Fraunhofer IKTS in figures

Budget and income

With € 83.3 million, the total budget of Fraunhofer IKTS exceeds the previous year's level by \in 7.7 million. At \in 17.7 million, the volume of investments has increased once again, by € 4.5 million. Thanks to strong support from several federal states, we were able to invest € 7.6 million in Thuringia while expanding our infrastructure in Saxony and Bavaria for another € 10 million. We are happy to report that we were able to implement the majority of our strategic procurement processes despite the Covid-19 pandemic. More equipment will be taken into operation in 2022.

All in all € 58.9 million of external income was raised. On account of the difficult situation faced by industry partners due to the Coronavirus pandemic, industry income has shrunk again by € 2.2 million, standing at € 18.5 million. We are pleased that approx. 45 % of jobs still come from small and medium-sized companies. Our industry partners placed orders to the total amount of € 3.3 million in the states of Saxony and Thuringia. All in all however, the pandemic still leads to a significantly reduced project demand and to many launch dates being pushed back. Fortunately, the fields of activity and project groups managed to continue through strategic projects of the federal and regional governments and prepare the ground for an auspicious relaunch of the topics after the pandemic. The infrastructure was optimized in nearly all areas.

Jobs from outside Germany shrunk disproportionately by 20 %, to € 3.6 million. Strong partner countries, such as China and Austria, were particularly affected, with orders and assignments receding by up to 30 %. The volume is distributed among 35 countries. The industry income from Great Britain shrank by more than 85 %. It is important to differentiate between the effects of Brexit and those of the pandemic. In total, income from Europe rose from € 4.7 million to € 5.9 million. The increased EU project volumes played a major part in this development.

The disparate costing approaches applied by the various funding bodies constitute another challenge. These disparities lead to insecurity when determining billable costs and financial planning. In the medium term, the Fraunhofer-wide introduction of SAP's ERP system is expected to alleviate this issue. The new system was taken into operation on January 10, 2022. Customers and suppliers are asked to take part in this unique digitizing

initiative of a research institution. As expected, the changeover of our systems constitutes a big challenge for Fraunhofer and its partners. IKTS is well-positioned to solve the existing challenges as soon as possible. Together with our partners, we will swiftly complete all tasks.

Human resources development

A total of approx. 800 staff members work at the various IKTS sites. The institute's family-friendly structure allows many young mothers and fathers to work part-time if they wish. Thanks to this structure, it has been possible to adapt staff capacity dynamically to suit the requirements of project tasks. Despite the pandemic, the employment coefficient rose by approx. 5 %. For increased comparability, the different groups are represented as full-time equivalents (FTE) in the figure. The number of scientists has increased by 35 positions and now stands at 291. Also, the number of technical assistants has increased to 315.

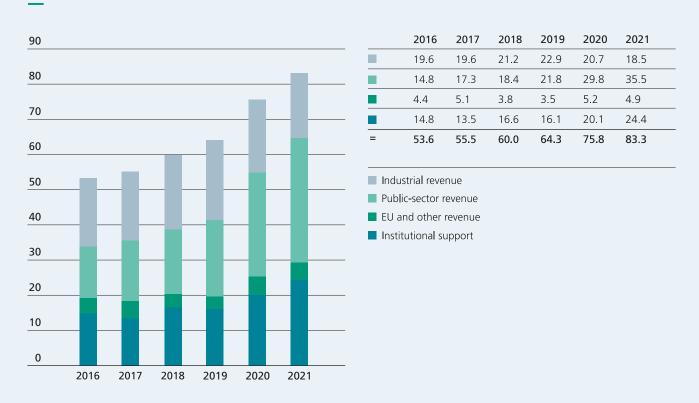
Doctoral theses continue to be written by employees in the context of PhD positions focused on a particular area (22), as well as in the context of project-related activities close to industry. In spite of working restrictions due to Covid-19 rules, the employment of students and trainees was roughly equal to that of 2020. It was possible to organize all IKTS lectures as planned.

Fraunhofer IKTS as an employer remains well positioned in the marketplace. However, finding and hiring staff in the scientific and administrative spheres will become one of the great challenges of the coming years.

Expanding the infrastructure

The infrastructure will be expanded in the context of long-term projects and with the strong support of the federal states of Saxony, Thuringia, Lower Saxony and Bavaria. The new sites are presented in detail in the annual report. Cooperation with other Fraunhofer institutes, universities and companies in various project centers remains a central plank in our strategy and will be strengthened further in future. The systemic approach will be pursued in all areas.

Revenue (in million euros) of Fraunhofer IKTS for the budget years 2016–2021



Personnel developments at Fraunhofer IKTS

Number of employees 2016–2021, full-time equivalents, personnel structure on December 31 of each year

