AN INVITATION TO INTERNATIONAL YOUNG SCIENTISTS

Germany strives to take global responsibility by promoting sustainable development. The country’s innovative power in this area makes it a strong R&D partner for international research groups, especially from developing countries and emerging markets. Researchers in Germany and throughout the world already benefit from numerous lively collaborations. The German Federal Government wants to further increase this exchange, especially with young scientists. That is why the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) is inviting “green talents” from all over the world to visit Germany, establish new contacts and build networks with outstanding institutions and companies active in the field of sustainable development.

“This competition is all about taking on joint responsibility for our future.”

Federal Research Minister Professor Annette Schavan, patron of the “Green Talents Forum”

WANTED: OUTSTANDING GREEN TALENTS

The “Green Talents” competition is seeking 15 outstanding young scientists from around the world who work in the following fields:

- Cleaner production in industry
- Climate protection, adaptation to climate change, energy efficiency and CO2 reduction
- Material and resource efficiency, sustainable resource management
- Sustainable land-use management
- Water technologies and water resources management
- Innovations in the service sector that are related to sustainability and sustainability strategies in policy-making, business and society

The selection will be based on the applicants’ achievements in the field of sustainable development and their specific interest in cooperating with German partners. The winners of the competition will participate in a ten-day international science forum taking place in autumn 2010.

THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM

The “Green Talents” will travel throughout Germany and visit leading universities, research institutions and companies. They will gather specific information about research activities on site and learn about opportunities for cooperation with German partners. Individual meetings with experts from some of the most renowned institutions and companies in different fields will also form an important part of the young scientists’ visit.

The guests will have an opportunity to present their own research as part of the forum. The programme will also include several cultural events and a symposium with experts and young German scientists.

A prolonged research stay in Germany

During the year following their participation in the “Green Talents Forum”, the winners of the competition will be invited to return to Germany for an additional research stay (up to three months) at a German university, research institution or company in order to carry out or further develop research projects. Funding will be provided by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research.
FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

As part of the international forum, the guests will visit several of the following German institutions:

- Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research (AWI), Bremerhaven
- Clausthal University of Technology
- German Biomass Research Centre (DBFZ), Leipzig
- GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences, Potsdam
- Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ), Leipzig
- The Research Centre for Agriculture and the Environment (ZLU) at the Georg-August-University of Göttingen
- Siemens AG
- Volkswagen AG

A special focus will be on the “Science Year 2010 – The Future of Energy”, announced by the BMBF due to the global importance of this area. The award ceremony will take place at the BMBF Forum “Research for Sustainable Development” in Berlin. There, the young scientists will have the opportunity to discuss new approaches to sustainability research with international experts from the fields of science, business and politics.

PARTICIPATION AND APPLICATION

Requirements

- A graduate degree with above-average grades in the field of sustainable development
- Proven excellent command of the English language
- Age: up to 35 years
- Non-German citizenship and residence outside of Germany

Application documents

Please submit the following documents in English by e-mail in the form of a PDF document:

- Curriculum vitae, including list of publications
- Letter of recommendation or expert opinion focusing on your career as a scientist and activities up until now
- Exposé explaining your motivation for participating in the forum (two pages max.): Why do you want to learn more about Germany as a key location for sustainable research? What do you expect to gain from this experience for your future scientific career? Please explain your specific interest in the field of sustainable development and demonstrate your interdisciplinary interest.

THE JURY

The decision about your application will be made by a high-calibre jury, whose members include:

Professor Reinhard Hüttl
Scientific Executive Director of the GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences, Potsdam, and President of the German Academy of Science and Engineering (acatech)

Professor Beate Jessel
President of the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation

Professor Karin Lochte
Director of the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research (AWI) in the Helmholtz Association, Bremerhaven

Professor Hermann Requardt
Member of the Managing Board of Siemens AG

APPLY NOW

Application information

Application guidelines are available on the “Green Talents” website: www.greentalents.de

Deadline

Please submit your application documents to greentalents@dlr.de by 20 June 2010. Incomplete submissions cannot be processed and will be disqualified.

Contact

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Credits

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