

My experience with MSCA-IF program

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Self-introduction

- Oceanographer, climate scientist
- MSc & PhD: 2003-2008 at Tohoku University, Japan
 - Comparison study of Subtropical mode waters in the world ocean
- Postdoc: 2008-2015 at NOCS, UK
 - The Arctic Ocean heat and FW transports during 2004-2005
 - Nutrients & carbon budgets in the Arctic Ocean
- Marie Curie fellow: 2015-2017 at AWI, Germany
 - The Arctic Ocean heat and FW transports during 2004-2010
- Postdoc: 2017-2019 at University of Bergen, Norway
 - Ocean heat transport in the Nordic Seas

Overview of my talk

- My experience with MSCA-IF proposal.
- Tips to write a successful proposal.
- Challenges to implement the 2 years MSCA-IF project.

Key words for successful proposal

- Good quality of science.
- Two-way transferable knowledge.
- Training.
- Multi-disciplinary.
- Outreach.

My approach

- My transferable knowledge
 - Box inverse model method
 - Ocean heat transport in the Arctic Ocean
- Expertise at host institute
 - Large amount of observation data in Fram Strait since 1997
 - New definition of Total Alkalinity (TA)
- Synergy, innovation, training
 - Apply the box inverse model method to large amount of data
 - **Focus period: 1 year in first try, 6 years in second try**
 - Quantify TA transport across the Arctic Ocean
 - Participation of Arctic Ocean field campaign with Polarstern

Tips for successful proposal 1/4

- Work with guide for applicants. What EU looks for is explicitly written in the guide with examples.



- Evaluation criteria table (page 28-29)
- Part B sample (page 36-41)

Following part B sample, score points with specific activities.

Disclaimer

This guide aims to assist potential applicants. It is provided for information purposes only and is not intended to replace consultation of any applicable legal sources. Neither the European Commission nor the Research Executive Agency (or any person acting on their behalf) can be held responsible for the use made of this

Tips for successful proposal 2/4

- Work with EU funding department at host institute. They know what administrative words need to go in.



HOME // ABOUT US // SERVICE // RESEARCH SUPPORT

Department of Research Support

Our Service

The team of the Research Support Office supports the scientists at AWI regarding all aspects of financial, legal and administrative issues during proposal preparation and the project implementation. Our main tasks are:

Pre-award

- Spreading information and advice on European, national, and international funding opportunities
- Support of proposal preparation
- Budget calculation and approval

Post-award (EU only)

- Contract negotiation
- Project administration
- International project management
- Financial management and audit preparation
- Reporting
- Support for electronic submission systems
- Scientific-administrative project management
- Assistance for coordination of collaborative projects

Team

Dr. Lars Henning
Head of department. Advice, information and support for proposal preparation and project implementation. Research strategies.
+49 471 4831 1812

Imke Fries
Vice head of department. Advice, information and support for proposal preparation and project implementation.
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Tordis Hellmann
Administrative support for EU proposal

Tips for successful proposal 3/4

- Imagine / know the evaluation process.
 - Over 7,000 proposals are evaluated every year.
 - Each expert reviewer evaluate 10-20 proposals.
 - First 1 minute impression is important.
 - They may spend ~20 minutes for each proposal.
 - Expert reviewer may not know your research field very well.
- Expert reviewer will follow official evaluation guide.
 - Correct words / descriptions needs in correct places.

Tips for successful proposal 4/4

- Gather successful proposals.
- Do not give up with single try. They will give you feedback. Higher chance in second try.

Challenges to implement the 2 years project: 1/3

- Set up life is challenging.
 - Housing, school, kindergarten, childcare, visa, bank, health insurance, GP, different language, weather, common sense.
 - ➔ Euraxess office, colleagues.
 - ➔ Be there in advance & find a flat with walking distance to office.

HOME // WORK + STUDY // AWI AS AN EMPLOYER // INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND GUESTS

Welcome to AWI

Will you join us at the Alfred Wegener Institute, with an employment contract, as a scholarship holder, or as a guest scientist? We look forward to seeing you, and we want you to feel comfortable here. Our International Office will be happy to give you help and advice regarding your stay in Germany and work at AWI.

Please do not hesitate to contact Andrea Bleyer with any questions you might have.

aw_i (Photo: Kerstin Rolfes)

Contact

Andrea.jpg (Photo: Kerstin Rolfes)
Human Resources Department
Andrea Bleyer

FAQs - Some information that may be helpful to you

- Visa: Who needs which documents?
- Insurance: What is needed/recommended?
- Accommodation: How to find a nice place to stay?
- Registration: What authorities should be visited once you are here?

Zentrumsnah!

[Löningstraße 35, Mitte, Bremerhaven](#)

455 € Kaltmiete 70 m² Wohnfläche 3 Zi.

Balkon/Terrasse Aufzug

TRÄNKNER Immobilien GmbH Herr Fabian Thaden ★★★★☆ (32)
TRÄNKNER Immobili...

NEU Bremerhaven-Mitte, großzügige, gut ...

[Bgm-Martin-Donandt-Platz 30, Mitte, Bremerhaven](#)

560 € Kaltmiete 108 m² Wohnfläche 4 Zi.

Balkon/Terrasse Einbauküche Keller +1 > Grundriss

von privat

Challenges to implement the 2 years project: 2/3

- Your net income might be a little lower than expectation.
 - 5,694 EUR/month (Gross), 3,134 EUR/month (Net).
 - Check with tax category.
 - ➔ Ask your net income (before finding housing).

Challenges to implement the 2 years project: 3/3

- 2 years is short.
 - ➡ Be there in advance.
 - ➡ Look for even small funding to prolong the stay.
- You may find difficult to get involved with host group's research activities.

Final remarks

- If you have a good quality of science and know how MSCA-IF scheme works, you will have a good chance.
- Never give up with first try.
- 2 years is short. If you get funded, be there in advance and concentrate on setting up life.