

The Max Planck Institute for Meteorology (MPI-M) is an internationally renowned centre for climate research located in Hamburg, Germany. The MPI-M provides a vibrant international and interdisciplinary environment for conducting scientific research as well as access to state-of-the-art scientific facilities. The institute is located in the heart of one of Europe's most livable cities, and is embedded in an environment known worldwide for its breadth of climate research. We are looking for a Postdoctoral Scientist (m/f, Ref. MPIM-W006) in the area of remote sensing of clouds and water vapor. The successful applicant will work with the observational group responsible for maintaining the Barbados Cloud Observatory, and supporting the NARVAL series of aircraft missions with German long-range research aircraft HALO. The position comes with considerable freedom, but applicants with a strong interest in using in-house data to understand the role of shallow convection in determining cloud feedbacks and in setting the structure of larger-scale circulations, e.g. convective aggregation, tropical waves, or the ITCZ are desired. The successful applicant's research will make a major contribution to the MPI-M's contribution to the WCRP Grand Science Challenge on Clouds, Circulation and Climate Sensitivity (Clouds Circulation and Climate Sensitivity).

Responsibilities

- To use and curation of data to better understand the role of low cloud in determining climate sensitivity and in setting the structure of tropical circulation systems.
- To help plan and contribute to future field campaigns being led by the institute.
- To help plan and prepare for the use of EarthCare.

Qualifications / Experience

- A PhD in atmospheric sciences, physics, engineering, applied mathematics or related fields are required for this position.
- A track record of excellent scientific research, which can be highlighted through the presentation of one or two first-authored scientific publications.
- An interest in working with remote sensing measurements of clouds and water vapor, experience with radar or water vapor lidar would be a plus.
- Strong programming skills would be a plus.
- Strong communication and organizational skills and an ability to effectively communicate scientific understanding are also very much desired.

Employment conditions

- The position is initially offered for three years, but can be extended for an additional three years for eligible candidates.
- Payment will be in accordance with German public service positions (TVoED E14), including extensive social security plans. The conditions of employment, including upgrades and duration, follow the rules of the Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Sciences and those of the German civil service.
- The Max Planck Institute for Meteorology seeks to increase the number of female scientist and encourages them to apply. Handicapped persons with comparable qualifications receive preferential status.

Selection criteria

Candidates will be evaluated based on their qualifications and ability to fulfill the responsibilities as outlined for this project.

How to submit your application for this post

Please submit:

- 1) A cover letter
- 2) A detailed curriculum vitae
- 3) The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of two references

by uploading the documents in our online Webtool:

https://s-lotus.gwdg.de/mpg/mhmt/perso/mpim_w006.nsf/application

Deadline for applying

This vacancy has been opened 15 July 2015. A first cut-off date for the collection of the applications is foreseen on 15 August 2015. If the position is not filled, this vacancy announcement will be re-published indicating a second cut-off date.

Further information on this position

For further information, please contact Bjorn Stevens (bjorn.stevens@mpimet.mpg.de). Do not forward your application to this email address, the applications need to be submitted through the online Webtool (see link above).