



## 3-year Post-Doctoral Position (100%)

*Reference number PD\_2021\_1*

Solving the climate crisis requires the brightest minds. The Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change (MCC) has established itself prominently in the climate policy research landscape. We conduct world-class research on climate solutions and offer an inspiring interdisciplinary environment for scientific excellence.

If you enjoy working in a very collaborative, supportive and international team, you feel that policy should be informed by the best available scientific evidence, and would like to contribute to a high-caliber long-term project funded by the European Research Council that aims to better understand feasibility and potential role of carbon dioxide removal (CDR) and solar radiation management (SRM) technologies in climate policy - then you may want to apply for this position in MCC's Applied Sustainability Science (APSS) group:

### **Post-doctoral research position on assessing solar radiation management (SRM) and carbon dioxide removal (CDR) technologies**

The successful candidate will contribute to a comprehensive and systematic assessment of CDR and SRM technologies, focusing on their environmental, technical, social, legal, and political feasibility. Our aim is to provide an urgently needed interdisciplinary perspective on their development and potential use alongside conventional mitigation policies to avoid dangerous climate change. Depending on the candidate's profile and research interests, this can include developing systematic reviews on the environmental side-effects of CDR and SRM, assessing the political economy of their deployment, conducting (social) media analyses of the social acceptance of these technologies, and mapping out other evidence on other social and technical aspects of CDR and SRM.

#### **Job duties**

The successful candidate will be located at MCC in Berlin and work in the [GENIE project](#) funded by the European Research Council under the prestigious Synergy Grant scheme. GENIE will investigate the environmental, technical, social, legal, and policy dimensions of GGR and SRM to provide an urgently needed interdisciplinary perspective on their development. Our meta-analytical framework integrates insights from these disciplines to provide a comprehensive view of GGR and SRM in the transition to climate neutrality in Europe. The project will conduct world-class research and generate robust, scientific resources for evidence-based policy advice and global environmental assessments. The project is a collaboration between Prof. Jan C. Minx (MCC), Prof. Benjamin Sovacool (Aarhus University), Prof. Keywan Riahi (International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis, IIASA) and Prof. Gregory Nemet (University of Wisconsin Madison).

Major tasks of the candidate are:

- Contribute to systematic reviews and evidence synthesis enhanced by machine learning to rigorously assess the environmental, technical, economic, social, and political feasibility of relevant CDR and SRM options;
- Coordinate systematic reviews and evidence synthesis efforts across an international network of experts;
- Contribute to computational social media analysis revealing public attitudes, stances and emotions towards CDR and SRM technologies;

- Contribute to the development of a comprehensive evidence database on CDR and SRM technologies connecting and reconciling complementary lines of evidence.
- Participate in project meetings and coordinate with other project partners;
- Contribute to project management;
- Presentation of results at international conferences;
- Publish scientific results in esteemed, peer-reviewed international journals;

### **Job requirements**

Given the broad set of skills within the current project team, there is some flexibility in the profile. We are mainly looking for gifted and enthusiastic individuals with an excellent scientific track record, a strong methodological background and a strong interest in the project and its bold ambition to embed the social sciences in a highly interdisciplinary approach that provides a new level of understanding of CDR and SRM technologies.

- PhD in Physics, Engineering, Economics, Environmental Sciences, Mathematics, System Sciences, Social Sciences or any other field related to interdisciplinary climate change research;
- Excellent scientific track record;
- Active interest in CDR and SRM technologies and their role in climate change mitigation - relevant scientific publications are a strong asset;
- Excellent and proven (qualitative or quantitative) data analysis skills OR advanced programming skills in PYTHON or a related language as well as advanced expertise in natural language processing methods;
- Willingness to travel for work 3-6 times per year (project meetings, workshops, conferences);
- Strong motivation and excellent organizational skills;
- Contribute to project management;
- Good communication skills, in particular moderation skills;
- Team orientation as well as written and oral fluency in English. German language skills are an asset;

### **We offer:**

- Work in one of the most ambitious projects that tries to understand CDR and SRM technology and their role in climate policy;
- An inspiring, international, interdisciplinary, diverse and multi-cultural work environment in a world leading research institutes on climate policy;
- Working together with world-leading scholars in the GENIE consortium;
- A working group that values evidence synthesis for scientific policy advice and has great expertise in advancing synthesis methods as well as traditional social science analysis through the use of machine learning;
- Working in a dedicated and motivated multi-cultural team;
- High-impact research: MCC researchers publish in renowned international journals, including Nature, Science, or PNAS and have impacted international climate change assessments such as IPCC reports;
- Opportunities for cooperation with MCC's national and international network of leading climate & energy research institutes and think tanks
- the opportunity to contribute tackling challenges of climate change and our common future;
- flexible and family-friendly working times and possibilities for home office;
- participation in employee retirement provision;
- an attractive workplace in an old industrial building at the EUREF - Campus in Schöneberg, Berlin.

The MCC values a collaborative working place environment that values diversity, tolerance, and equity.

We aim to improve the share of women especially in leadership positions and especially welcome applications by women ([here](#)). MCC provides an exciting, collaborative, interdisciplinary and international research and working atmosphere.

### **Appointment terms**

We seek for candidates at the post-doc level to start the position from 1.5.2021, but also encourage candidates wishing to pursue a PhD to get in touch. The position is funded until 31.04.2024 (with potential extension). Remuneration is in accordance with German public tariff scheme, salary group E13 TV-L. It is a full-time position with a weekly working time of 40 hours per week. The position can also be filled on a part-time basis.

### **Applications**

For application please send an e-mail with the reference number as subject **PD\_2021\_1** to Mrs. Franziska Faber, [jobs@mcc-berlin.net](mailto:jobs@mcc-berlin.net), with an electronic application by **Monday, 05.04.2021**, which should contain the following in one single pdf file:

- Motivation letter
- Curriculum Vitae, mentioning two academic references
- One representative academic paper
- Copies of relevant certificates

Please note that only short-listed candidates will be contacted for a job interview. For content-related questions you can contact Prof. Jan Minx, [minx@mcc-berlin.net](mailto:minx@mcc-berlin.net).

### **Portrait of the MCC**

MCC was founded in 2012 by Stiftung Mercator and the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) and since 2014 it is affiliated with the Technical University (TU) Berlin. Our research is carried out in seven working groups and it addresses the grand challenges of climate change and of governing the global commons. Our research is rooted primarily in economics and other social sciences. We provide scientific policy advice and aim to identify policy-relevant solutions. Cooperation with high-profile international partner organizations provides a network of excellence and foster the high quality of the research at MCC. Within a few years, MCC has established itself prominently in the climate policy research landscape, ranked as No. 1 of climate think tanks in Europe.

For more information about the institute, please visit <http://www.mcc-berlin.net>.