

but the Senate only earmarked \$6 million, and a compromise between the two houses split the difference.

The genome project was thus established by congressional action at both NIH and DOE, beginning with the 1988 budget. DOE had long before established a genome program office; in October 1988, Wyngaarden appointed Watson an associate director for NIH in charge of genome research coordination. The newly appropriated funds were to be spent through the National Institute of General Medical Sciences in fiscal years 1988 and 1989, but Watson's office was to coordinate these funds with over \$300 million being spent on genome research throughout the NIH institutes. In October 1989, the Department of Health and Human Services established the National Center for Human Genome Research at NIH, giving it authority to expend federal research funds directly, beginning with the 1990 fiscal year, rather than channeling them through the National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

The National Science Foundation had a major instrumentation program, substantial interests in plant and animal genome research, and considerable strength in computational biology, but it did not earmark funding or create a new management structure.

Outside the United States, an Italian genome program began in May 1987²⁹, tracing its roots to Renato Dulbecco's talk for the Italian Embassy in Washington, DC on Columbus Day 1985. In the USSR, Alexander Bayev and Andrei Mirzabekov presented the idea for a genome program to government officials in December 1987, and secured support for a new program after Bayev addressed the General Assembly of the USSR Academy of Sciences in March 1988, and subsequently obtained approval from the USSR Council of Ministers in December 1988³⁰. When the USSR dissolved, the genome project survived, as a component of the Russian science program.

The United Kingdom launched its genome program in February 1989, combining forces between the government's Medical Research Council and the private Imperial Cancer Research