

Danish National Research Foundation 1991-2011

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**CELEBRATING
20 YEARS OF FUNDING
EXCELLENT RESEARCH**

Thomas Sinkjær
Director
20th anniversary of the D NRF, October 28 2011

Danish National
Research Foundation

Niels Bohr Visiting Professor Dale Mortensen Recipient of the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences

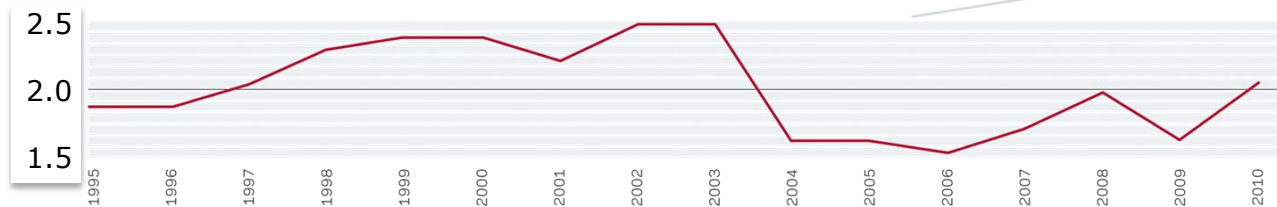
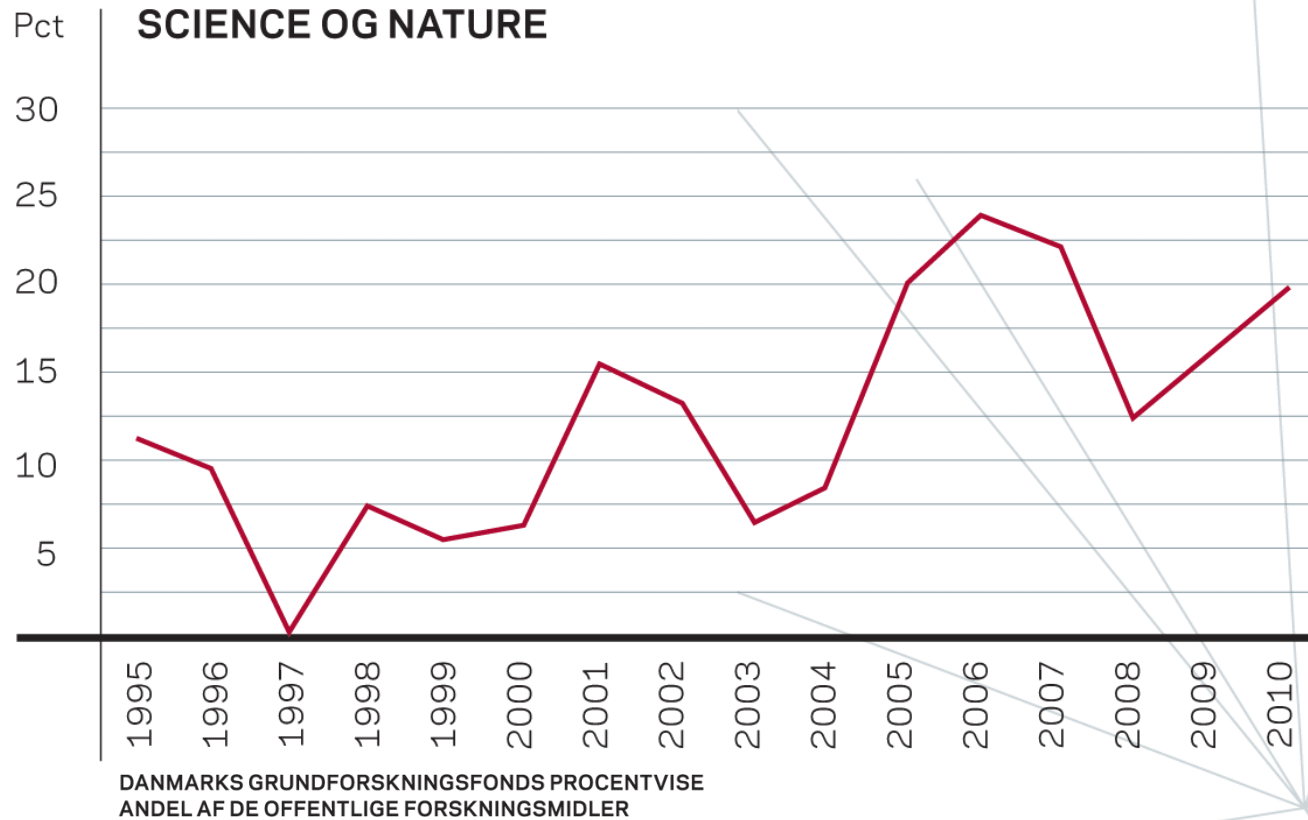


“Research is ultimately a joint exercise, and very few researchers produce groundbreaking results all by themselves. It is therefore important to gather together competent researchers who can pool their resources, build on each other’s results and ask the key questions in a dynamic interchange.” (Dale Mortensen)

Impact of DNRF grants

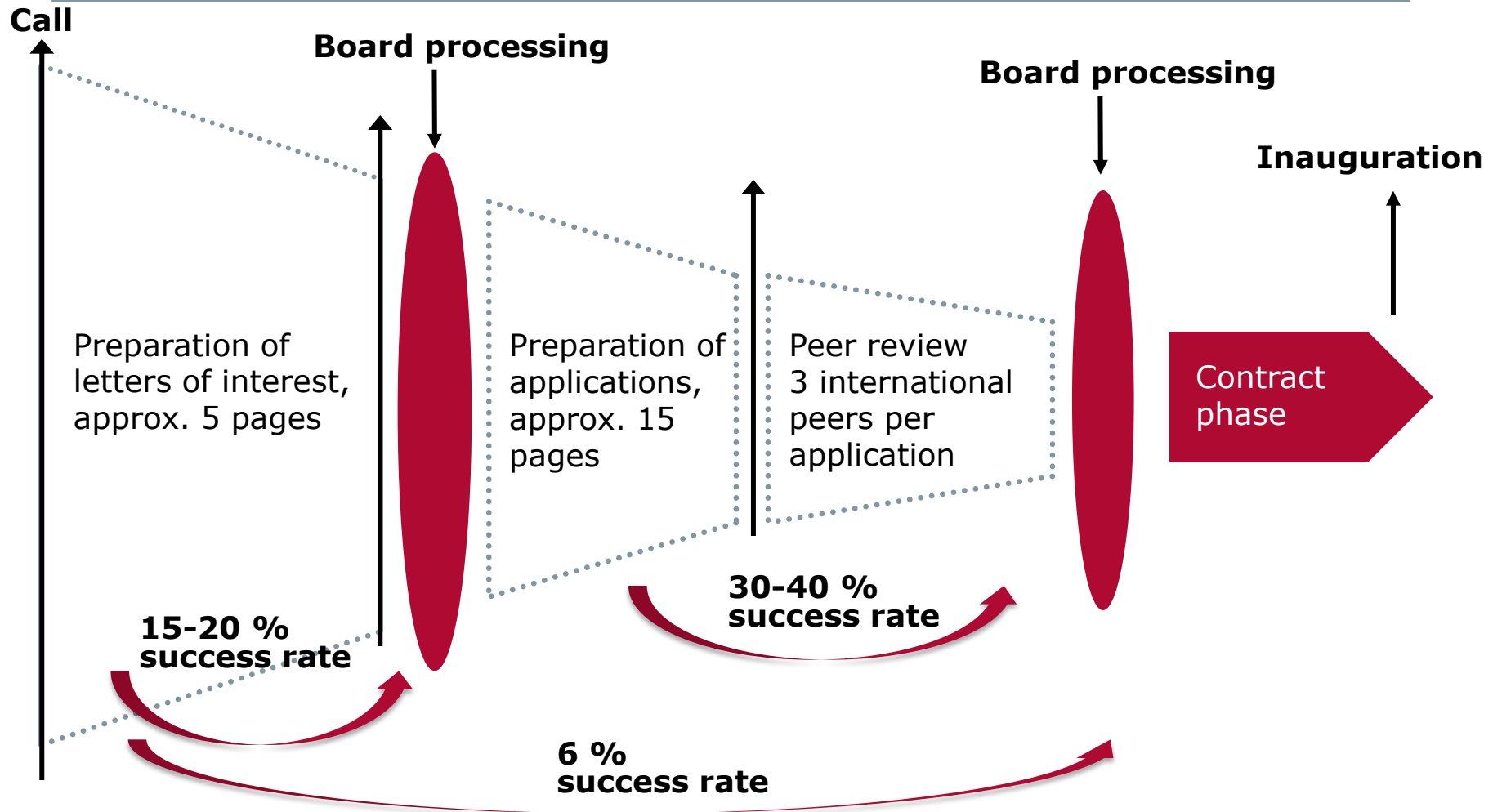
- DNRF host 2% of total public spending on R&D
- In 2006-2010 center leaders contributed to 15% of the articles and reviews in “top 10 journals” by Danish authors (affiliation at Danish institutions). In Nature and Science the contribution was 22%.
- 16 % of all patent applications from public institutions in Denmark came from DNRF Centers of Excellence in 2010.
- Strong international research and training environment. 34% of all PhD students and 60% of all post docs were from abroad in 2010.
- 9 of the 12 Advanced Research Grants from ERC to Denmark has been awarded to key-researchers at DNRF Centers of Excellence

How have DNRF CoE performed over the last 20 years?



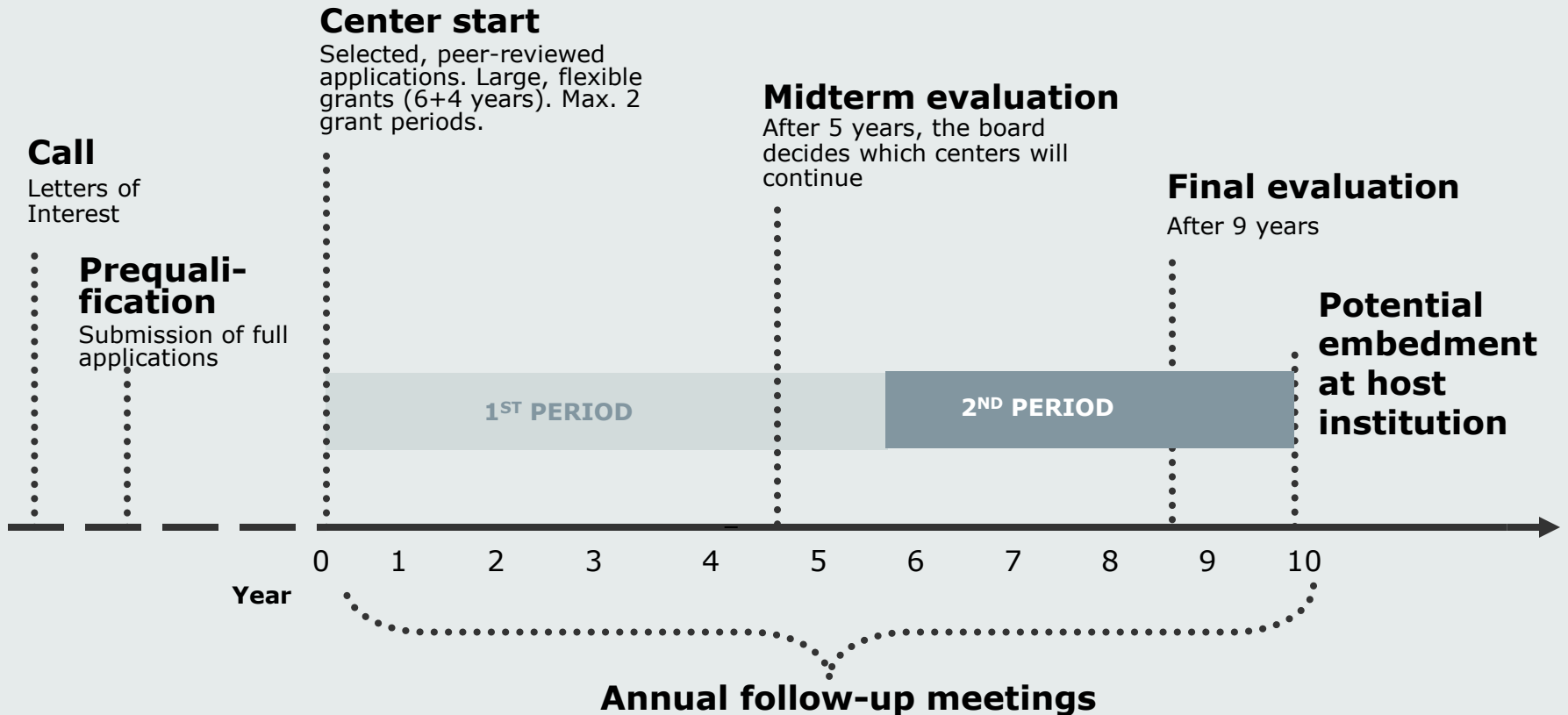
Can we do better?

The Selection Process



Can we do better?

Life Cycle of a Center of Excellence



- The size of centers varies from 15 to +60 persons
- The size of grants varies from 60 to 120 million DKK incl. 44 % overhead for a 6+4 year period

Danish National Research Foundation

Focus on people

Excellence

Trust

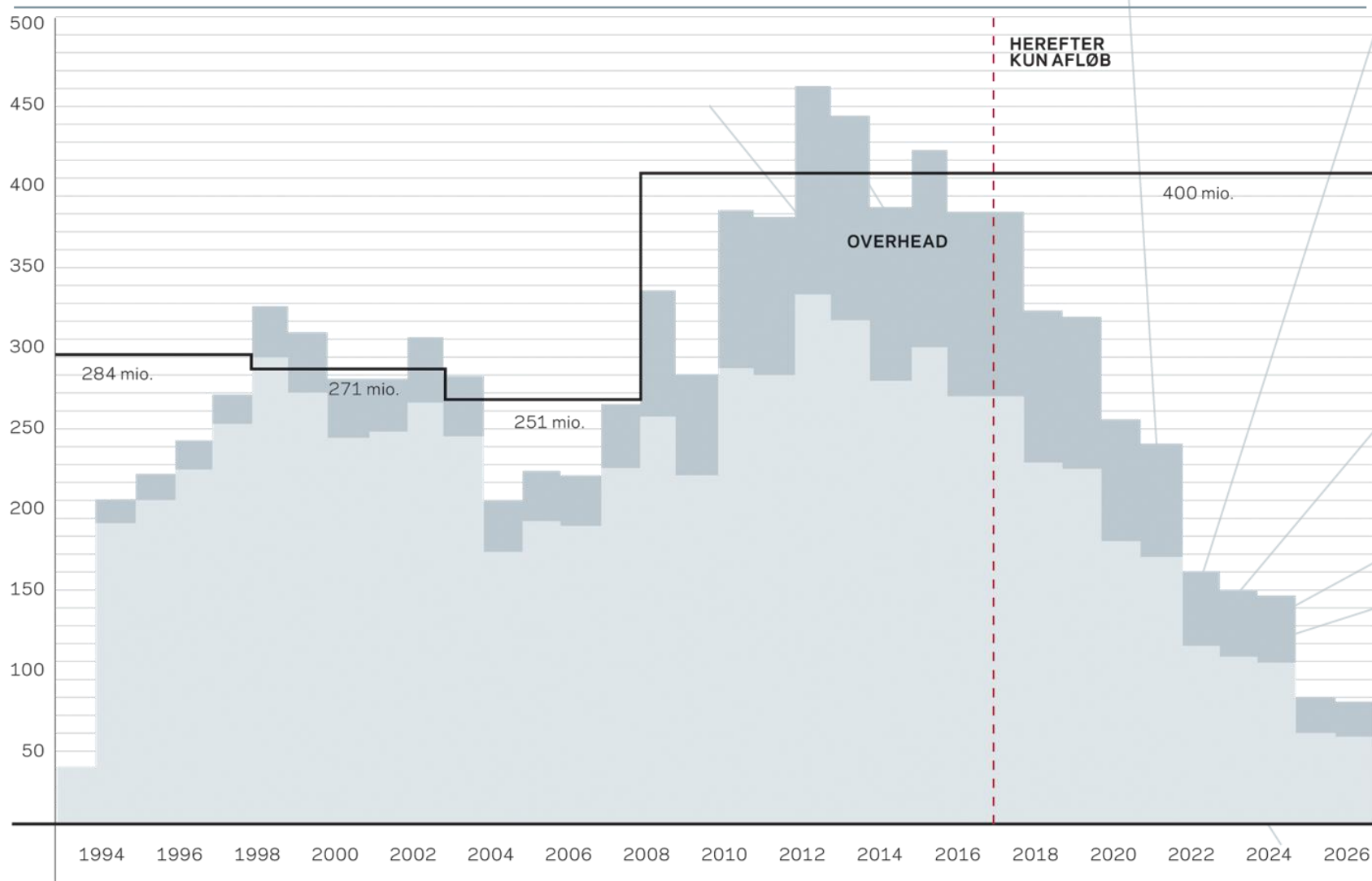
Transparency



17.30-18.00
Aperitif and
entertainment

18.00-21.00
Dinner and
coffee

MONEY MONEY MONEY...



Philosophy of DNRF: Focus on people

If you let the best people grapple with the problems they are passionate about, we set the stage for real scientific breakthroughs.

DNRF specifically calls for
'dream projects'



Can we do better?

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The DNRF Activities

The DNRF's primary means to strengthen Danish research:

Centres of Excellence (CoE)

Other DNRF activities

Niels Bohr Professorships
(new call is currently open!)

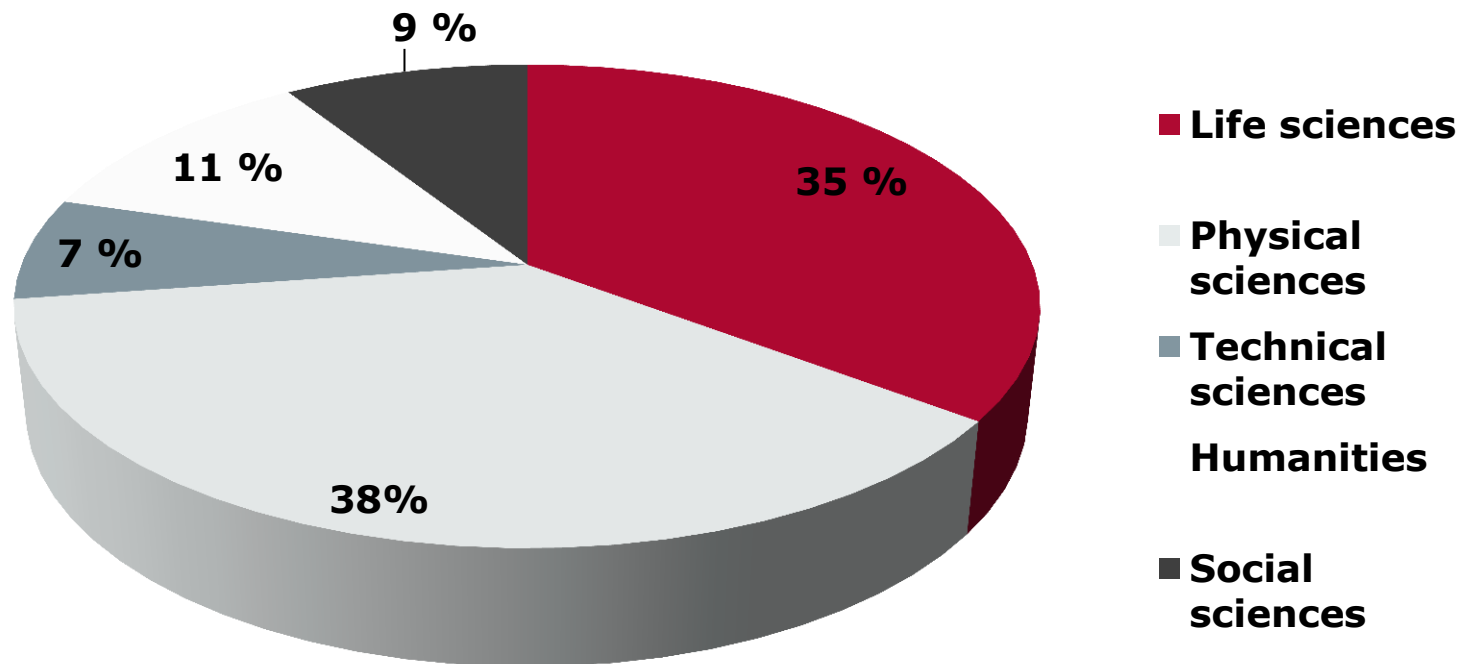
DNRF Professorships

International collaboration with
Max Planck Society, NSFC, CNRS, NSF

International Talent Recruitment Program

88 Centers Distributed Among Scientific Fields

The D NRF has so far funded 77 centers. At the moment 40 centers are active and 11 new centers will start operating from January 2012. The centers are funded for up to 10 years, typically with grants totaling 50-100 million DKK.



The DNRF CoEs are among the top 10 % in the World

At the midterm evaluation of CoEs started in 2005 and at final evaluation of CoEs started in 2001 the peers were asked to assess if a CoE were among Top 5 %, Top 10 % or Top 20 % within their field of research worldwide.

	Centers	Centers %	Panel members	Panel members %
Top 5 %	6	30	16	39
Top 10 %	14	70	22	54
Top 20 %	0	0	3	7
Below top 20 %	0	0	0	0
Total	20	100	41 (out of 60)	100

The DNRF CoEs are among the top 10 % in the World

Final evaluation

At the final evaluation of CoEs started in 2001 the peers were asked to assess if a CoE were among Top 5 %, Top 10 % or Top 20 % within their field of research worldwide.

	Centers	Centers %	Panel members	Panel members %
Top 5 %	1	17	4	29
Top 10 %	5	83	9	64
Top 20 %	0	0	1	7
Below top 20 %	0	0	0	0
Total	6	100	14 (out of 18)	100

The DNRF CoEs are among the top 10 % in the World

Midterm evaluation

At the midterm evaluation of CoEs started in 2005 the peers were asked to assess if a CoE were among Top 5 %, Top 10 % or Top 20 % within their field of research worldwide.

	Centers	Centers %	Panel members	Panel members %
Top 5 %	5	36	12	44
Top 10 %	9	64	13	48
Top 20 %	0	0	2	7
Below top 20 %	0	0	0	0
Total	14	100	27 (out of 42)	99
