



To the  
Scientists of the  
DFG Priority Program 1158  
„Antarctic Research  
with comparative investigations in Arctic ice areas“

09<sup>th</sup> July 2020

**Newsletter no. 30**  
**Priority Program „Antarctic Research“, July 2020**

Dear colleagues,

this newsletter provides information on:

- the current application round in the priority program (2019/2020),
- the coordination workshop in September 2020 and the upcoming funding round 2020/21, as well as
- additional announcements.

Current SPP proposal round

In November 2019, 32 scientific proposals were submitted to the DFG. Of the approximately 7.2 million € requested in this application round, universities asked for more than 80% of the total volume, emphasizing the continued interest in polar research at German universities as well as showing the excellent cooperation between those and other research institutes, especially with the AWI.

The proposals were evaluated in a virtual meeting by a large expert panel committee on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020, and the funding recommendations (plus or minus) were communicated to the coordinator by the DFG (without reviewer opinions). Of the 19 proposals in biology, seven (37%) were recommended for funding, likewise one of the three (33%) in geology and four (44%) of the nine physics/chemistry proposals (one application was withdrawn). Following the recommendations of the panel, not all available funding will be allocated in this round.

The coordinator and the coordination office may be contacted by phone for preliminary information regarding panel recommendations of your proposal (phone number coordination office: +49(0)381-498-6101). The obligatory final decision by the DFG Senate is expected by end of July. The written DFG notifications, including reviewer reports, are expected by end of August 2020.

#### Virtual coordination workshop in September 2020

The aim of the annual coordination workshop is to stimulate collaboration and networking between funded researchers, and to provide information to new applicants. Therefore, **participation in the SPP coordination workshop is mandatory for (1)** all new applicants and renewal applications, and **(2)** for all currently funded projects. The latter also includes projects that have been successful in the current application round.

Due to the Corona virus pandemic, this years' coordination workshop is held virtually: All currently funded projects and successful current proposals **(1)** are required to show their first research data, concept and/or ideas as a poster. Prospective new applicants **(2)** are asked to provide a "Projektskizze", which also includes half a page (maximum!) on the **project idea**, assignment to the overarching topics of the SPP, rough **budget** information and indication for **collaboration within the SPP**. A template for the Projektskizze is attached to this newsletter and can be downloaded from the SPP website.

Please consider the following points when preparing the Projektskizze and your proposal:

- The length of the Projektskizze should be a **maximum of one page** (incl. half a page for the project idea) - please adhere to the formatting of the template!
- The main focus of the SPP is research in **Antarctica**. Comparative studies in the Arctic are possible, but NOT as main topic.
- The aim of the SPP is to support researchers from **German universities**. If you work at non-university research institutions such as AWI, MPIs etc., you have to collaborate with a university partner ("**Kooperationspflicht**") - unless you apply for your own position.
- The project idea must fall under at least one of the four **overarching questions** of the SPP.
- Please include a **modest & justified budget** (Remember, the annual budget of the SPP is around 2.5 Mio €, shared between 30-35 applications/10-15 funded projects!)
- Please provide **contact details** to allow for networking with other applicants and researchers with current projects.

For the virtual meeting, we ask participants to register online and upload posters (DIN A3) and Projektskizzen as pdfs **latest on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 2020** - a respective link will be provided shortly. From 1<sup>st</sup> of September, registered users have the opportunity to view the uploaded pdfs to familiarize themselves with current projects and intended proposals, and to contact potential collaborators well in advance of the proposal

deadline. **We expect all members of the community to treat new project ideas confidentially.**

Moreover, a video will be uploaded by the coordinator in which the SPP is introduced, including general information for the application process and logistics, SCAR, Pangaea etc. From 1<sup>st</sup> of September onwards, the coordinator and the coordination office will be available to answer questions about the application process etc. via telephone or email.

The DFG call for proposals to the SPP 1158 (via the "**Aufforderungsschreiben**") is expected to be published mid to end of August 2020. Please be aware that an application is only possible if a Projektskizze has been submitted prior to this years' virtual coordination workshop.

Project proposals have to be submitted in the first week of November, tentatively until the **2<sup>nd</sup> of November 2020**. Potential changes to this deadline will be announced via email to the SPP mailing list and on the website.

#### Dallmann Laboratory

Since beginning of this year, the Dallmann Laboratory at the Argentinean Carlini Station (Potter Cove, Antarctic Peninsula) is NO longer supported by AWI concerning investments in upgrading the infrastructure. A limited cooperation between Germany and Argentina is expected to be continued, to allow German scientists future access to the lab. However, AWI will not provide logistics, transport or other resources any longer.

Because of this situation, applicants, who wish to work at Dallmann, may contact AWI Logistics for information and contacts to partners in the region, but should also consider alternative stations on the Antarctic Peninsula. Because of long-term experiences in collaboration with Argentina and other countries/stations on the Antarctic Peninsula, we are optimistic that fieldwork in the region is still possible, but it might take more time to organize and careful preparation. The coordination office has a network of University colleagues who organized expeditions to different stations on the Antarctic Peninsula with many personal contacts that might be useful.

#### Research Vessels

The application for ship time on any German research vessel takes exclusively place via the online submission system <https://www.portal-forschungsschiffe.de/submission>. Here the applicants can find any relevant information such as current cruise plans, guidelines, contact persons etc.

#### Reminder of gender equality measures

If you are funded by the SPP and require, for example, child care etc. during field work, we would like to draw your attention to additional funding available within the framework of the SPP. Gender equality measures also include funding to organize gender-specific workshops at conferences, and travel grants to attend such workshops. Please contact the coordination office for details.

### Acknowledgement of the SPP 1158 in publications

We strongly request that the projects funded by the DFG priority program include the following sentence in the **acknowledgments for publications**: "This work was supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) in the framework of the priority program "Antarctic Research with comparative investigations in Arctic ice areas" SPP 1158 by the following grant ... (grant number)."

### Data storage

At the end of DFG funded projects, results have to be made accessible to the public by open access publications. Moreover, all data produced with funding from the DFG must be available on a **publicly accessible database** (such as PANGAEA) under the keyword "**SPP 1158**" (be sure to indicate the SPP 1158). Archiving and publication of the results are mandatory - unfortunately, in the past, this rule has not always been consistently followed, and any violation of this rule might result in the loss of applicability for future submissions of proposals to the DFG. We therefore hope, that this obligation will not be neglected.

An additional option of **storing audiovisual data** is offered by the Technische Informationsbibliothek (TIB) – *Leibniz-Informationszentrum Technik und Naturwissenschaften* as the German Information Center for the Digitalisation of Science and Technology. The TIB offers support for the publication and storage of audiovisual content free of charge on their portal (<https://av.tib.eu>), such as scientific videos, but also computer visualisations, teaching material, simulations, experiments, interviews, lectures, conference presentations and others. All videos in the AV portal will receive a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) and will be long-term stored. Technical and natural science videos will moreover be analysed with automated scene-, text-, speech- and picture-recognizing software to make them more easily reseachable and thus accessible to a wider audience. If you have any audiovisual data, that were produced in the SPP 1158, and which you would like to store in the TIB, please contact Mr. Tolga Karaarslan (email: <Tolga.Karaarslan@tib.eu>).

### News from the coordination office

Angelika Graiff is now back from her maternity leave and will share the coordination assistance with Svenja Heesch until June 2021.

Best wishes,

Ulf Karsten, Petra Quillfeldt, Matthias Braun, Tilmann Harder, Angelika Graiff and Svenja Heesch