



HEIDELBERG CENTER  
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



UNIVERSITÄT  
HEIDELBERG  
ZUKUNFT  
SEIT 1386

The key environmental challenges facing global society today do not respect disciplinary boundaries. Recognizing this fact, the **Heidelberg Center for the Environment (HCE)** at Heidelberg University brings the joint excellence of its natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities to bear on the analysis of and response to environmental challenges. Scholars at the HCE study the dynamics of natural and social systems and how they co-determine environmental outcomes through their interaction. The basis of our common research is a model of interdisciplinary and integrative cooperation that builds on Heidelberg University's international research reputation. Research carried out at the HCE helps develop a comprehensive view of society's environment and stimulates the development of novel teaching methods and modes of outreach. As an institutional platform, the HCE promotes the exchange and cooperation between the participating departments and faculties and facilitates new research initiatives.

As a part of the Institutional Strategy of Heidelberg University, funded by the German Excellence Initiative (Phase II), HCE offers the opportunity for

### Junior Research Group Leaders (Postdocs)

to establish **interdisciplinary research groups** within the framework of the participating institutes (Institute of Geography, Institute for Earth Sciences, Institute of Environmental Physics, Research Centre for Biodiversity, Research Centre for Environmental Economics, Research Centre for Sustainable Development Law, Max Weber Institute for Sociology, Institute for Political Science, Institute of Pre- and Protohistory and Near-Eastern Archaeology and South Asia Institute).

Junior Researchers are invited to submit their proposals for **interdisciplinary cutting-edge research programs including at least two of the three HCE pillars: natural sciences, social sciences and humanities**. Particularly welcome are Junior Research Groups related to the following HCE fields of research:

- Regenerative and non-regenerative sources of energy
- Historical reconstructions of local and medium-scale climates
- Geoengineering as a bridging technology
- Managing a limited water supply in the global context
- Biodiversity Research

Each Junior Research Group will typically consist of 1 Postdoc (group leader) and 2 PhD candidates (from different disciplines) or alternatively 2 Postdocs (from different disciplines) and will be funded for up to five years (the funding period ends Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017). Applications should include the usual documents and a research plan (up to 10 pages, including the main goals, a detailed research program, work plan, and a budget). Before preparing the material, potential applicants should contact the HCE Managing Director for guidance. The HCE offers an attractive setting with networks covering a broad variety of environmental sciences. The successful candidates will be expected to involve their groups closely in all activities of the HCE.

Applications should be sent no later than 30<sup>th</sup> Sep. 2012 preferably per E-Mail to Dr. Nicole Vollweiler – Managing Director: [Nicole.Vollweiler@iup.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:Nicole.Vollweiler@iup.uni-heidelberg.de) – There is a two-stage selection process, with shortlisted candidates being invited to Heidelberg to present their proposals for Junior Research Groups before a final selection is made. Further information: [www.hce.uni-heidelberg.de](http://www.hce.uni-heidelberg.de)

Heidelberg University is committed to increasing the proportion of women in areas where they are underrepresented. Suitably qualified women are invited to apply. Handicapped applicants will be given preference if they are equally qualified.