Promising innovation projects by non-university research institutions often fail on their way to market due to a shortage of financial resources. Knowledge of new financing concepts is limited and alternative means for research funding remain, until today, largely unexplored.

Since March 2016, the experts from the Leipzig Fraunhofer Center have been coordinating the research project „New Approaches to Financing Research – The Matching Concept“ sponsored by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and supervised by the DLR Project Management Agency. The aim of the two-year undertaking is to develop an inventive method connecting promising innovative projects by non-university research institutes with well suited investors.

With a special focus on environmental science projects, interactive matching formats will be analyzed to create a new financing model for an improved transfer to market in Germany and to verify its social relevance.

Using expert interviews, in particular with capital providers possessing suitable financing instruments and interdisciplinary research institutions, key players are involved in the development of the matching concept from the onset.

An expert workshop in Erfurt and a large-scale event in Berlin are expected to effectively set impulses for implementing a suitable matching model; and that in turn will jolt the developed financing model into action.
Contractor

Two institutes from the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft are working together on the project: The Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy IMW in Leipzig and the Fraunhofer Institute for Wind Energy and Energy System Technology IWES in Kassel. Fraunhofer IMW is coordinating the research project.

Project Duration
3/1/2016 - 2/28/2018

The Matching Concept

Innovators

Non-University Research Institutes
some examples:
Helmholtz Association
Max Plank Society
Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft
Leibniz Association

Users

Market Feedback
Lead User
Acceptance Research

Investors

Classic Investors:
Family Offices
Venture Capital
Business Angel

Alternative Investors:
Crowdfunding
Future Funds
Cooperatives

Graphic: Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy IMW