**Funding line “INNOVATION” – call 2021/2022**

**Focus: Cooperative Research**

Exploring nature at different distance scales, to understand how the building blocks of matter interact and how structure and dynamics evolves are key research interests of the transdisciplinary research area “Building Blocks of Matter and Fundamental Interactions (TRA Matter)”. As part of the Strategy of Excellence, TRA Matter offers at the University Bonn an explorative network for scientists beyond different disciplines mainly focusing on the research areas particle physics, molecular sciences, quantum technology, and astronomy. The main goals of TRA Matter are to strengthen transdisciplinary exchange and global collaborations as well as to identify and to support innovative, future-oriented research projects.

The funding line “INNOVATION – Focus: Cooperative Research” of TRA Matter aims to provide stimulus and seed funding particularly for novel and future-oriented ideas along inter- and transdisciplinary interfaces. The innovative and cooperative character of the proposal is the most important requirement for funding. Therefore, creating an impact for the development of new cooperative projects and future, third-party funded, integrated research initiatives within TRA “Matter” and/or at the interface to other TRAs is ideal. A continuation of already established projects or projects well within past research trajectories will not be funded.

Each successful proposal will be funded with **50.000€**. This funding can be freely used for scientific personnel and/or consumables over a period of 1 year (at least until end of 2022) within DFG funding regulations. Concerning personnel please note the guidelines on ”good employment conditions” at the University of Bonn.

The proposal should contain a rough spending plan as well as a convincing and conclusive description of the planned project. The applicant may choose the most appropriate way to present their ideas but the written proposal (including figures) must not exceed 2 pages including all material (DIN A4). There is no mandatory formatting, but applicants should make clear the state of the art and outline how the proposal goes beyond it. In addition, the proposal should describe the added value arising from the inter/transdisciplinary research to be carried out and, if applicable, specify the project partners and their complementarity. A balanced description of feasibility and a risk assessment should be included. The proposal should be concise, but should be understandable without additional resources.

**Guidelines for application**

**Application Deadline**

15.09.2021
Who can apply?
- All members of the TRA Matter (with main affiliation University of Bonn)

Questions regarding eligibility? Please contact Dr. Birgit Westernströer, tra2-matter@uni-bonn.de

Selection criteria will be:
- Innovativeness
- Inter-, ideally transdisciplinary character
- Quality of the proposed project
- Qualification of the applicant(s) for this project
- Potential to create impact for future collaborative research and third-party funding initiatives within TRA “Matter”

Negative criteria are:
- Projects well within current research trajectories
- Continuations of running projects

Guidelines
- The application should contain a summary (max. 200 words) and the description of the proposal (not more than 2 pages), as well as a CV of the applicant(s).
- Funds cannot be transferred to external institutions. In case of cooperative projects, the administration of funds will have to be carried out by the Bonn university partner.
- A final report will have to be submitted at the latest three months after the end of the project to the TRA manager. Presentation of results in a seminar for TRA members is expected.
- The Steering Committee of the TRA Matter will review the proposals and decide about funding. Steering Committee members with conflict of interest will be excluded from final decisions.

Please submit your application in one PDF file to tra2-matter@uni-bonn.de until 15.09.2021. For questions, please contact the TRA manager Dr. Birgit Westernströer(tra2-matter@uni-bonn.de).