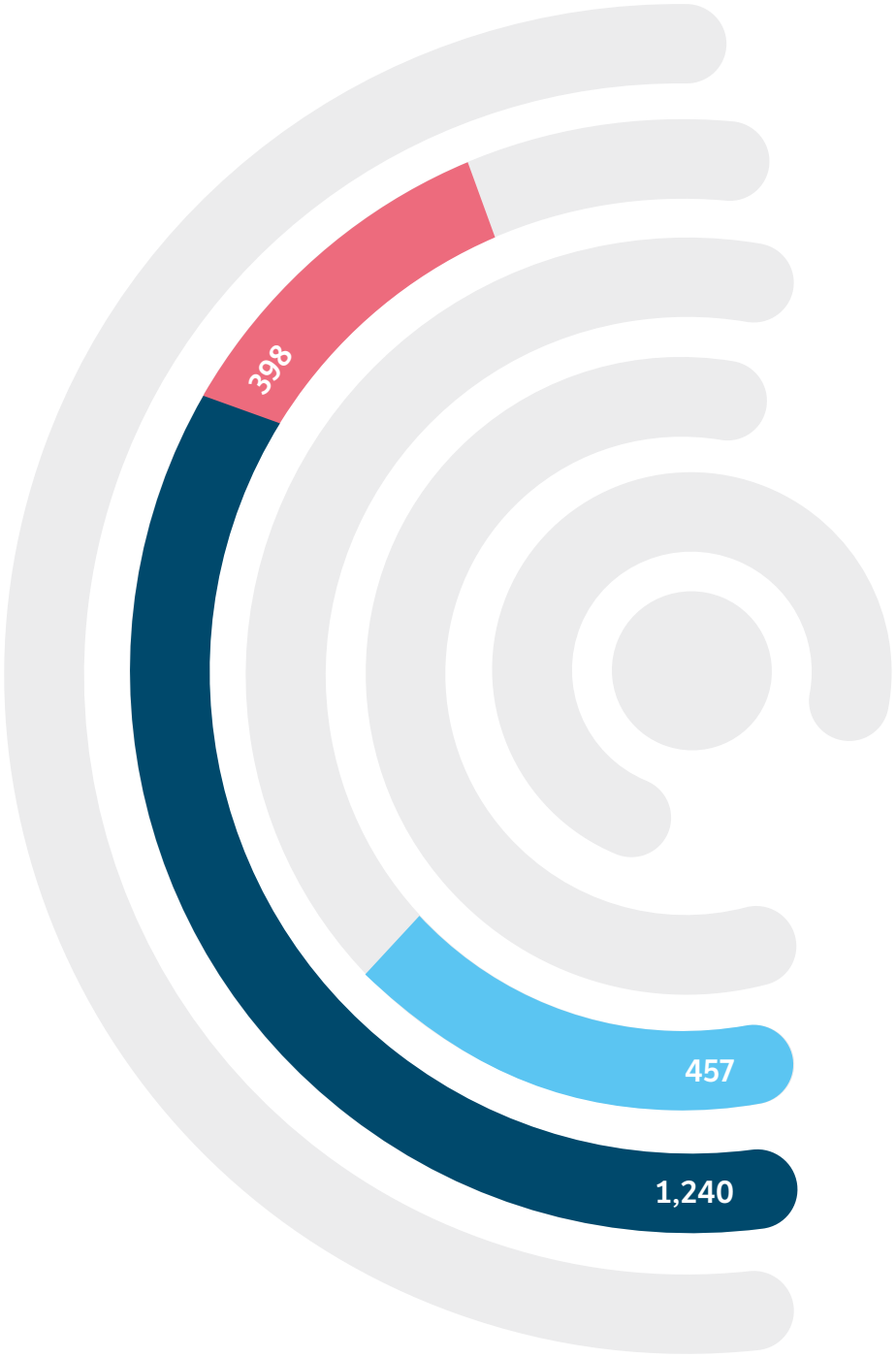
INDEPENDENT RESEARCH IS:

- based on the researchers' own initiatives
- the first link in the research food chain and thus crucial for a healthy research ecology
- both basic and applied research
- the basis for the strategic initiatives of the future.

THEMATIC RESEARCH IS:

- politically determined themes for research activities
- strategic initiatives developing research and society
- research that strengthens the growth layer of researchers and build up capacity in the research environment within the field of the theme.

ONGOING PROJECTS AND NEW GRANTS 2022



457

GRANTS FOR NEW PROJECTS IN 2022

1,240

ONGOING PROJECTS

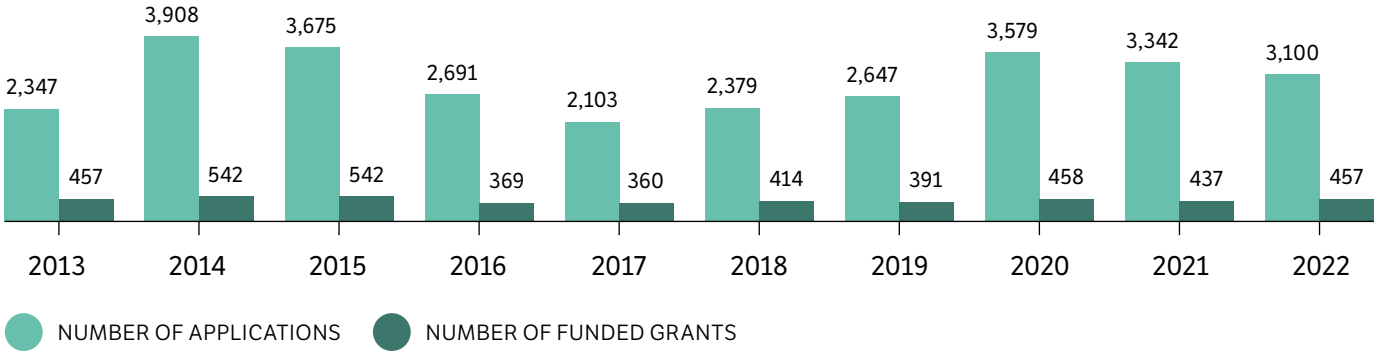
398

PROJECTS FINISHED IN 2022

DEVELOPMENT IN NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS, GRANTS AND SUCCESS RATES

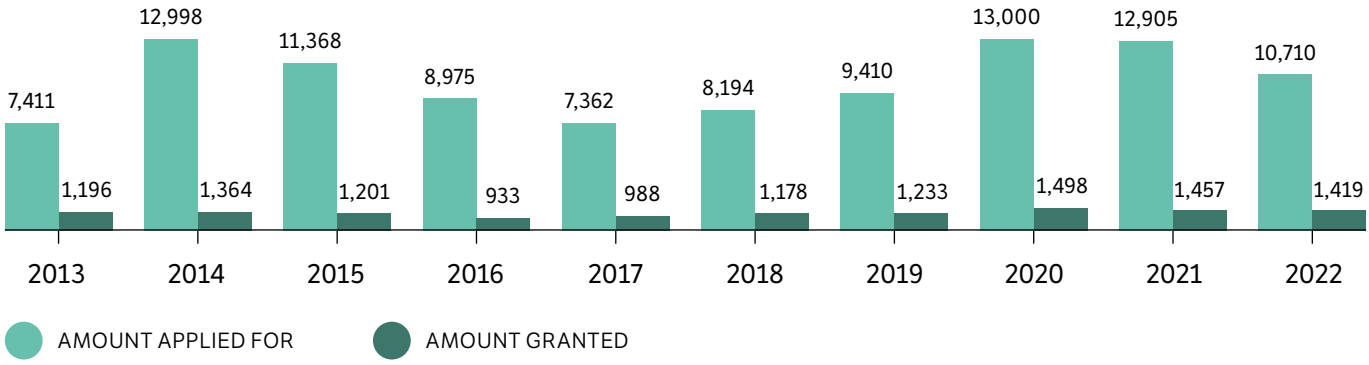
Below you find an illustration of the development in the number of applications and grants, funding applied for and funding granted as well as the fund's success rates for the last 10 years. The development shows that there has been a decline in the fund's success rates relative to both the number of applications and the funding applied for from 2018 to 2021. This decline is due to an increased number of applications without a corresponding increase in the national budget grant. In 2022 success rates have increased because of a small decline in the number of applications and the funding applied for as well as an increase in number of grants.

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND FUNDED GRANTS IN INDEPENDENT RESEARCH FUND DENMARK 2013-2022



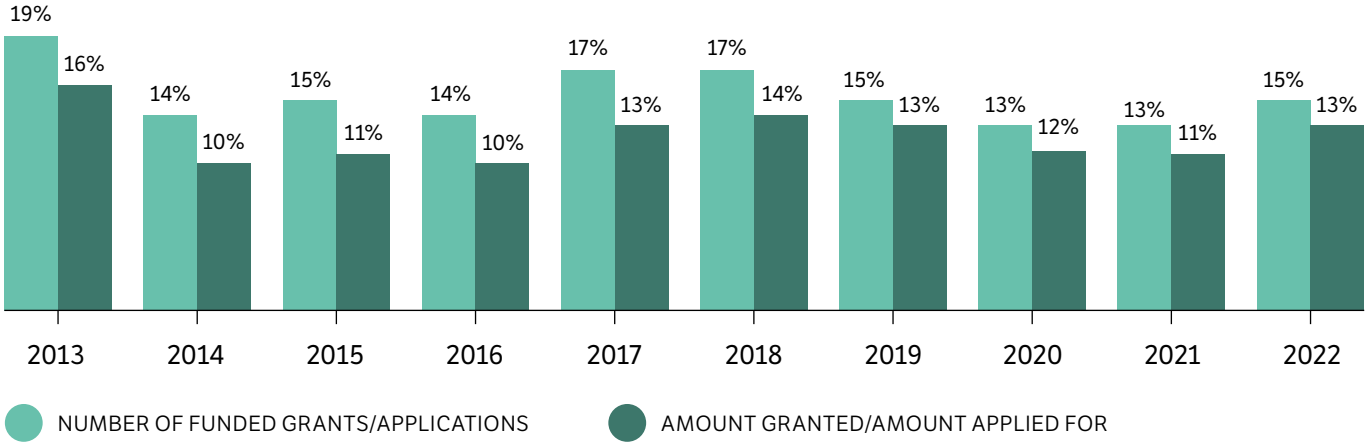
AMOUNT APPLIED FOR AND GRANTED IN INDEPENDENT RESEARCH FUND DENMARK 2013-2022

Current prices, DKK m.



SUCCES RATES IN INDEPENDENT RESEARCH FUND DENMARK 2013-2022

Percent



FUNDING INSTRUMENTS ACROSS COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES 2022

The following pages show the distribution of applications and grants across specific funding instruments, councils and committees. All research councils have calls for the four standard funding instruments (DFF-Research Project1, DFF-Research Project2, Sapere Aude: DFF Starting Grant and DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant) and the politically determined funding instruments (The Inge Lehmann programme and Non-university Research Education (PhD)); the research councils Humanities, Social Sciences and Medical Sciences do furthermore have council specific independent funding instruments.

The thematic funding instruments Strengthened clinical and independent research and Green research are processed by the two thematic research-expert committees. Thematic committees are appointed on an ad hoc basis to process the applications for a thematic funding instrument, while the members of the five research councils are appointed for a period of four years with a possible two-year extension. The Cross-council Committee is composed of the council chairmen from the five individual research councils. For more information on specific funding instruments, see page 31, and on the specific research councils, see page 53.

HUMANITIES	Applications number	Grants number	Succes rate number	Funds applied for, DKK m.	Funds granted, DKK m.	Succes rate amount	Average grant size, DKK m.
DFF-Research Project1	106	11	10%	292.9	30.7	10%	2.8
DFF-Research Project2	124	13	10%	735.2	78.7	11%	6.1
Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant	45	6	13%	273.0	36.1	13%	6.0
DFF-Research Project1 (Inge Lehmann)	37	5	14%	104.8	11.7	11%	2.3
DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant	29	4	14%	55.7	8.1	15%	2.0
Non-university Research Education (PhD)	23	4	17%	56.1	8.9	16%	2.2
Explorative Network Humanities	17	4	24%	12.1	2.9	24%	0.7
Journals Humanities	10	5	50%	1.2	0.6	50%	0.1
Total	**391**	**52**	**13%**	**1,531.0**	**177.7**	**12%**	**3.4**

SOCIAL SCIENCES	Applications number	Grants number	Succes rate number	Funds applied for, DKK m.	Funds granted, DKK m.	Succes rate amount	Average grant size, DKK m.
DFF-Research Project1	144	14	10%	380.7	35.6	9%	2.5
DFF-Research Project2	82	8	10%	476.0	48.0	10%	6.0
Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant	45	5	11%	274.1	30.8	11%	6.2
DFF-Research Project1 (Inge Lehmann)	42	5	12%	115.9	14.2	12%	2.8
DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant	19	3	16%	35.4	5.9	17%	2.0
Non-university Research Education (PhD)	6	1	17%	15.5	2.6	17%	2.6
International research stay Social Sciences	24	5	21%	5.8	1.1	19%	0.2
Total	**362**	**41**	**11%**	**1,303.4**	**138.3**	**11%**	**3.4**

NATURAL SCIENCES	Applications number	Grants number	Succes rate number	Funds applied for, DKK m.	Funds granted, DKK m.	Succes rate amount	Average grant size, DKK m.
DFF-Research Project1	290	47	16%	809,9	130,0	16%	2,8
DFF-Research Project2	93	10	11%	560,2	60,3	11%	6,0
Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant	104	13	13%	633,6	76,4	12%	5,9
DFF-Research Project1 (Inge Lehmann)	30	5	17%	86,2	14,3	17%	2,9
DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant	22	3	14%	42,1	5,4	13%	1,8
Non-university Research Education (PhD)	5	1	20%	12,8	2,6	20%	2,6
Total	**544**	**79**	**15%**	**2.144,7**	**289,0**	**13%**	**3,7**

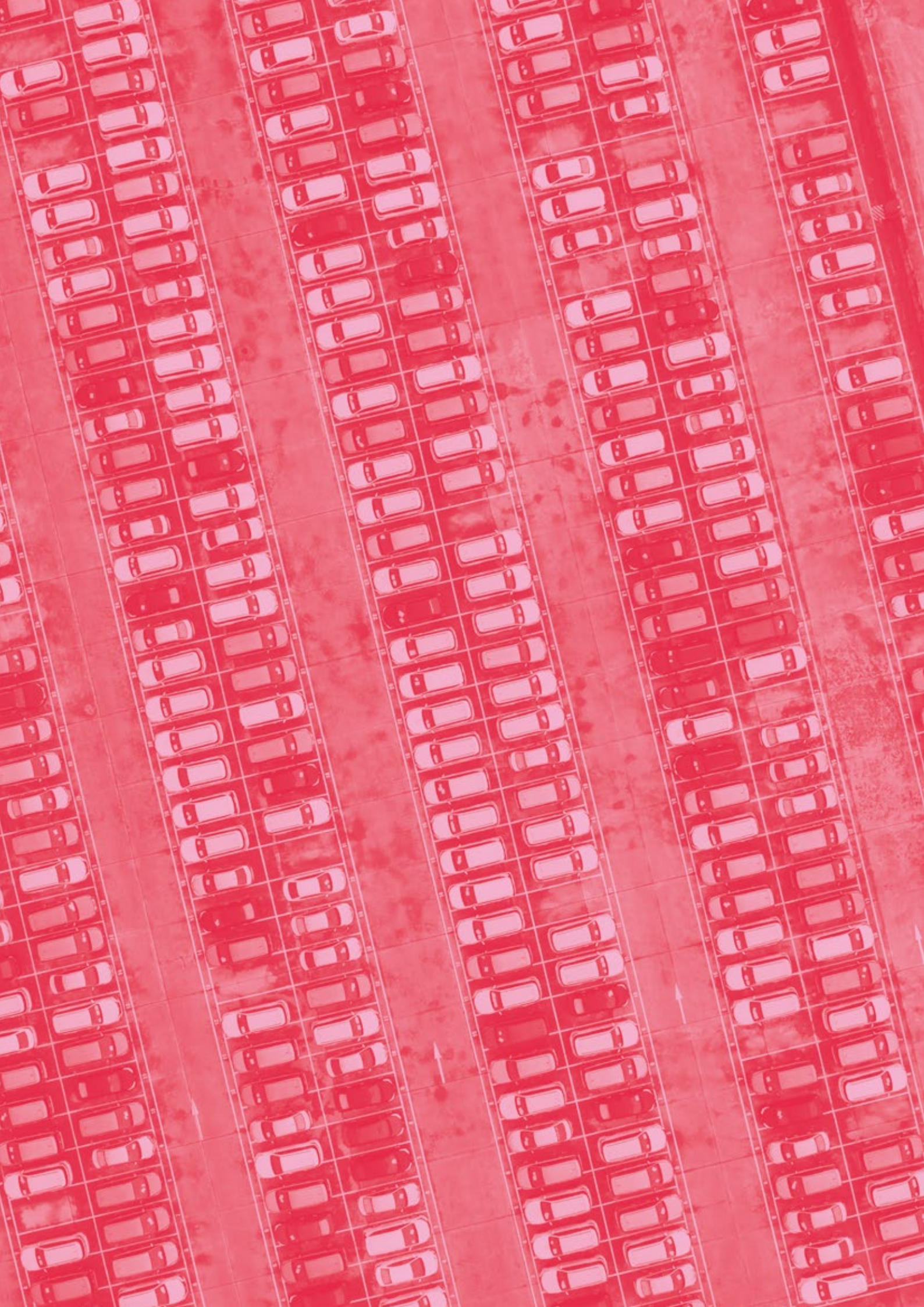
MEDICAL SCIENCES	Applications number	Grants number	Succes rate number	Funds applied for, DKK m.	Funds granted, DKK m.	Succes rate amount	Average grant size, DKK m.
DFF-Research Project1	339	54	16%	847.9	139.3	16%	2.6
DFF-Research Project2	72	7	10%	358.1	37.5	10%	5.4
Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant	55	5	9%	314.3	29.2	9%	5.8
DFF-Research Project1 (Inge Lehmann)	58	7	12%	146.7	18.5	13%	2.6
DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant	8	2	25%	14.3	4.0	28%	2.0
Non-university Research Education (PhD)	8	1	13%	20.3	2.6	13%	2.6
Clinician scientist position Medical Sciences	26	9	35%	25.7	8.0	31%	0.9
Pre-graduate scholarship Medical Sciences	69	20	29%	9.4	2.9	31%	0.1
Total	**635**	**105**	**17%**	**1,736.7**	**241.9**	**14%**	**2.3**

TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTION SCIENCES	Applications number	Grants number	Succes rate number	Funds applied for, DKK m.	Funds granted, DKK m.	Succes rate amount	Average grant size, DKK m.
DFF-Research Project1	282	39	14%	802.2	111.3	14%	2.9
DFF-Research Project2	130	15	12%	789.6	92.3	12%	6.2
Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant	86	11	13%	527.1	67.9	13%	6.2
DFF-Research Project1 (Inge Lehmann)	31	5	16%	88.6	14.4	16%	2.9
DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant	18	4	22%	34.7	8.1	23%	2.0
Non-university Research Education (PhD)	0	0	0%	0.0	0.0	0%	0.0
Total	**547**	**74**	**14%**	**2,242.2**	**293.9**	**13%**	**4.0**

CROSS-COUNCIL COMMITTEE	Applications number	Grants number	Succes rate number	Funds applied for, DKK m.	Funds granted, DKK m.	Succes rate amount	Average grant size, DKK m.
DFF-Research Project1	16	2	13%	44.9	5.8	13%	2.9
DFF-Research Project2	18	3	17%	101.1	18.5	18%	6.2
Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant	21	1	5%	124.8	6.2	5%	6.2
DFF-Research Project1 (Inge Lehmann)	13	2	15%	36.2	5.7	16%	2.8
DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant	3	0	0%	5.5	0,0	0%	-
Non-university Research Education (PhD)	7	3	43%	18.1	7.8	43%	2.6
Total	**78**	**11**	**14%**	**330.7**	**43.9**	**13%**	**4.0**

DFF | THEMATIC RESEARCH – GREEN RESEARCH	Applications number	Grants number	Succes rate number	Funds applied for, DKK m.	Funds granted, DKK m.	Succes rate amount	Average grant size, DKK m.
DFF-Research Project1 (Thematic research)	**338**	**38**	**11%**	**960.4**	**107.0**	**11%**	**2.8**

DFF | THEMATIC RESEARCH – STRENGTHENED CLINICAL AND INDEPENDENT RESEARCH	Applications number	Grants number	Succes rate number	Funds applied for, DKK m.	Funds granted, DKK m.	Succes rate amount	Average grant size, DKK m.
DFF-Research Project1 (Thematic research)	**205**	**57**	**28%**	**461.1**	**127.3**	**28%**	**2.2**



THE FUNDING INSTRUMENTS 2022
INSTRUMENTS INITIATED BY THE FUND

INSTRUMENT AND OBJECTIVE	AMOUNTS (exclusive of overheads)	DURATION	REQUIREMENT IN RESPECT OF POSITION AND PHD AGE (APPLICANT)
DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant • Strengthen the international mobility of young talented researchers • Develop the competencies of researchers in the beginning of their research career • Enable the grant recipients to consolidate their individual research profile by independently managing a concrete research project at a research institution abroad	Max. 1,350,000 DKK	2 years	PhD degree or corresponding qualifications PhD-age* max. 3 years
Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant • Promote the education of researchers and strengthen internationalization • Develop the qualifications and competencies of the best research talents, both nationally and internationally • Provide excellent young researchers, i.e. researchers who have carried out top class research in their field, with the opportunity to develop and strengthen their research ideas • Aims at promoting careers, the mobility internationally as well as nationally among research environments, and thereby to strengthen networks	Max. 4,300,000 DKK	4 years	PhD degree or equivalent qualifications PhD age* max. 8 years
DFF-Research Project1 • Advance the quality of Danish research • Is characterised by having a clear and well-defined research question, where the research activities are expected to be of a high, international level of quality	Max. 2,000,000 DKK	3 years but it is possible to apply for a 4-year project if PhD students are involved	PhD degree or equivalent qualifications Research experience typically corresponding to 3 years or more (not fixed)
DFF-Research Project2 • To advance the quality of, and develop collaboration within Danish research, DFF offers funding for research projects carried out by multiple researchers (including postdoctoral candidates and PhD students) • The project is particularly ambitious and resource demanding, and the research objective cannot be obtained through a DFF-Research Project1 • The research activities must have the potential to create synergy among any sub-projects, involve an international level of collaboration (if relevant) and be of a high, international standard	Between 2,000,000 DKK and 4,300,000 DKK	4.5 years	PhD degree or equivalent qualifications Research experience at a high international level and typically corresponding to 5 years or more (not fixed)
Explorative Network | Humanities • To strengthen a broadly based collaboration between different Danish and, ideally, international research environments, however, with the main emphasis on the scientific fields that fall within the scope of DFF | Humanities • In the assessment of applications, emphasis is placed on the originality of the conceptual idea and the network's potential for scientific innovation • Funding will not be provided for actual research projects	Max. 500,000 DKK	3 years	As a minimum researcher at associate professor/ senior researcher level.

*PhD age denotes the number of years since the achievement of the PhD degree.

INSTRUMENT AND OBJECTIVE	AMOUNTS (exclusive of overheads)	DURATION	REQUIREMENT IN RESPECT OF POSITION AND PHD AGE (APPLICANT)
Journals | Humanities • To support the dissemination of humanistic research through digital scientific journals • To support both to established as well as new journals of a high scientific value that strive for an international level of circulation. However, it is taken into account that certain areas of humanistic research will primarily be targeted at a Danish readership • Granted as a deficit guarantee	Max. 40,000 DKK pr. years	3 years	Editor-in-chief of the journal and have associate professor/senior researcher level qualifications as a minimum
International research stay | Social Sciences • Promote the internationalisation of social sciences research • Provides funding for research stays at a foreign research institution for consecutive periods of at least three months • The research stay should be based on specific research activities within the field of social sciences and contribute to those activities through strengthened international collaboration or networks and collection of data	Max. 200,000 DKK	Min. 3 months	PhD degree or corresponding qualifications
Clinician scientist position | Medical Sciences • Buyout from a clinician scientist position (including from the main studies) so that 20 – 50 % of the yearly duty hours are dedicated to research for a period of up to three years, while the remaining time is spent in a clinical position remunerated by the employing institution	20 - 50% of the salary in a period of 1 - 3 years	1 - 3 years	PhD degree or corresponding qualifications Primarily awarded to medical doctors, dentists and veterinarians
Pre-graduate scholarship | Medical Sciences • Fund pre-graduate scholarships for a duration of 6-12 months for the purpose of giving the most talented students the opportunity to undertake scientific work and strengthening their interest in a further scientific career	Fixed amount of 100,000 DKK	6 - 12 months	None Supervisor applies Supervisor must have obtained a PhD degree or achieved equivalent qualifications

THE FUNDING INSTRUMENTS 2022
POLITICALLY DETERMINED INSTRUMENTS

INSTRUMENT AND OBJECTIVE	AMOUNTS (exclusive of overheads)	DURATION	REQUIREMENT IN RESPECT OF POSITION AND PHD AGE
Inge Lehmann (DFF-Research Project1) • The programme is a part of the political agreement on the allocation of the Research Reserve for 2022 • The objective of this specific programme is to strengthen a more equal gender ratio in the early steps of the researcher career where the imbalance sets in • The programme is open to all scientific areas and to men as well as women, but through exemption pursuant to Section 3 of the Equal Opportunities Act, DFF will, as a general rule, choose female applilndependent Research Fund Denmark - Call for proposals - The Inge Lehmann Programme 20227 cants over male in case of equal qualifications between two applicants. An objective assessment will, however, be made, taking into consideration all specific criteria regarding applicants, regardless of gender • An Inge Lehmann grant is awarded to researchers, who show potential for research and project management at the highest international level	Max. 2,000,000 DKK	3 years but it is possible to apply for a 4-year project if PhD students are involved	PhD degree or corresponding qualifications PhD age* min. 2 and max. 8 years
DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant • Special grant from the funds under the Danish National Budget, which are earmarked for strengthening the education of researchers at public non-university research institutions • The instrument covers national non-university research institutions, sector research institutions, university colleges, business academies as well as state archives, libraries, museums etc.	Max. 1,800,000 DKK	Not specified in the call (typically 3 years)	Master's degree or equivalent qualifications

*PhD age denotes the number of years since the achievement of the PhD degree.

THE FUNDING INSTRUMENTS 2022
POLITICALLY DETERMINED THEMES

INSTRUMENT AND OBJECTIVE	AMOUNTS (exclusive of overheads)	DURATION	REQUIREMENT IN RESPECT OF POSITION AND PHD AGE
Strengthened clinical and independent research (DFF-Research Project1) • A part of the politically determined themes under the political agreement on the allocation of the Research Reserve for 2022 • The purpose is to strengthen care clinical and independent research, including independent and researcher-initiated trials, studies, etc. and in areas where there is limited commercial interest or opportunities for external funding, e.g. from research foundations • To advance the quality of Danish research • Characterised by a clear and well-defined research question, where the research activities are expected to be of a high international quality	Max. 2,000,000 DKK	3 years but it is possible to apply for a 4-year project if PhD students are involved	PhD degree or corresponding qualifications PhD age* min. 3 years
Green research (DFF-Research Project1) • A part of the politically determined themes under the political agreement on the allocation of the Research Reserve for 2022 • Funds for green, independent and curiosity-driven research in Denmark based on proposals chosen by a competitive process • To advance the quality of Danish research • Characterised by a clear and well-defined research question, where the research activities are expected to be of a high international quality • It is a requirement that the application accounts for the ways in which the project addresses the call's theme of green research, including how the project supports the career development of the growth layer in Danish research environments	Max. 2,000,000 DKK	3 years but it is possible to apply for a 4-year project if PhD students are involved	PhD degree or corresponding qualifications PhD age* min. 3 years

*PhD age denotes the number of years since the achievement of the PhD degree.

LARGE RESEARCH PROJECTS

In 2022 Independent Research Fund Denmark funded 388 large research projects through the funding instruments DFF-Research Project1, DFF-Research Project2, The Inge Lehmann programme and Sapere Aude: DFF Starting Grant. Large research projects are characterised by involving at least one project participant besides the PI.

OVERVIEW OF INSTRUMENTS 2022	Number of grants	Average amount granted, DKK m.	Project partici-pants incl. PI
DFF-Research Project1	167	2.7	536
DFF-Research Project1 Green research (2022)	38	2.8	103
DFF-Research Project1 Strengthened clinical and indepen-dent research (2022)	57	2.2	314
DFF-Research Project2	56	6.0	289
DFF-Research Project1 (Inge Lehmann)	29	2.7	92
Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant	41	6.0	175
Total	**388**	**3.5**	**1,509**

388
grants

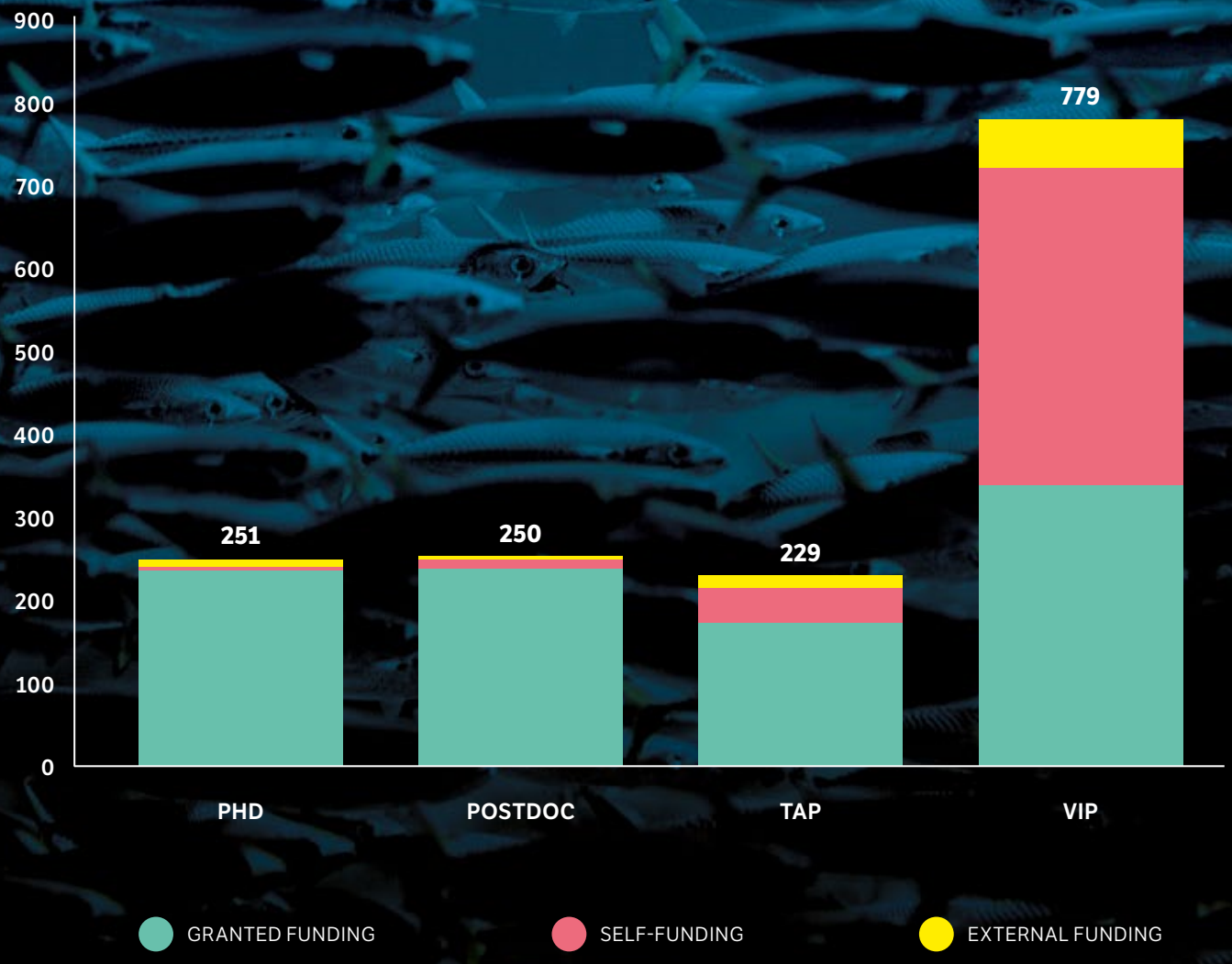
3.5 DKK m.
in average

1,509
project participants incl. PI

In total, the 388 large research projects involve 1,509 researchers as project participants [PI included). An average of 4 researchers are involved in each research project. People involved in the projects are salaried according to three different ways of financing.

- **Financing from the grant funder**
  salary related to the research project is partly or fully financed by the grant from Independent Research Fund Denmark
- **Co-financing**
  salary related to the research project is partly or fully financed by the research institution
- **External funding**
  salary related to the research project is partly or fully financed by other external funds.

PROJECT PARTICIPANTS' JOB POSITION



TAP: Technical administrative personnel (laboratory workers, research assistants, nurses etc.)
VIP: Scientific staff (assistant professors, associate professors, professors)
PhD.: PhD grant (Philosophiae Doctor) – research education placed between a master degree and a doctoral degree.
Postdoc: A postdoc position is a research position, often temporary, given after obtaining a PhD degree.

TOPIC | The food chain of research is international

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH FUND DENMARK AND THE WORLD – KNOWLEDGE ACROSS BORDERS

Knowledge is produced in a rolling movement crossing country borders where research environments emerge. The fund works continuously to develop its funding instruments and processes in a way that makes it possible to break down conventional borders between research fields or gain access to the best international research environments. The aim is that the best researchers and research groups have an opportunity to coordinate and develop their research collaborations across country borders, and that talented researchers have an opportunity to spend part of their research career abroad. Knowledge has no borders, and although we have many talented researchers, Denmark is still a small country that participates in and is dependent on the wide international ecosystem of knowledge.

An important part of being able to support excellent and original research is the internationalisation of research. This comes about through, among others, the international assessment panels and individual international peer reviews that are part of the processing and assessment of the fund's applications. But it is also part of the actual research as Independent Research Fund Denmark supports the involvement of an international perspective and collaboration in all projects. In the large funding instruments such as Sapere Aude: DFF Starting Grant and DFF-Research Project2, the size and duration of the projects make it possible to involve a group of international researchers and let talented researchers spend part of their research career abroad.

THE GROWTH LAYER OF RESEARCH – YOUNG RESEARCHERS SEEK OUT THE BEST RESEARCH ENVIRONMENTS

An important link in building a sustainable and strong research and knowledge ecosystem, is ensuring the growth layer of talented young researchers. Independent Research Fund Denmark works for this through, among others, the funding instrument DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant aimed at strengthening talented young researchers' international mobility and developing research competences and skills of researchers in the beginning of their research career. In 2022 the five research councils granted 16 DFF-International Postdoctoral Grants. The grant recipients are now to implement a specific research project at a research institution abroad. In 2022 the 16 research projects will be carried out in 9 different countries.

Young researchers continuing a career in research will in many cases end up setting up their own research group and research environment around the research they started as a postdoc. In 2022 seven of the Sapere Aude: DFF Starting Grants or the DFF-Research Project1 grants were given to researchers who in the years 2016-2019 had also received a postdoc grant from the fund.

FERTILE BREEDING GROUND FOR NEW IDEAS

One of the researchers that in 2022 was able to take the lead of his own research group, is Anders Anker Bjørk, assistant professor at the Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management, University of Copenhagen. He studies the ice cap and glaciers in Greenland. In 2016 he received a postdoc-grant from Independent Research Fund Denmark in order that he may recreate glacier changes across two centuries by including historical air images, maps and sea temperature measurements from various historical archives. The postdoc-grant sent him off to, among others, University of California and NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory that has some of the worlds leading research groups within glacier research. The results have been used to improve the existing models for predicting how much ice is disappearing from the ice cap in Greenland and thus future sea levels.

With a better understanding of the dynamics of glaciers, Anders Anker Bjørk came up with a completely new research idea for which he received funding to pursue in 2022. Anders Anker Bjørk and his research group wants to study the movement and melting of a glacier when it shrinks and loses contact with the sea. As long as a glacier is in contact with the sea, it will "calve", that is, big parts of the glacier will break off and be released into the ocean on a regular basis. This loss of mass means that the glacier moves towards the ocean more quickly. "*But at a certain point the glacier will have calved to an extent that it will have lost contact with the sea and will not be able to calve, and the glacier will then just melt 'ashore' – and it is this transition in glacier conditions that we know almost nothing about. Therefore we want to study this now and for the next four years,*" Anders Anker Bjørk says. The results will help predicting future sea levels on a better qualified and precise basis.

PROFILE:
ANDERS ANKER BJØRK
Project title:
GRIT - GReenland's Ice in Transition
Title: **Assistant professor**
Duration: **2023 - 2026**
Institution: **University of Copenhagen**
Funding : **Approx. 6.2 DKK million**
Funding instrument:
Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant

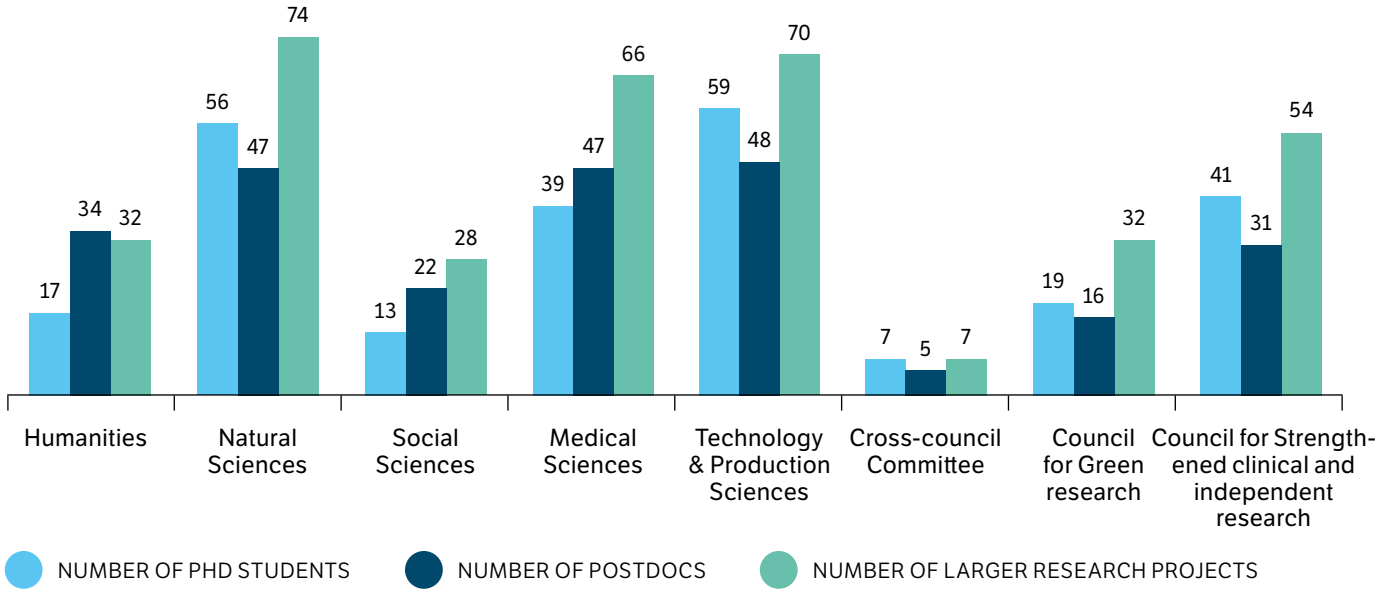
COUNTRY OF EXECUTION FOR INTERNATIONAL POSTDOC

United States of America	5
Switzerland	2
United Kingdom	2
Sweden	2
Australia	1
France	1
The Netherlands	1
Germany	1
Austria	1
Total	**16**

YOUNG PROJECT PARTICIPANTS (POSTDOCS AND PHD)

363 out of the 388 large research projects include at least one PhD student or postdoc. In 2022 501 young project participants were thus part of 363 research projects. On average one young researcher participates in each research project. The figure below shows the distribution of young project participants and the number of large research projects across research councils and committees.

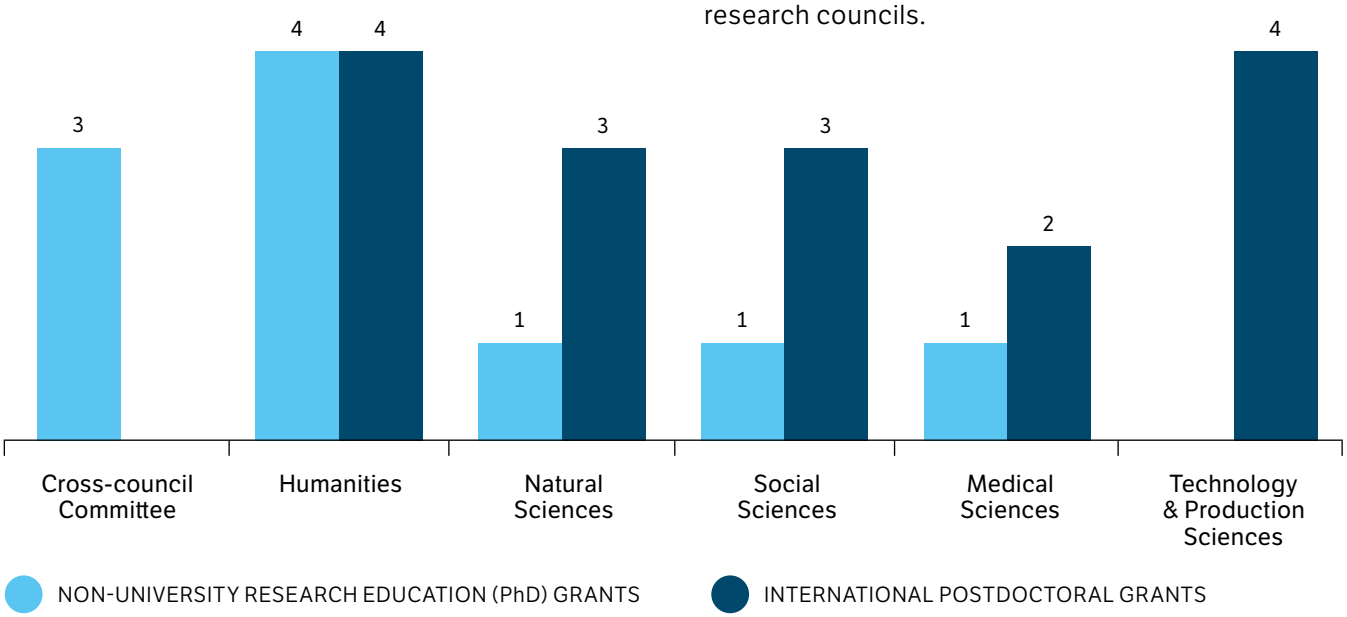
In 2022 seven grant recipients who in the years 2017-2021 were postdocs in a research project funded by Independent Research Fund Denmark, received an Inge Lehmann, Sapere Aude: DFF Starting Grant or DFF-Research Project1 grant.



FUNDING INSTRUMENTS AIMED AT YOUNG RESEARCHERS

The fund has two funding instruments aimed at young researchers: Non-university Research Education (PhD) and DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant.

In 2022 the fund's five research councils and the Cross-Council Committee granted 16 DFF-International Postdoctoral Grants and 10 grants for Non-university Research Education (PhD). The figure below shows the distribution of PhD and postdoc grants across the five research councils.



GRANT RECIPIENTS' PHD AGE ACROSS FUNDING INSTRUMENTS

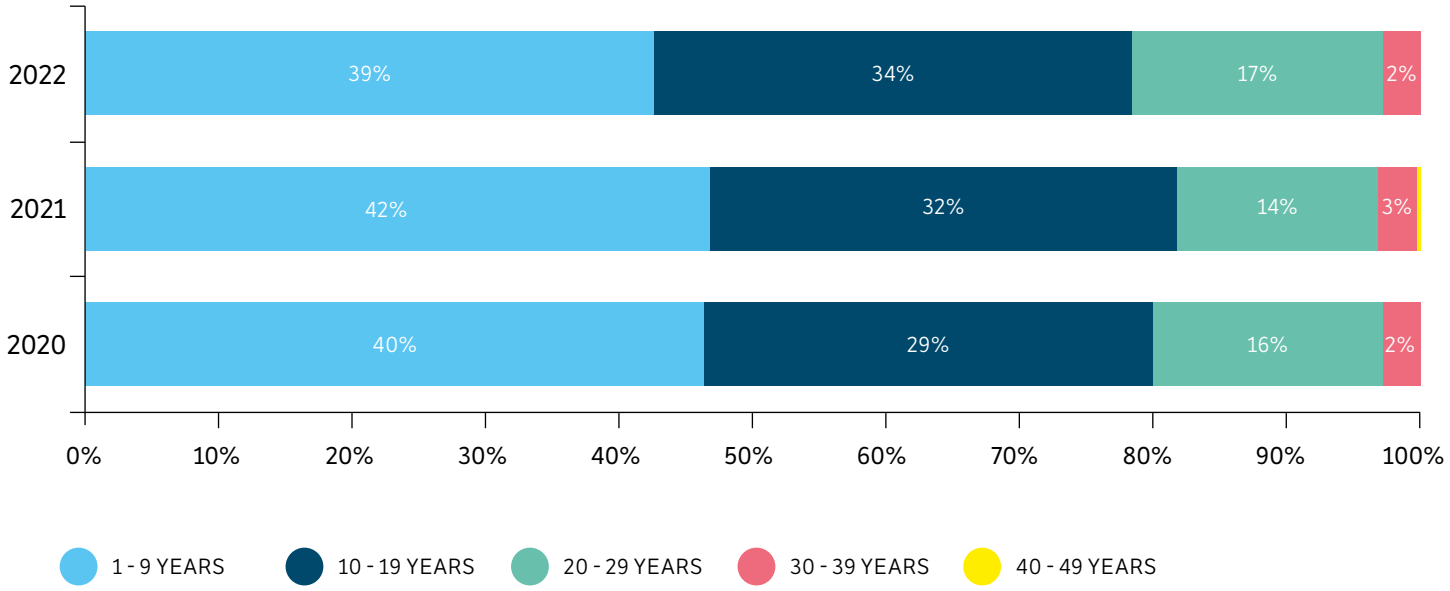
In 2022 the main grant recipient in Independent Research Fund Denmark had an average PhD age* of 12 years. The table below shows the distribution and average PhD age of the main grant recipient across the specific funding instruments. The fund has several instruments aimed at young researchers and the majority of grant recipients have a PhD age below 10 years.

In 2022 applicants for DFF-International Postdoctoral Grants should have a PhD age below 3 years, and many grant recipients have a PhD age of less than a year. Applicants for the Inge Lehmann programme should have a PhD age between 2-8 years, while Sapere Aude: DFF Starting Grant requires a PhD age of no more than 8 years.

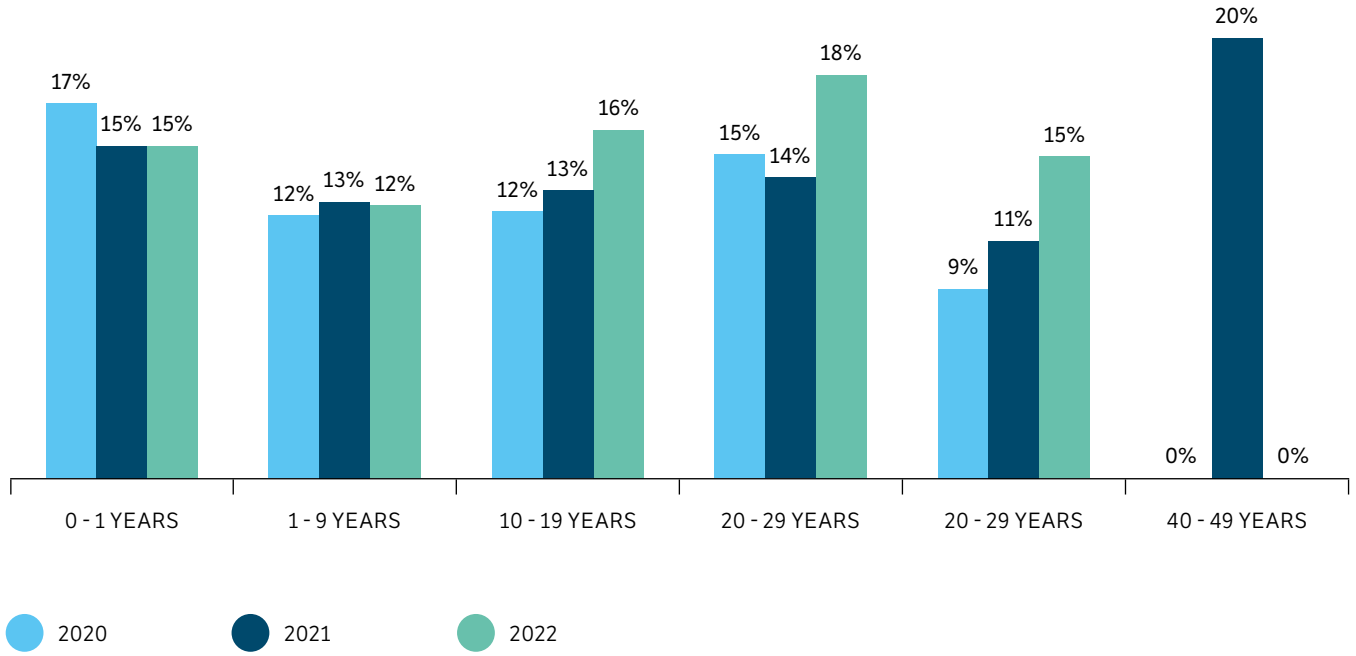
INSTRUMENT	1-9 years	10-19 years	20-29 years	30-39 years	Not mentioned/ under 1 year	Average age
DFF-Research Project1	44	69	43	6	5	15
DFF-Research Project2	6	32	14	4	0	17
Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant	40	0	0	0	1	6
DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant	5	0	0	0	11	1
Explorative Network Humanities	2	2	0	0	0	10
Journals Humanities	1	4	0	0	0	13
International research stay Social Sciences	4	0	1	0	0	9
Clinician scientist position Medical Sciences	8	0	0	0	1	3
Pre-graduate scholarship Medical Sciences	4	8	5	0	3	16
Subtotal, Independent research	114	115	63	10	21	13
DFF-Research Project1 (Inge Lehmann)	29	0	0	0	0	4
Non-university Research Education (PhD)	0	0	0	0	10	0
Subtotal, politically determined instruments	29	0	0	0	10	4
DFF | Thematic research Green research (2022)	19	13	4	1	1	11
DFF | Thematic research Clinical research	14	26	12	0	5	14
Subtotal, politically determined themes	33	39	16	1	6	13
Total	**176**	**154**	**79**	**11**	**37**	**12**

*PhD age denotes the number of years since the achievement of the PhD degree.

PHD AGE OF GRANT RECIPIENT



SUCCES RATE MEASURED IN NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS DISTRIBUTED IN GROUPS OF PHD AGE 2018 - 2022



GRANT RECIPIENTS' AGE ACROSS FUNDING INSTRUMENTS

In 2022 the average age of grant recipients in Independent Research Fund Denmark was 45 years. The table below shows the age distribution and average age of the main grant recipients across specific funding instruments.

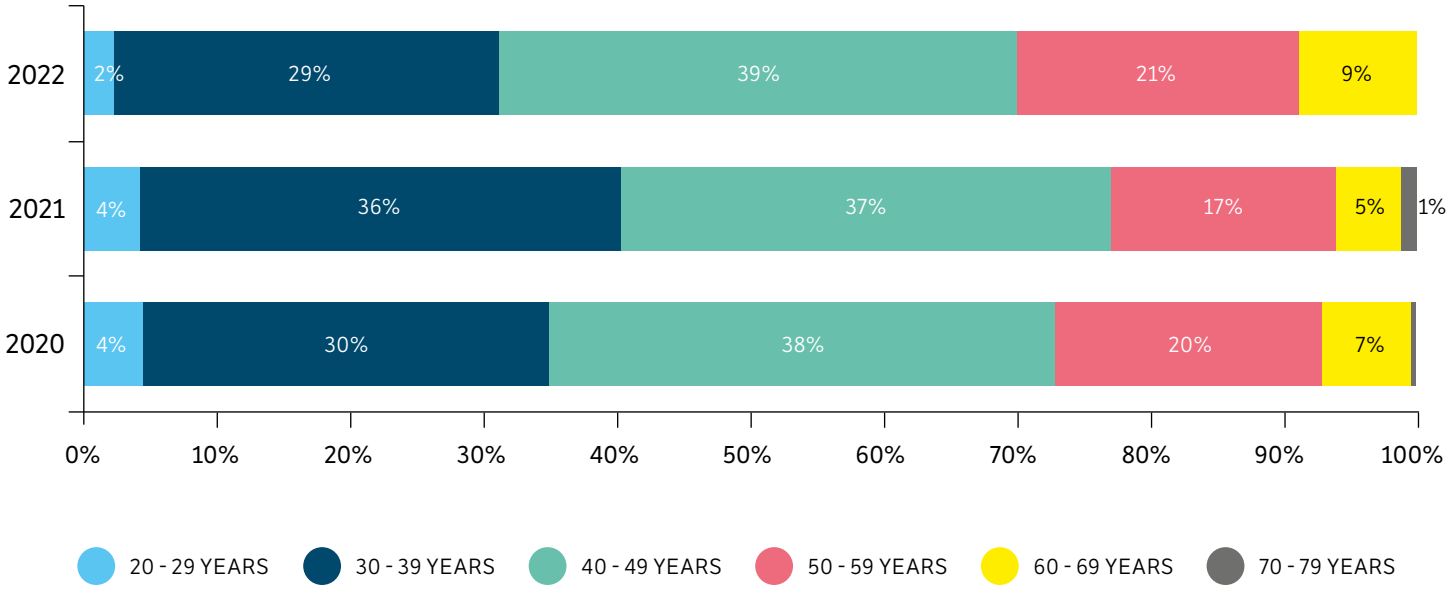
There are about 10 years difference in average age between on the one hand the recipients of DFF-Research Project1 and DFF-Research Project2 grants and on the other hand those receiving e.g. Sapere Aude: DFF Starting Grant or a grant within the Inge Lehmann programme, both of which are more specifically aimed at young researchers.

INSTRUMENT	20-29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60-69 years	70-79 years	Average age
DFF-Research Project1	0	32	73	48	14	0	47
DFF-Research Project2	0	5	32	11	8	0	48
Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant	0	30	11	0	0	0	38
DFF-International Postdoctoral Grant	5	8	3	0	0	0	33
Explorative Network Humanities	0	0	4	0	0	0	45
Journals Humanities	0	1	2	2	0	0	48
International research stay Social Sciences	0	3	1	1	0	0	42
Clinician scientist position Medical Sciences	0	6	3	0	0	0	38
Pre-graduate scholarship Medical Sciences	0	3	7	6	4	0	50
Subtotal, Independent research	5	88	136	68	26	0	45
DFF-Research Project1 (Inge Lehmann)	0	20	9	0	0	0	37
Non-university Research Education (PhD)	5	3	2	0	0	0	33
subtotal, politically determined instruments	5	23	11	0	0	0	36
DFF | Thematic research Green research (2022)	0	16	13	8	1	0	42
DFF | Thematic research Clinical research	0	5	18	21	13	0	52
Subtotal, pollitically determined themes	0	21	31	29	14	0	48
Total	**10**	**132**	**178**	**97**	**40**	**0**	**45**

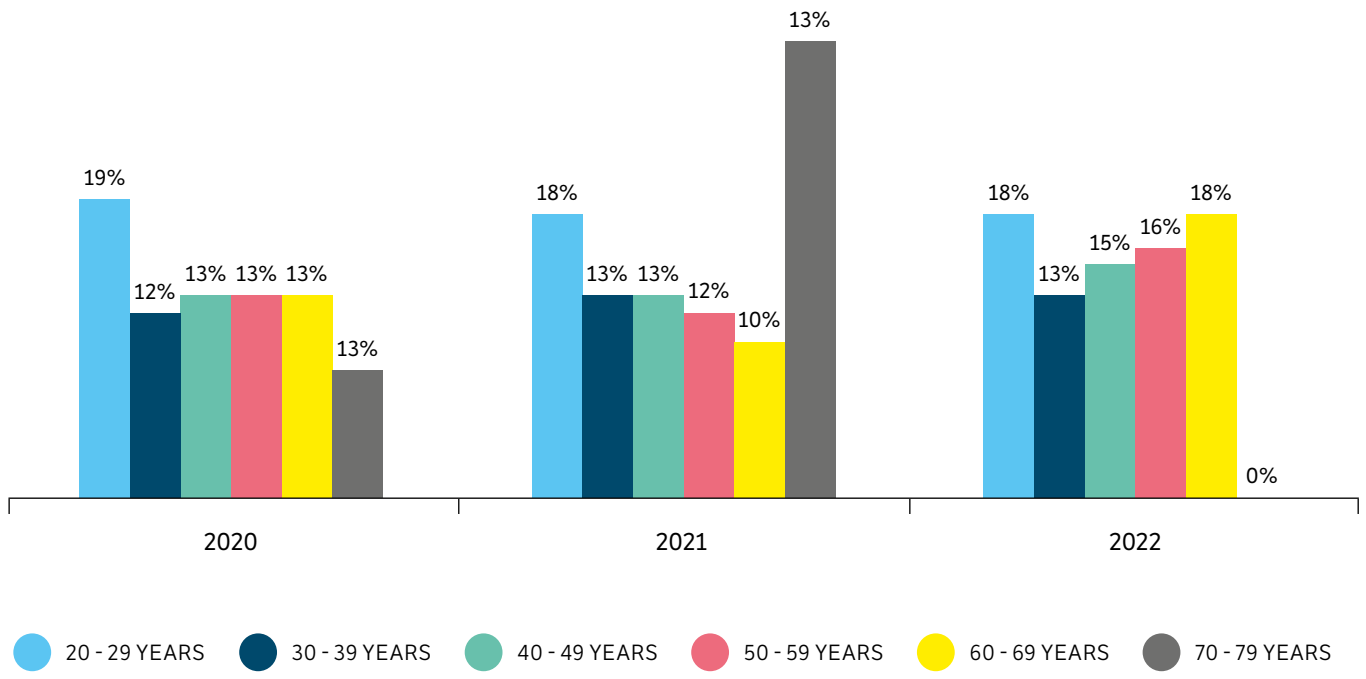
GRANT RECIPIENTS' AGE

During the period 2020-2022, Independent Research Fund Denmark allocated most of its grants to researchers aged 40-49 years. This is also the age group submitting most applications. The second largest group of grant recipients are researchers between 30-39 years.

In 2022 the share of grant recipients aged 40 or less is 31 % of all grant recipients. The success rate (relative to the number of applications) was, in 2022, highest for researchers in the age groups 20-29 and 60-69.



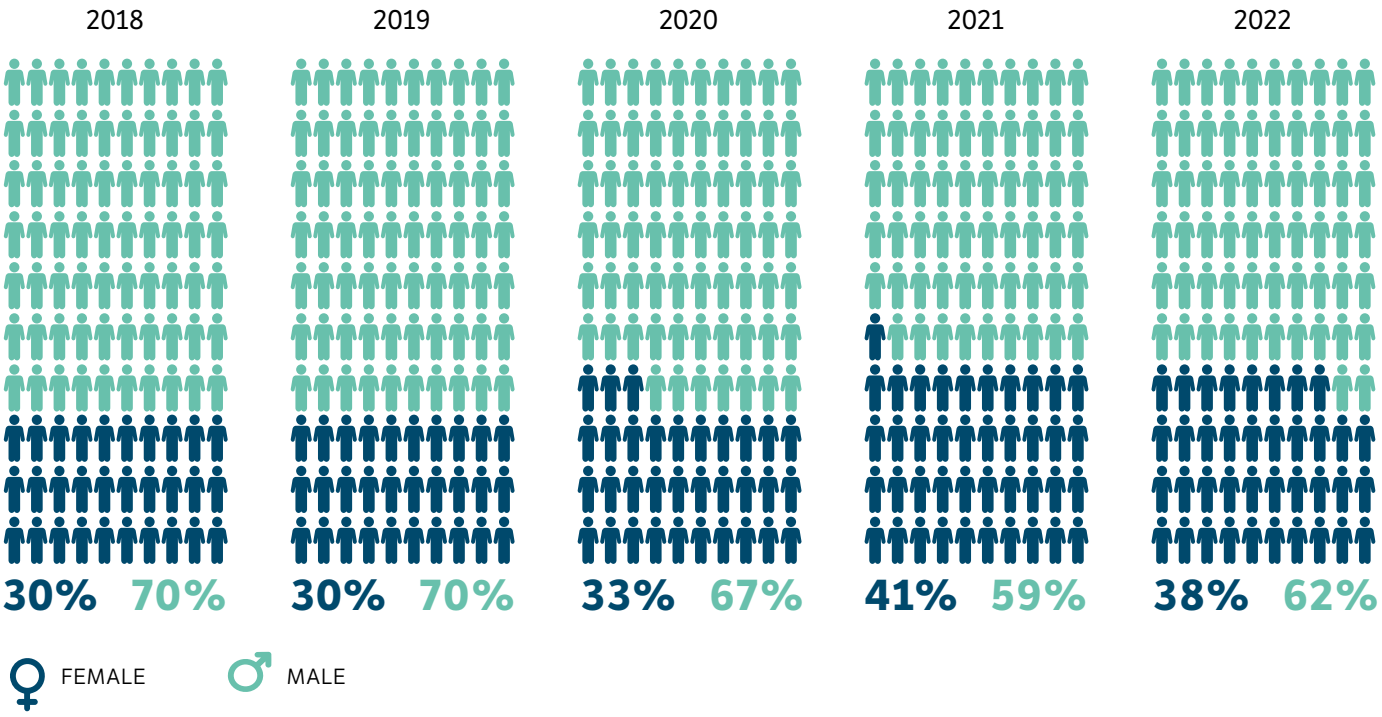
SUCCES RATE MEASURED IN NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS DISTRIBUTED IN AGE GROUPS 2020 - 2022



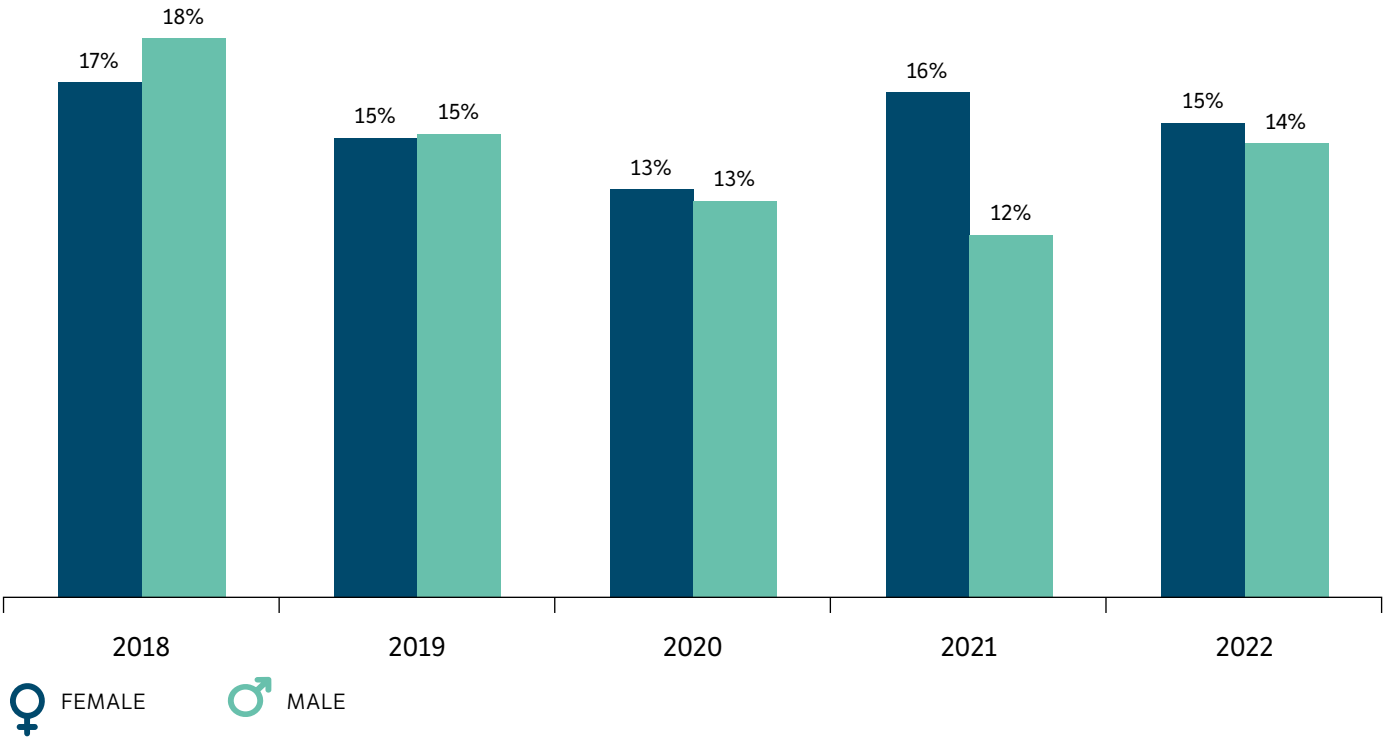
GENDER DISTRIBUTION

During the period 2018-2022, women submitted about one third of the applications for the fund and received one third of the grants for the same period of time. In 2020 the Inge Lehmann programme opened for applications which has led to an increase in the relative number of women applicants and grant recipients. The success rate for men and women does not differ significantly in the years 2018-2022. In 2021 the difference was noticeable, but it has adjusted in 2022.

SHARE OF MALE AND FEMALE GRANT RECIPIENTS



SUCCES RATE IN TERMS OF APPLICATIONS/FUNDED GRANTS



DANISH RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

The table below shows the 2022 distribution of applications and grants across the eight Danish universities, University Colleges and Other Institutions.

Aarhus University and Roskilde University have the highest success rates relative to number of applications and grants (16 %), while Aarhus University and the University Colleges have the highest success rates when considering allocated funding, 14 % and 16 %, respectively.

INSTITUTION	Number of applications	Number of grants	Succes rate number	Funds applied for, DKK m.	Funding Granted, DKK m.	Succes rate amount	Average grant, DKK m.
University of Copenhagen	794	115	14%	2,997.1	399.6	13%	3.5
Aarhus University	698	113	16%	2,460.6	355.8	14%	3.1
Technical University of Denmark	415	48	12%	1,632.4	185.0	11%	3.8
University of Southern Denmark	300	36	12%	1,070.8	131.0	12%	3.6
Aalborg University	192	24	13%	693.3	81.8	12%	3.4
Roskilde University	76	12	16%	287.7	31.4	11%	2.6
Copenhagen Business School	60	3	5%	221.9	18.4	8%	6.1
IT University of Copenhagen	33	5	15%	120.6	12.9	11%	2.6
Danish Universities	**2,568**	**356**	**14%**	**9,484.4**	**1,215.9**	**13%**	**3.4**
University colleges	**18**	**2**	**11%**	**54.0**	**8.8**	**16%**	**4.4**
Other institutions and organisations*	**514**	**99**	**19%**	**1,171.8**	**194.3**	**17%**	**2.0**
Total	**3,100**	**457**	**15%**	**10,710.2**	**1,419.0**	**13%**	**1.7**

*Other institutions and organisations comprise, among others, Danish hospitals (including university hospitals), state archives, museums, libraries, Advanced Technology Group (GTS) institutes, sector research institutions, other public institutions, private non-profit organisations and foundations, foreign universities and foreign public institutions.

RESEARCH ADVISORY SERVICE BY INDEPENDENT RESEARCH FUND DENMARK

Independent Research Fund Denmark offers research advisory service within all fields of research, and its council members being among the foremost experts within their respective fields of research, the fund is able to offer broad, socially relevant guidance.

In 2022 Independent Research Fund Denmark processed 165 scientific advisory cases including consultation procedures to questions related to laws and regulations, scientific questions on recommendations and nominations for councils, committees and boards as well as international consultancy procedures and questions on tax schemes for researchers.

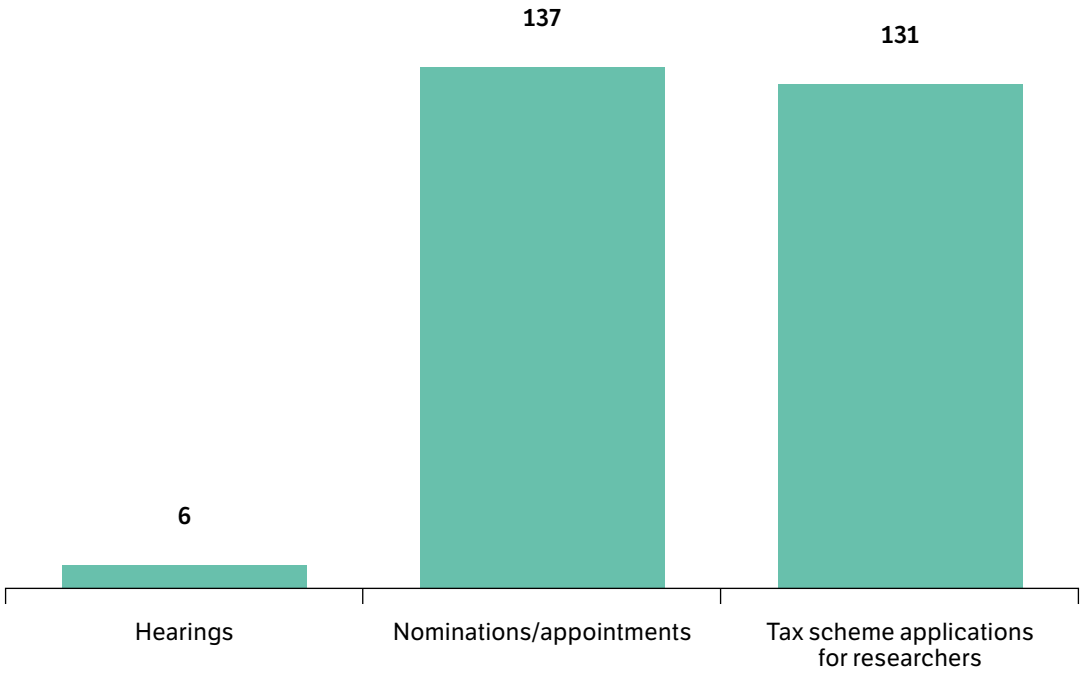
Types of research advisory service

- Consultation related to laws and regulations
- Scientific questions on recommendations and nominations for councils, committees and boards
- International consultancy procedures
- Questions on tax schemes for researchers: The fund assesses applications regarding researchers from abroad being recruited for work in Denmark.

Who requests advisory service?

- The Danish parliament and the Ministry for Higher Education and Science
- Other ministries and agencies
- Other public foundations
- Danish Universities
- Other organisations, e.g. Rigsarkivet (Danish National Archives), The Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters, The Danish Language Council.

ADVISORY CASES IN 2022



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of Independent Research Fund Denmark states the political and strategic path of the fund. Together with the research councils, the Board also provides scientific advice in all scientific areas for the Danish Minister for Higher Education and Science, the Danish Parliament and the Government. The board decides on the distribution of the fund's grants between the research councils and does not itself have the authority to allocate grants to researchers. The board consists of nine recognized researchers.

Board of directors per January 1st 2022
From the left: Lasse Aistrup Rosendahl, Nanna Mik-Meyer, Jørgen Frøkiær, Maja Horst, Birgit Schiøtt, Mette Marie Rosenkilde, Ole Kirk, Lone Gram, Lasse Horne Kjælgaard

MAJA HORST (Board chairman)
PROFESSOR, HEAD OF DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT AND ECONOMIES, TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF DENMARK
Maja Horst is a Professor and group leader at the Technical University of Denmark. In September 2019 Maja Horst was appointed leader of the newly established professorship in this field. Maja Horst has been a member of the Danish Council for Research and Innovation Policy (2011-2020). She is the president of the European Asscіation for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST). Furthermore, she is a recipient of the research communication prize (2009) awarded by the Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science.

JØRGEN FRØKIÆR (Board vice-chairman)
PROFESSOR, PHD, HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL MEDICINE, AARHUS UNIVERSITY
Jørgen Frøkiær has been head of the Department of Clinical Medicine at Aarhus University since July 2018 and has previously been appointed to DFF's professional research council DFF | Health and Illness for a 6-year period (2011-2016), including as Vice President (2011-2014) and Chairman (2015-2016). Jørgen Frøkiær has extensive international research experience, where he has worked to answer both clinical health science and basic science issues and has more than 25 years of experience as a research leader.

BIRGIT SCHIØTT
PROFESSOR, PHD, HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY, AARHUS UNIVERSITY
Birgit Schiøtt manages the Biomodelling group which deals with the interaction of proteins and other biomolecules, focusing on brain chemistry. She also works with other subjects such as peptides involved in i Type 2 Diabetes as well as other technological important peptides and proteins. Birgit Schiøtt is also a part of iNANO and has many collaborative projects with pharmaceutical- and biotechnological companies and academic research groups in both Denmark and abroad.

LASSE AISTRUP ROSENDAHL
PROFESSOR, PHD, HEAD OF DEPARTMENT FOR ENERGY TECHNOLOGY, AALBORG UNIVERSITY
Lasse Rosendahl's subject area is classical technical science. He has 25 years of experience with research and research development, research management, applications both nationally and internationally, international board work e.g. International Thermoelectric Society, research council work in Scandinavia, program committee work in Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe. For the past year and a half, he has been head of department at the Department of Energy Technology at Aalborg University.

LASSE HORNE KJÆLDGAARD
PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE, CULTURE, HISTORY AND COMMUNICATION, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN DENMARK
Lasse Horne Kjældgaard is educated cand.mag. in Danish and English and PhD in Nordic litterature from University of Copenhagen as well as dr.phill. from Roskilde University. Through the years 2009 to 2010 he was leading the Georg Brandes research programme at University of Copenhagen, and from 2011 to 2015 he was director of The Danish Language and Literature Society. Since 2015 and until 2020 Lasse Horne Kjældgaard was professor at Roskilde University, and from 2020 he has acted as the Head of and professor at the Hans Christian Andersen Centre at the Department of the Study of Culture.

LONE GRAM
PROFESSOR, PHD, DTU BIOENGINEERING, DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOMEDICINE, TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF DENMARK
Professor Lone Gram studies bacterial eco-physiology and biotechnology. The science is focused on aquatic bacteria (freshwater and marine) and covers both pathogeneic bacteria as well as beneficial bacteria. Lone Gram was previously chairman of Independent Research Fund Denmark | Natural Sciences. She is also leader of Center of Excellence for Microbial Secondary Metabolites, Danish Nation Research Foundation.

METTE MARIE ROSENKILDE
PROFESSOR, DEPUTY HEAD OF DEPARTMENT, DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN
Mette M. Rosenkilde is a Professor at the Department of Biomedical Sciences at the University of Copenhagen. Mette M. Rosenkilde received the KFJ-award in 2017 for her ground-braking research in protein receptors, with a focus on developing new medicine. Mette M. Rosenkilde is also the head of section of the research team for molecular pharmacology.

NANNA MIK-MEYER
PROFESSOR, PHD, DEPARTMENT OF ORGANISATION, COPENHAGEN BUSINESS SCHOOL
Nanna Mik-Meyer is a professor of sociology at Copenhagen Business School, where she has also previously been vice dean for research. Nanna Mik-Meyer has been a member and deputy chair of the board of Greater Copenhagen EU Office, is a board member of VIVE and has previously been a member of the National Science Ethics Committee and the bibliometric research indicators' professional groups, sociology and public health. Nanna Mik-Meyer has previously been appointed to DFF's professional research council DFF | Society and Business for a 4-year period (2015-2018), including being a member of the Executive Committee (2016-2018).

OLE KIRK
PROFESSOR, PHD, VICE PRESIDENT, NOVOZYMES A/S UNTIL OCTOBER 1TH 2022, THEN SELF EMPLOYED CONSULTANT WITHIN BIOTECHNOLOGY
Ole Kirk has a PhD in chemistry from the Technical University of Denmark. Ole Kirk Besides the post as Vice President for Research and Development at Novozymes A/S, Ole Kirk is also Head of research in the division for Household Care & Technical Industries Division, where he conducts research on biotechnological solutions for the production of enzymes and microorganisms.

RESEARCH COUNCILS

Independent Research Fund Denmark consists of 85 members in total who are divided between a board of directors and five research councils: **Humanities, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Medical Sciences, and Technology and Production Sciences.**

Furthermore, the fund has the **Cross-council Committee** that consists of the five chairmen from the five research councils.

The five chairmen from the five research councils form the Cross-council Committee
From the left: Peter Balling, Henrik Grum Kjærgaard, Marianne Simonsen, Anders Fink-Jensen, Anne-Marie Søndergaard Christensen

Independent Research Fund Denmark
Humanities (FKK)

Independent Reseach Fund Denmark | Humanities offers funding for researchers who work within the following disciplines: art history, architecture and design, media studies, film studies, musicology, IT and technology studies in the Humanities, comparative literature, dramaturgy, philology, linguistics, communication research, anthropology, ethnology, archaeology, history, philosophy, history of ideas and science, theology, comparative religion, educational theory, pedagogy, psychology and other related research disciplines within the humanities, such as library research, museology, as well as humanistic research within sports science, public health, urban and physical planning.

Anders-Christian Jacobsen	Aarhus University
Anne-Marie Søndergaard Christensen (Board chairman)	University of Southern Denmark
Bo Poulsen	Aalborg University
Dorte Marie Søndergaard	Aarhus University
Helle Vandkilde	Aarhus University
Jens Seeberg	Aarhus University
Jørgen Bruhn	Linnaeus University, Sweden
Kim Christian Schrøder	Roskilde University
Lone Koefoed Hansen	Aarhus University
Mette Sandbye	University of Copenhagen
Pia Quist	University of Copenhagen
Randi Starrfelt	University of Copenhagen

Independent Research Fund Denmark
Natural Sciences (FNU)

Independent Research Fund Denmark | Natural Sciences offers funding to researchers who investigate fundamental scientific issues within the natural sciences, computer science and mathematics, with an epistemological but not ne- cessarily an applied scientific objective. The council covers research within the classical disciplines: astronomy, physics, chemistry, mathematics, computer science, molecular biology, biochemistry/ biophysics, biology, geology as well as the natural science aspects of geography.

Angela Fago	Aarhus University
Birgitte Haahr Kallipolitis	University of Southern Denmark
Carsten Wiuf	University of Copenhagen
Henrik Grum Kjærgaard (Board chairman)	University of Copenhagen
Karsten Flensberg	University of Copenhagen
Kresten Lindorff-Larsen	University of Copenhagen
Lars Birkedal	Aarhus University
Lars Nielsen	University of Copenhagen
Shfaqat Abbas Khan	Technical University of Denmark
Steen Lynge Hannestad	Aarhus University
Søren Bak	University of Copenhagen
Tenna Riis	Aarhus University
Torben Heick Jensen	Aarhus University
Torsten Nygyearsd Kristensen	Aalborg University
Troels SDKKdstrup	Aarhus University

Independent Research Fund Denmark
Social Sciences (FSE)

Independent Research Fund Denmark | Social Sciences offers funding to researchers who work within the social sciences. DFF | Social Sciences covers the following main disciplines: economics, sociology, political science and legal theory, as well as the societal aspects of various interdisciplinary subjects (e.g., communication studies, development studies, gender studies and cultural geography).

Bjørn Thomassen	Roskilde University
Karen Lund Petersen	Danish Institute for International Studies
Kathrine Vitus	Aalborg University
Lasse Folke Kikkert Henriksen	Copenhagen Business School
Lisbeth Funding la Cour	Copenhagen Business School
Margaretha Järvinen	University of Copenhagen
Marianne Simonsen (Board chairman)	Aarhus University
Mette Hartlev	University of Copenhagen
Peter Norman Sørensen	University of Copenhagen
Robert Tranekær Klemmensen	University of Southern Denmark/Lund University (August 1st 2022)
Søren Serritzlew	Aarhus University
Toke Reichstein	Copenhagen Business School

Independent Research Fund Denmark
Medical Sciences (FSS)

Independent Research Fund Denmark | Medical Sciences offers funding to researchers who work with all aspects of basic, translational, clinical and socio-medical research in relation to human health and disease.

Anders Fink-Jensen (Board chairman)	Mental health center Copenhagen
Anne-Marie Nybo Andersen	University of Copenhagen
Bo Torben Porse	Rigshospitalet/University of Copenhagen
Eva Irene Bossano Prescott	Bispebjerg Hospital
Eva Ran Hoffmann	University of Copenhagen
Helle Prætorius Øhrwald	Aarhus University
Henrik Nielsen	Aalborg University Hospital
Inge Marie Svane	Herlev Hospital
Irene Petersen	Aarhus University, University College London
Jakob Balslev Sørensen	University of Copenhagen
Marianne Skovsager Andersen	University of Southern Denmark/University Hospital
Michael Lisby	University of Copenhagen
Nanna Brix Finnerup	Aarhus University
Niels Jessen	Steno Diabetes Center Aarhus, Aarhus University
Peter Rossing	Steno Diabetes Center Copenhagen
Shohreh Issazadeh-Navikas	University of Copenhagen
Thor Grundtvig Theander	University of Copenhagen
Torben A. Kruse	Odense University Hospital

Independent Research Fund Denmark
Technology and Production Sciences (FTP)

Independent Reseach Fund Denmark | Technology and Production Sciences funds researchers carrying out basic research within technology and production sciences which is: a) motivated by a specific problem or by a clear application-oriented perspective, and b) aimed at solving a specific problem, developing new technologies and production systems or new ways of meeting the needs of society. Projects must contri- bute significantly to ground-breaking research, but epistemological research without any application-oriented perspectives is outside the scope of the council.

Christian Vestergaard Poulsen	NKT Photonics A/S
Dennis Sandris Nielsen	University of Copenhagen
Hanne Mørck Nielsen	University of Copenhagen
Jens Honoré Walther	Technical University of Denmark
Keld Johansen	Haldor Topsoe A/S
Lis Wollesen de Jonge	Aarhus University
Marianne Thomsen	University of Copenhagen
Michael Havbro Faber-Nielsen	Aalborg University
Mogens Brøndsted Nielsen	University of Copenhagen
Morten Petersen	University of Copenhagen
Peter Balling (Board chairman)	Aarhus University
Peter Ruhdal Jensen	Technical University of Denmark
Preben Dybdahl Thomsen	University of Copenhagen
Stephen Edward Rees	Aalborg University
Stine Jacobsen	University of Copenhagen
Susanne Brix Pedersen	Technical University of Denmark
Susanne Bødker	Aarhus University
Thomas Bak	Aalborg University

Independent Research Fund Denmark
Cross-council Committee

Independent Research Fund Denmark | Cross-council Committee comprises representatives from all five research councils and coordinates the handling procedure for applications that fall in between the councils' delimitations. The cross-council committee also funds applications that are considered to be truly cross-council (see section 5.5), as well as applications to Sapere Aude: DFF-Starting Grant and Non-university Research Education (PhD).

Anne-Marie Søndergaard Christensen	Chairman of DFF | **Humanities**	University of Southern Denmark
Henrik Grum Kjærgaard	Chairman of DFF | **Natur og Univers**	University of Copenhagen
Marianne Simonsen	Chairman of DFF | **Social Sciences**	Aarhus University
Anders Fink-Jensen	Chairman of DFF | **Medical Sciences**	Psychiatric Center Copenhagen
Peter Balling	Chairman of DFF | **Technology and Production Sciences**	Aarhus University

EXPERT COMMITTEES

As a part of the political settlement about the Research Reserve for 2022 it was decided to grant funding to thematic research in the Independent Research Fund Denmark. The funds were allocated to Strengthened clinical and independent research and Green research. These funds were granted by two expert committees set up for the purpose for 2022.

Independent Research Fund Denmark
Thematic research - Green research (2022)

The expert committee DFF | Thematic research - Green research (2022) has been established with the purpose to grant funding to the green, independent, and curiosity-driven reseach in Denmark through a competitive process.

Alena Bartonova	Norwegian Institute for Air Research
Ann Muggeridge	Imperial College London
Clare Saunders	University of Exeter
Dale Southerton	University of Bristol
Georgios M. Kontogeorgis	Technical University of Denmark
Helena Kahiluoto	LUT University (Lappeenranta-Lahti University of Technology)
Henrik Balslev	Aarhus University
Ida Lykke Fabricius	Technical University of Denmark
Irena Creed	University of Toronto
Jan Kofod Schjørring (Board vice-chairman)	University of Copenhagen
Joacim Rocklöv	Umeå University/Heidelberg University
Jørgen Bruhn (Shared board chairman)	Linnaeus University, Sweden
Karen Hanghøj Sørensen	British Geological Survey
Lars Gyearsn Hansen	University of Copenhagen
Meryl Shriver-Rice	University of Miami
Ole John Nielsen	University of Copenhagen
Pia Quist	University of Copenhagen
Randi Starrfelt	University of Copenhagen
Stergios Adamopoulos	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Søren Rud Keiding (Shared board chairman)	Aarhus University

Independent Research Fund Denmark
Thematic research - Strengthened clinical and independent research (2022)

The expert committee DFF | Thematic research - Strengthened clinical and independent research (2022) has been established to grant funding for strengthened care clinical and independent research including independent and researcher-initiated trials, studies, etc. and in areas where there is limited commercial interest or opportunities for external funding, e.g. from research foundations.

Allan Vaag	University of Copenhagen
Annika Strandell	Göteborgs Universitet
Helena Skyt Nielsen	Aarhus University
Henrik Toft Sørensen (Board chairman)	Aarhus University
Ingrid Melle	University of Oslo/Oslo University Hospital
Mari Hysing	University of Bergen
Merete Nordentoft	University of Copenhagen
Peter Goadsby	King´s College London
Robert Unwin	University College London
Ruth Jepson	University of Edinburgh
Stefan Ecks	University of Edinburgh
Susanne Oksbjerg Dalton (Board vice-chairman)	University of Copenhagen

INDEPENDANT RESEARCH
FUND DENMARK

DANMARKS FRIE
FORSKNINGSFOND

ANNUAL REPORT 2022
Independent Research Fund Denmark annual report 2022
Photo: Adobe Stock, Claus Lillevang and Lone Rasmussen
Editorial: Karen Marie B. Vølund
Graphic design: Michael Kornmaaler

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH FUND DENMARK
DANISH AGENCY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENCE
Asylgade 7
5000 Odense C
Phone: +45 72 31 82 00
E-mail: dff@ufm.dk
www.dff.dk

ISBN: 978-87-971823-2-1