

Funke Quantum-Driven Intelligence

Type:	Funding programme
Submission deadline:	06-Sept-2026
Funded by:	SPRIN-D
Reach:	Germany

The following text does not reflect the entire content of the announcement, but contains individual extracts from the guideline.

Hello people with radical new ideas! We need breakthrough innovations that take quantum sensing one step further. We need quantum sensing that does not just measure, but understands. We need bold ideas. We need you.

Quantum sensors promise a new era of measurement technology. They provide data with previously unreachable precision. But precision alone is not enough. The real value emerges when this data is combined with additional information sources to generate entirely new insights.

That is what we are aiming for: connecting high-precision quantum sensor data with existing data sources, models, and sensor systems in order to unlock previously inaccessible, decision-relevant information.

The possibilities range from geological and satellite-based applications to climate, infrastructure, and security systems. Another promising approach is the enhancement of existing classical sensor systems - for example in autonomous driving - through the integration of quantum sensing.

The challenge: to develop practical applications or scenarios in which the integration of quantum sensing significantly improves existing systems, models, or analytical methods and delivers substantial added value.

In this SPRIND Funke, teams are invited to develop use cases in which quantum sensing fundamentally enhances existing systems. Both real and simulated quantum sensor data may be used. The goal is to demonstrate the added value quantum sensing can generate in specific scenarios — for example through higher precision, improved predictions, more robust navigation, or entirely new forms of data analysis.

Teams are free to define their own transformative use case. The goal is to uncover applications that would not be feasible - or would be significantly less powerful - without quantum sensing.

At the same time, the developed approaches should help derive tangible requirements for future quantum sensing technologies, particularly regarding necessary measurement accuracy, integrability, and suitable deployment scenarios. In this way, the Funke will not only deepen the understanding of potential applications, but also establish a robust foundation for the next generation of quantum sensing technologies.

We support: potential breakthrough innovations

Teams participating in this Funke are fully challenged. SPRIND therefore provides intensive and individual support. This includes funding of up to €200,000 in Stage 1 and up to €100,000 in Stage 2.

In order to help the teams develop their full potential, SPRIND provides them not only with financial support but also with

individual mentoring, networking opportunities, and coaching.

To enable teams to focus entirely on their innovations, funding is provided quickly and with minimal bureaucracy. Stage 1 will begin on September 20, 2026, with up to 15 teams. After four months, the jury will decide which teams, up to a maximum of ten, will continue for an additional two months. The Funke will run for a total duration of six months.

The goal is to make bold ideas visible in a short period of time, identify technological potential at an early stage, and activate the ecosystem.

Taking it one step further: Ideas with breakthrough innovation potential must ultimately reach real-world application in order to create impact. That is why promising projects may continue to receive SPRIND support even beyond the Funke itself.

Application

The application period runs until 6 September 2026 (6pm CEST). All applications submitted by this deadline will be considered.

Funding

21-May-2026

Source: SPRIN-D

Contact

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Further information

- ▶ [Zur Ausschreibung](#)
- ▶ [SprinD GmbH](#)