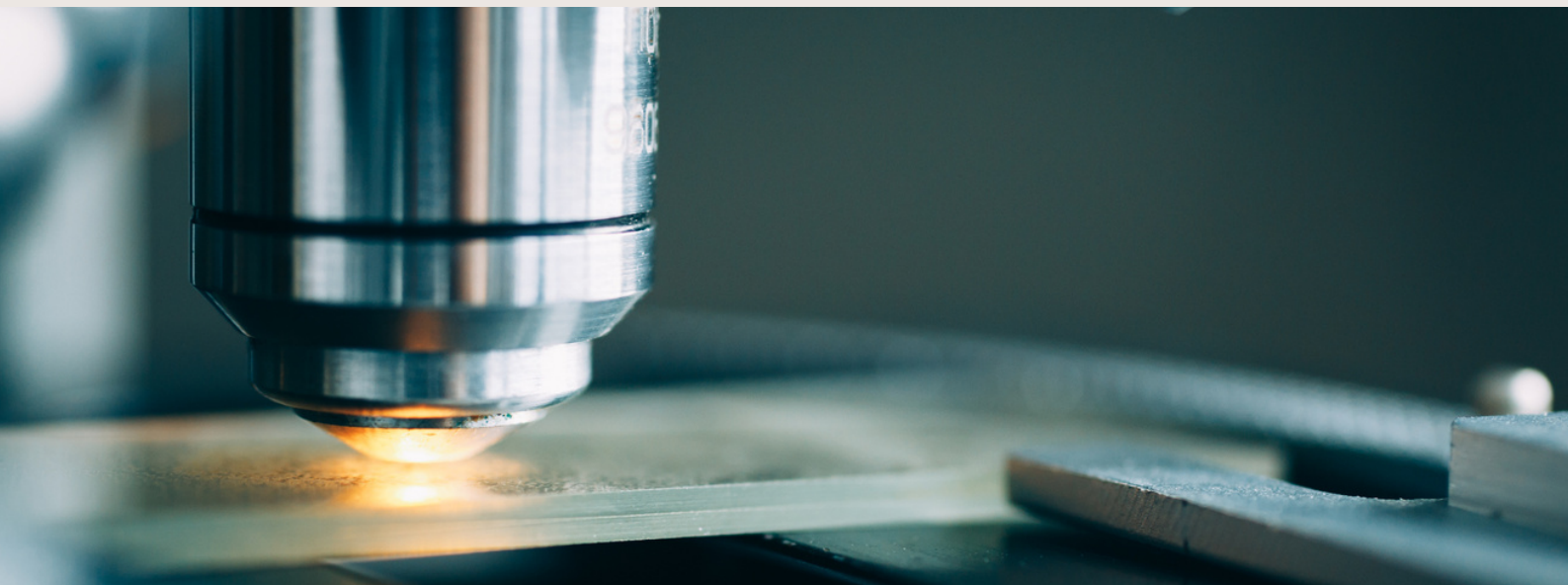


# RLS-SCIENCES

## SPRING EDITION NEWSLETTER



## RLS-SCIENCES SPRING

15 JUNE, 2022

Throughout the winter months, the RLS-Sciences network and the 4+1 projects continued their work and prepared for the RLS-Sciences April Digital Week. From 4-8 April, for two hours each day, the network met online to exchange on the overall topic of "Sustainable and Resilient Regional Recoveries". The model of the RLS-Sciences Digital Week, first demonstrated in June 2021, was consolidated with this edition in April 2022. It provides RLS-Sciences with a new instrument for creating continuity of network cooperation and work.

A further key aspect for continuity of work, especially research work, is funding. As shared by Dr. Florence Gauzy, Lead Management Partner, "Research funding is an essential part of scientific work. RLS-Sciences groups have been very successful in acquiring research grants. To support their efforts, the management group operates a dedicated funding tool online. It is now time to consolidate our achievements in creating more sustainable access to funding among the regions, and we are well prepared to take this step together."

In this edition, we have highlighted some of the available opportunities to support our next steps together, building on the April Digital Week and bridging to our next Overall Conference in September. We hope you find inspiration here!

- Fiona Rumohr, RLS-Sciences Management Team

RLS-SCIENCES  
SPRING NEWSLETTER

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# RLS-SCIENCES

## APRIL DIGITAL WEEK 2022

The RLS-Sciences April Digital Week 2022 took place from 4 - 8 April, 2022, hosted by Bavaria. Over the course of the week, the RLS-Sciences Network met virtually for 2 hours each day. The overarching theme for the week was "Sustainable and Resilient Regional Recoveries".

Altogether, a total of 112 participants from all seven RLS partner regions joined to listen to over 30 speakers who presented on advanced air mobility, energy security and systems resilience, data-use possibilities for pico-satellites, and regional digital health initiatives.

The April Digital Week created a key opportunity to expand the RLS-Sciences network to include new partners, new speakers, and new participants, including for the preparations in the soon-to-be-launched Digital Health Initiative. Even for the RLS-Sciences pilot project, the Energy Network, the virtual conference afforded the chance to recruit and exchange among new researchers and representatives.

The conference simultaneously offered a chance to consolidate and further existing work. The Global Aerospace Campus gave a teaser presentation for the new e-Learning course on "Urban Air Mobility", and had presentations from the course instructors and core researchers. The Small Satellites group moved closer to their launch, and gave a first presentation on the establishment of an RLS-Sciences user community for the data they will generate from orbit.

The support and facilitation of international scientific cooperation was a transversal theme throughout the week, and is an important topic in RLS-Sciences generally. Among the speakers and participants of the week were heads and representatives of key regional funding agencies, including the São Paulo Research Foundation and the Fonds de Recherche du Québec. RLS-Sciences newly appointed vice-president São Paulo, Prof. João Azevedo, says about the April Digital Week, "It was a pleasure to take part in my first RLS-Sciences activity as vice president for São Paulo. FAPESP has been involved in RLS-Sciences from its inception, as we have great interest in international collaboration and the resources to support it. FAPESP is committed to reaching the next level of multilateral cooperation in RLS-Sciences, and I look forward to supporting these efforts."

*"FAPESP is committed to reaching the next level of multilateral cooperation in RLS-Sciences, and I look forward to supporting these efforts."*

*- Prof. João Azevedo*

The Digital Week allowed for the research groups and the Overall Management Team to come together, and to set the stage for the next RLS-Sciences Meeting, which will be held in person in Herrsching, Bavaria from 18-21 September, 2022 at the invitation of Bavaria.



Image Credit:

WKS Bayern-Québec/Alberta/International,  
2022

# FUNDING SPECIAL: PART ONE- OPPORTUNITIES HIGHLIGHT

## DFG Scientific Networks



**Deadline:** open call

**Thematic Focus:** Open

**Link:** Find more details [here](#)

Scientific networks offer researchers at all career stages the opportunity to engage in 3-year scientific exchange and cooperation on a topic area of their choice across locations, with the aim of achieving a specific outcome. Funds a group of 10 to 20 people, half of which must be working at German institutions, the other half can be researchers in institutions abroad (in the partner regions, for example). Funding includes travel and maintenance costs for work meetings of network members (full group or individual members) and for thematically relevant guests, other costs (to support coordination) and publication costs.

## Best international practice for scaling up sustainable biofuels



HORIZON EUROPE

**Deadline:** 10 January, 2023

**Thematic Focus:** Energy

**Link:** Find more details [here](#)

The need to include sustainable biofuels in a transformed integrated energy system is recognized worldwide. Proposals will aim at fostering international cooperation to develop best practices and concepts along the entire value chain for accelerating the scale-up of sustainable biofuels worldwide. International cooperation with Mission Innovation countries is expected. Enhancing the European global role in this area will increase the potential to export European renewable fuel technologies into global developing markets, and improve sustainability of biofuel value chains worldwide while supporting EU goals for climate change mitigation in 2030 and 2050.

## ATM application-oriented research for U-space and urban air mobility.



HORIZON EUROPE

**Deadline:** 13 October, 2022

**Thematic Focus:** Aerospace

**Link:** Find more details [here](#)

U-space provides an unparalleled opportunity to experiment, test and validate some of the key architectural principles and technology enablers of the future digital European sky before incorporating them into the broader ATM ecosystem. It will accelerate the digital transformation of the European ATM system while opening the way to the safe integration of new vehicles into the airspace. Key outcomes will be addressed regarding environment, passenger experience, capacity, cost-efficiency, operational efficiency, safety, and security.

## Accelerating research through international network-to-network collaborations



**Deadline:** 10 October, 2022

**Thematic Focus:** Open

**Link:** Find more details [here](#)

The AccelNet program supports strategic linkages among U.S. research networks and complementary networks abroad that will leverage research and educational resources to tackle grand research challenges that require significant coordinated international efforts. The program seeks to foster high-impact science and engineering by providing opportunities to cooperatively identify and coordinate efforts to address knowledge gaps and research needs. Each network of networks is expected to engage in innovative collaborative activities that promote synergy of efforts across networks.

## Clinical Partnerships Global



**Deadline:** 27 June, 2022

**Thematic Focus:** Healthcare

**Link:** Find more details [here](#).

Partnerships between German healthcare organizations and institutions in low- or middle-income partner countries are funded in the "Global" funding line. Professionals from the medical and healthcare sector are supported in exchanging knowledge, experience and innovative concepts across national borders. South-Africa and Brasil are eligible; clinical partnerships with China can only be funded if they are implemented as a triangular cooperation in another developing country (especially in Africa). Eligible costs include travel and training costs, as well as materials and equipment, and administrative costs. Excluded are human resources costs, major construction activities, and research activities.



# FUNDING SPECIAL: PART TWO- REGIONAL FUNDING AGENCIES HIGHLIGHT

## Georgia Research Alliance



The Georgia Research Alliance (GRA) is a non-profit, public-private partnership that partners with the Georgia Department of Economic Development and the University System of Georgia, which includes 8 Georgia universities and colleges. Since 1991, the State of Georgia has provided the GRA with 661 million USD, which it has used to attract 7.8 billion USD in research grants, venture capital, and matching funds.

The GRA also supports the launch of start-ups out of Georgia's research ecosystem through seed funding and a dedicated Venture Fund. Through the GRA, Georgia's public and private universities and colleges collaborate more intensively and are able to share research infrastructure and equipment. This aspect is especially key to securing national funding for Georgia research institutions. Read more about the GRA [here](#), or learn about the GRA Academy of Scientists [here](#).

## Québec Research Fund

Since 2011, Québec's three research funds have been grouped together under the name Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ) with a shared administration. The three research funds, which mirror Canada's three main thematic research agencies, are: Nature and technologies, health, and society and culture. The mandate of FRQ is to promote and financially support research, knowledge dissemination, and researcher training in Québec.



Further, FRQ creates opportunities for Québec researchers to participate in international calls through its role as financial partner or co-funder. Examples include European research networks ERA-NETs and EJPs, among others. Read more about FRQ [here](#), or review the FRQ-Health participant call for ERAPerMED 2022 [here](#).

## São Paulo Research Foundation



São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) is a public foundation serving the state of São Paulo with the mandate to provide grants, funds, and programs to support research, education, and innovation in the state. The foundation is maintained by regular, constitutionally protected endowments from the state government, which are guaranteed as a fixed percentage from the state's tax revenue.

FAPESP also earns its own revenue, in addition to the monthly payments received from the government. FAPESP is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, and throughout its 60 years has maintained a large number of cooperation agreements with international partners, from national and international research agencies, high education and research institutions, and businesses. These include many relevant funding agencies in the RLS partner regions. Read more about FAPESP [here](#), or read about the FAPESP Visiting Researcher Award [here](#).