



The Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies e.V. (IASS) is financed by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the Federal State of Brandenburg. The IASS conducts research with the goal of understanding, advancing, and guiding processes of societal change towards sustainable development. In order to develop a common understanding of sustainability challenges and generate potential solutions the IASS collaborates with diverse actors from science, policymaking and public administration as well as business and civil society. It pursues a research approach that is transformative, transdisciplinary and co-creative. Further information about the IASS can be accessed under [www.iass-potsdam.de/en](http://www.iass-potsdam.de/en)

### **The IASS is looking for a Post-Doctoral Researcher (100%) (f/m/d)**

Reference Number: OceanNETs-2021-01

The successful applicant will work on the research project "**Ocean-based negative emissions technologies, publics, and new forms of governance**", which is a sub-project of the Horizon 2020-funded Research and Innovation Action "Ocean-based Negative Emission Technologies (OceanNETs)". The project will be carried out within the IASS research group "Planetary Geopolitics and Geoengineering" under the guidance of the research group leader Dr. Stefan Schäfer and IASS scientific director Prof. Dr. Mark Lawrence. It is expected that the post-doctoral researcher will work in close exchange and, where sensible, collaborate with other OceanNETs sub-projects toward the successful implementation of the overall project.

OceanNETs will follow a transdisciplinary research approach to investigate the feasibility and impacts of emerging ocean-based negative emission technologies (NETs). OceanNETs breaks new ground by bringing together recognized NETs experts from economic, political, legal, social, and natural sciences and establishing a close dialogue with stakeholders in a single integrated project.

The successful applicant will draw on concepts from science and technology studies (STS) and conduct comparative research in three countries (Germany, Canada, and, likely, the US),<sup>1</sup> focusing on the emergence of ocean-based NETs as an object of scientific study, technological development, commercial exploitation, national regulatory power, global governance, and activism. Questions to be addressed include the ways in which activist and civil society groups, scientists, regulators, and entrepreneurs conceive of ocean NETs in different national settings. Applicants are expected to hold a doctoral degree in the social sciences or humanities and have experience in working with concepts from STS and related methods.

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Advance the conceptual and empirical research agenda of the project
- Lead the preparation of peer reviewed publications
- Lead the preparation of one report on the research project's results, for submission to the EU
- Present the research project and its results at workshops and conferences

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<sup>1</sup> The project originally foresaw fieldwork in Germany, Canada, and Australia. Preliminary research, however, suggests that the US will prove a more fruitful site for fieldwork, and ongoing pandemic restrictions in Australia are likely to make fieldwork there exceedingly difficult. This change is contingent upon final approval from the funding agency.



- Participate in meetings of the consortium and lead the organization and facilitation of meetings that involve sub-projects of the consortium
- Project management, including budget planning and reporting on spending
- Participate in the meetings and activities of the IASS Planetary Geopolitics research group

#### **Qualifications:**

- PhD in the social sciences or humanities

#### **Requirements:**

- Experience in working with concepts from science and technology studies
- English and German language skills
- Ideally, experience in conducting field research (interviews, participant observation)

The position is a 28-month, full-time position (100%), available beginning mid-January 2022. The start date is flexible. Part-time work is generally possible. The contract is initially limited until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, with the possibility of extension until the end of the project (28 months after project start). This is due to the IASS's current transition from project funding (until end of 2022) to institutional funding (starting 2023), which needs to be further formalized before contracts beyond 2022 can be offered. Remuneration is in accordance with the German salary group E13 TVöD (Bund). The place of work is Potsdam, Germany. Remote work from outside of Germany is not possible, with the exception of field research and conferences. The successful applicant will be required to conduct two periods of field research abroad for 4-6 weeks each.

The IASS seeks to achieve gender equality and diversity. We encourage applicants of diverse backgrounds and genders. Applications submitted by severely disabled persons with equal qualification and aptitude will be given preferential consideration in accordance with the German Social Code (IX).

If you are interested in this position, we look forward to receiving your application, including:

- a letter of motivation;
- your CV;
- an academic writing sample (e.g., a publication or a dissertation chapter);
- contact details of two referees; and
- a short exposé (3-5 pages including references) of how you would approach the project.

Please submit your complete application, combined in a single PDF file no larger than 5 MB, **no later than January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022** to **Cordula Granderath** ([cordula.granderath@iass-potsdam.de](mailto:cordula.granderath@iass-potsdam.de)) using the Ref. No. given above. Ensuring equal opportunities is integral to the Institute's recruitment processes. We expressly welcome applications submitted without a photograph or other references to your nationality, ethnicity, or marital status. Please specify in your application how you became aware of the offered position at the IASS.

For further information and details on this position please contact **Dr. Stefan Schäfer** ([stefan.schaefer@iass-potsdam.de](mailto:stefan.schaefer@iass-potsdam.de)).

By submitting your application, you consent to the processing of your personal data for the purpose of the application process. Your data will be deleted after a max. of six months. If we are interested in storing your application data beyond this based on your application profile, we will inform you about this and obtain your consent. For more information, see <https://www.iass->



[potsdam.de/sites/default/files/2019-10/GDPR\\_Job\\_Applications.pdf](https://potsdam.de/sites/default/files/2019-10/GDPR_Job_Applications.pdf)

If personal interviews are scheduled, travel costs cannot be reimbursed. Telephone interviews (Skype, Zoom) are possible in principle.