



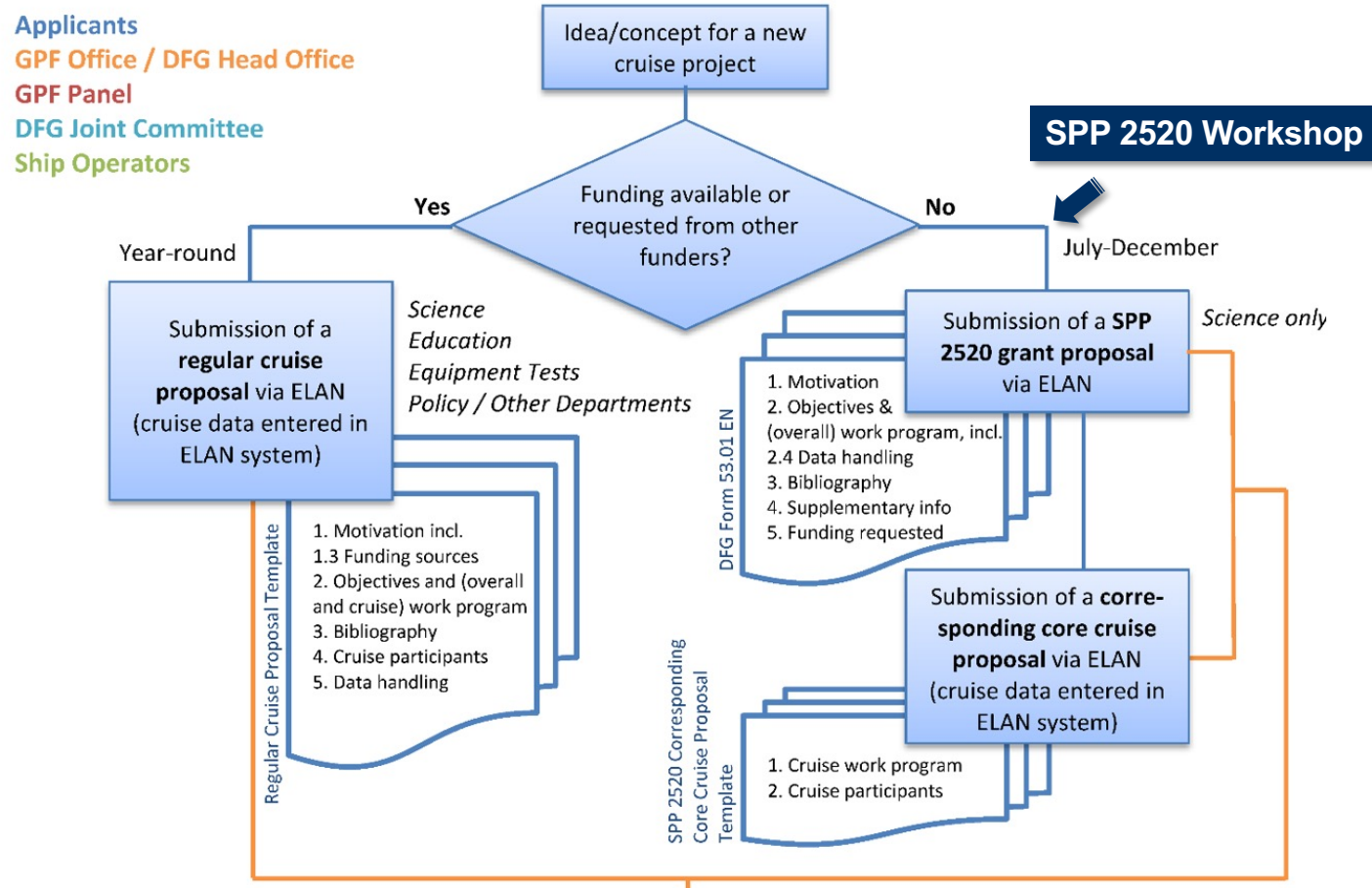
SPP 2520 Research Vessels

Proposal Preparation and
Review Process

Kristian Sudmann
Hamburg, May 11, 2026

Review Process – Types of Proposals and Proposal Structures

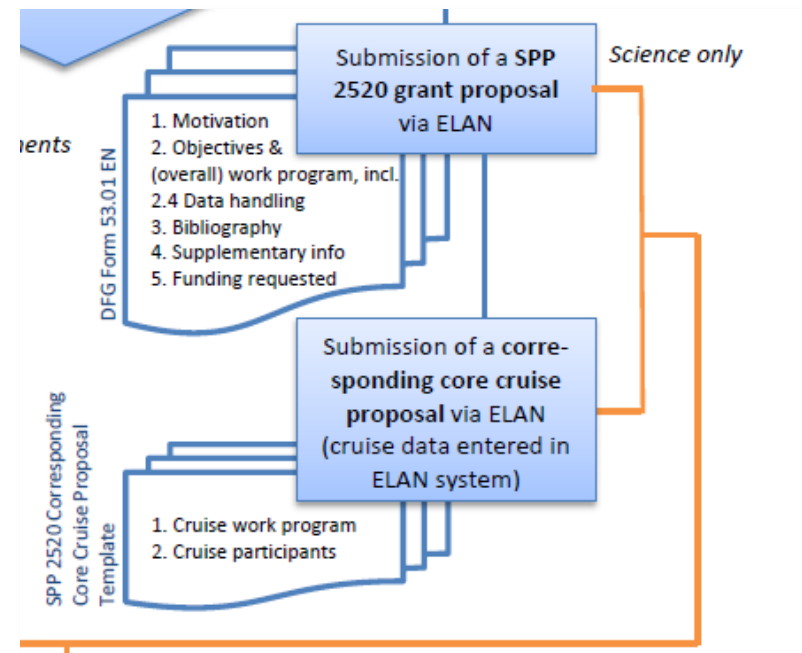
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Review Process – Types of Proposals and Proposal Structures

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- ▶ SPP 2520 Cruise Proposals have **two elements**
 - ▶ SPP 2520 Grant Proposal (with DFG reference number for each applicant)
 - ▶ Corresponding Core Cruise Proposal – GPF reference number (to be used for cruise scheduling)
- ▶ Both elements are **reviewed as a unit**
- ▶ GPF Review Panel will vote on each proposal; formally, DFG Joint Committee will have the final decision in June
- ▶ Funding will start in **January 2028** earliest



Review Process – Types of Proposals and Proposal Structures

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Proposal Submission

Review Process

New Project

Electronic proposals can be submitted for the funding instruments listed in the categories below. Electronic forms for proposals to be submitted within Research Units or proposal packages can be found under "Proposal Overview/Renewal/Full Proposal".

For all other programmes, please submit a hard copy of your proposal by mail. For more information, please refer to http://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/programmes/.

Completing an electronic proposal:

1. **Guidelines and instructions** (left column): Please read through the programme's guidelines and instructions before preparing your proposal.
2. **Templates** (right column): Please complete the appropriate template for your project description. If you cannot use the templates as provided, please follow its prescribed structure.
3. **Electronic proposal form** (Button "Start online form"): Please complete the electronic proposal form. You will be asked to provide the project title and summary in both German and English and upload any attachments as required.

Individual Grants Programme

Cluster of Excellence

Research Training Groups and International Research Training Groups

Research Impulses

Special Programmes for International Cooperation

Priority Programmes

Proposal for a new project within a Priority Programme

→ Start online form

Guidelines and Instructions	Templates
→ Guidelines Priority Programmes	→ Project Description - Project Proposal
→ Proposal Preparation Instructions - Project Proposals	→ CV with publications

Proposal to Establish a Priority Programme (deactivated until 16 October 2025)

→ Start online form

Guidelines and Instructions	Templates
→ Guidelines and Proposal Preparation Instructions for Priority Programmes	→ Initiative to Establish a Priority Programme
	→ CV with publications

Proposal for a new project within a Priority Programme

Proposal Data

* required fields

Please select the Priority Programme to which you would like to apply. The list only contains current calls for proposals.

Priority Programme: *

– please select –

– please select –

SPP 1006/31 - SPP 1006/31 (ICDP)

SPP 2299/2 - Coral Reefs

SPP 2520/3 – Research Vessels

SPP 2556/1 - LaSTing

SPP 2575/1 - Agri-Food Chains

Programme Information

Proposal Data

Applicants

Other Participating Individuals

Participating Institutions

Concluding Information

Attach Documents

Review Process – Types of Proposals and Proposal Structures

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The screenshot shows the DFG website's 'New Project' section. It includes instructions for submitting electronic proposals and a list of funding programs. The 'GPF Cruise Proposal' section is highlighted, showing a 'Start online form' button and a list of templates. The 'SPP 2520 Corresponding Core Cruise Proposal Template' is circled in red.

New Project

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GPF Cruise Proposal → Start online form

Templates

- Regular Cruise Proposal Template
- SPP 2520 Corresponding Core Cruise Proposal Template
- CV with publications

Begutachtungspanel Forschungsschiffe: Research Vessels – GPF Cruise Proposal → Start online form

Guidelines and Instructions

- Cruise Proposal Preparation Instructions

Templates

- Regular Cruise Proposal Template
- SPP 2520 Corresponding Core Cruise Proposal Template
- CV with publications

- Please refer to the **Cruise Proposal Preparation Instructions** (most recent version – currently 4.1)
- **Title, acronym, authors, and abstract** of the Corresponding Core Cruise Proposal need to be identical to those of the SPP 2520 Grant Proposal
- For CVs, use DFG form 53.200 (in English) and add the following under “Qualifications and Career”:
 - **List of all cruise participations** during the last 5 years
 - **List of all cruise leads as chief scientist** during the entire academic career

Proposal Preparation – Project Duration and Funding

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- ▶ Applicants are asked to apply for the maximum project duration (3 years) in order to gain flexibility regarding cruise scheduling / reporting on status conferences
- ▶ In principle, all funding modules offered can be applied for; usual expedition costs in **basic module**
- ▶ Only positions for **initial evaluation** (usually one postdoc for 1-2 years) can be applied for, when well justified
- ▶ **Budget for expedition costs** does not need to be calculated down to the Euro in order to gain flexibility regarding price changes (but has to be realistic)

Please state the duration for which you request funding. Note the maximum funding period per proposal in the programme for which you are applying.

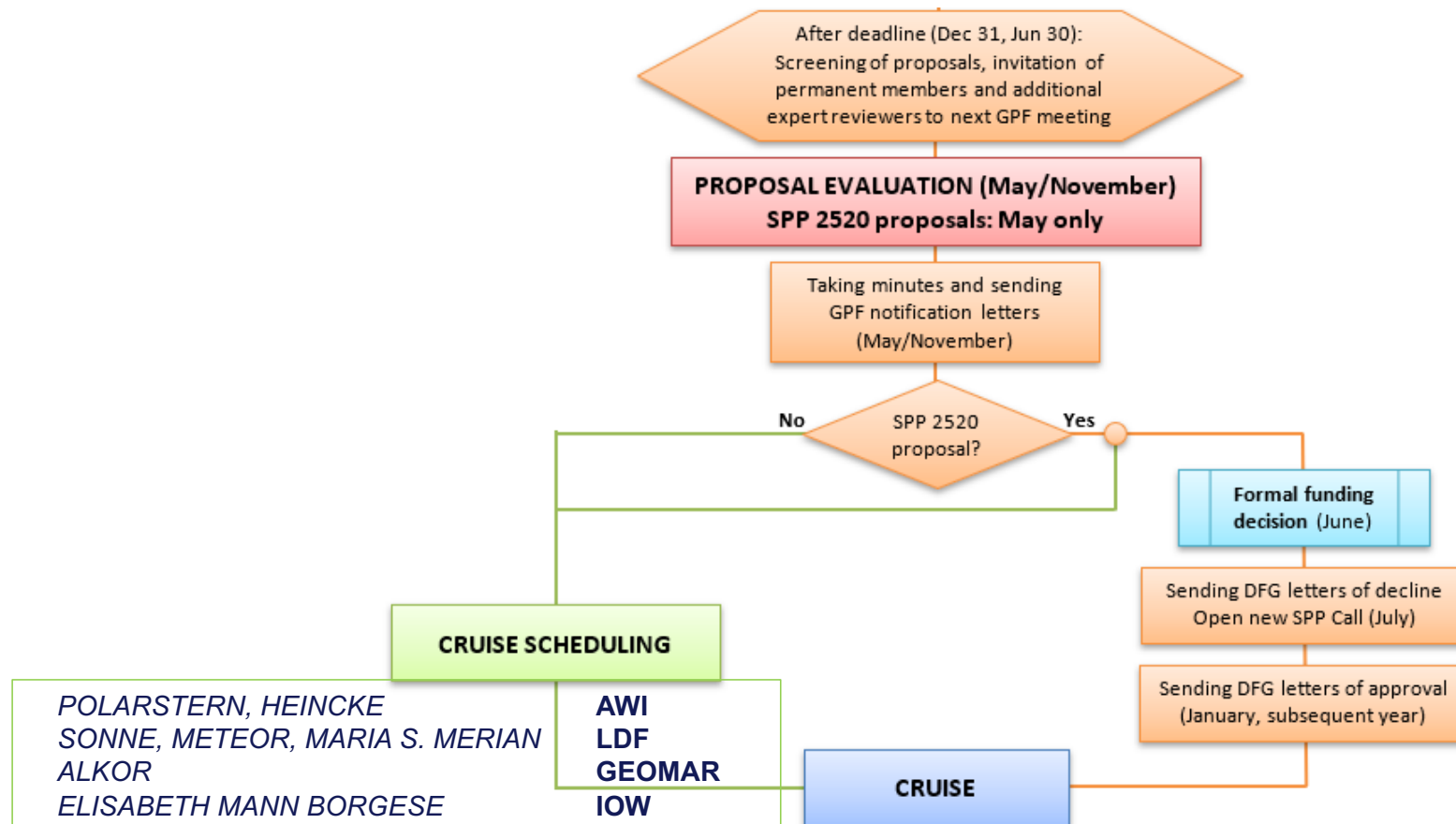
Postdoctoral Researcher or Comparable

Number	Months *	Part-Time (%) *
1	12	100
+ New row(s)		

Equipment up to EUR 10,000, Software and Consumables	12500	EUR
Travel	65000	EUR
Visiting Researchers (excluding Mercator Fellows)		EUR
Experimental Animals		EUR
Other	38000	EUR

Review Process – Decision and Cruise Scheduling

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Call for Proposals SPP 2520/3

- ▶ **Call announcement in July 2026**
([DFG, German Research Foundation - Information for Researchers](#))
- ▶ Submission deadline **02 December, 2026**
- ▶ **Formal checks and panel compilation** by end of February, 2027; provision of proposals to the reviewers
- ▶ Review panel meeting on **May 4-5, 2027**
- ▶ **GPF Notification Letters** and **DFG Decision Letters for declined proposals** will be sent out in June 2027
- ▶ **DFG Decision Letters for funded proposals** will be sent out in January 2028 (beginning of the fiscal year)



More Information:

www.portal-forschungsschiffe.de

www.dfg.de

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DFG Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft



www.dfg.de



Bluesky | [@dfg.de](https://bsky.app/@dfg.de)



Instagram | [dfg_public](https://www.instagram.com/dfg_public)



LinkedIn | Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft
(DFG) – German Research Foundation



Mastodon | [@dfg_public](https://mastodon.social/@dfg_public)



YouTube | [@DFGbewegt](https://www.youtube.com/@DFGbewegt)

- ▶ Please use and **do not delete the tables** from the Corresponding Core Cruise Proposal template (sections 1.1, 1.4, and 2). Slight modifications are acceptable.
- ▶ Please **make all entries in ELAN in English** (even if you use the German UI version).
- ▶ Please respect the **page limits** (17+8 for the SPP Grant Proposal, 8 for the Corresponding Core Cruise Proposal, 4 for the CVs).
- ▶ Please use DFG form 53.200 for the CVs and **do not forget the two cruise experience lists** under “Qualifications and Career”.
- ▶ Please **be consistent regarding the work days at sea** in all proposal parts (SPP Grant Proposal, Corresponding Core Cruise Proposal, ELAN). **Do not add the transit time** from and to the harbour to the work days. If you are a **secondary user and do not request extra work days** in addition to the main cruise, **enter “0”** in ELAN.
- ▶ Please **eliminate redundant funding requests** (e.g., travel costs both in the equipment quote and again in the travel funds) before submission.
- ▶ Please do not forget to **submit the Corresponding Core Cruise Proposal under “Cruise Proposals”** in ELAN.