

## HICSS call for proposals 2023

### Introduction

The Helmholtz-Institute for Climate Service Science (HICSS) is a cooperation between the Climate Service Center Germany (GERICS), which is a scientific organisational entity of the Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, and the Universität Hamburg (Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences, Faculty of Mathematics, Informatics and Natural Sciences). Within HICSS, scientists of both organisations cooperate on climate service science projects, pooling their expertise in the natural, social and economic sciences.

In continuing to develop and pursue new approaches in climate service science, HICSS announces a **call for proposals, which should address some of the following criteria:**

1. The thematic framework is climate-resilient development. The focus is on climate services aiming at supporting a transformation and cover both mitigation and adaptation.
2. The work in the project should focus on a region, or city-region as a systemic boundary, with the goal of an adapted, climate-resilient system. Systems can be from both the built and natural world.
3. The projects could investigate methodological approaches to complex systems in order to provide pragmatic solutions leading to recommendations for action.

**The closing date for submission of proposals is 01.09.2023.**

### What is the application process?

#### Eligibility

Each individual project proposal must include at least one leading scientist from both GERICS, and the Universität Hamburg (Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences, Faculty of Mathematics, Informatics and Natural Sciences). All scientific questions in the proposals have to be covered by the expertise in GERICS and

the Universität Hamburg. It is not possible to bring in external scientists for evaluation, supervision or similar purposes.

### **Building a cluster**

To raise synergies in the process as well as in the results themselves, projects that relate to each other are required to form and submit an additional cluster proposal. This requires:

- A self-coordination process by the applicants in advance.
- The subject matter of a cluster can be both deep and broad, so long as a clear added value for Climate Services is generated.
- A cluster can, but does not have to, cover all aspects of adaptation, mitigation and transformation, or only parts of them if necessary and reasonable.

### **Funding level and length**

A cluster proposal must be submitted (within which there are at least two projects), additional to the individual project proposals. A total funding level of up to 1 million Euro can be requested within a cluster. If applicable, more than one cluster could be funded. The research within the cluster's projects should run for a total length of 3 years. An extension is possible for individual projects in justified exceptional cases. The HICSS Board has to approve any extension.

### **Assessment criteria and process**

Proposals will be reviewed by the HICSS Board (HICSS-Vorstand), who will make a recommendation to the HICSS Commission (HICSS-Kommission) as to which cluster to fund. The HICSS Secretariat will inform applicants about the outcome of the funding round.

Following notification of a successful cluster proposal, work in the cluster will have to start by 31 January 2024, at the very latest.

### **Reporting and review requirements**

All funded projects and the cluster will be required to provide an annual report to the HICSS board.

### **Writing the proposal**

Proposals should be submitted electronically by the closing date as a pdf document and must contain the following information:

### Project proposal:

- Title of the proposed research project.
- Proposal format:
  - Introductory chapter on “Background and Motivation”,
  - A chapter on “Objectives and Research Questions”,
  - A chapter naming the cluster the project is contributing to and showing the project’s cooperation within the cluster,
  - A chapter on “Methods and Tasks”,
  - Milestones,
  - Expected impact or outputs.
- Itemised costs and justification:
  - Number of postdoctoral researchers and/or doctoral students, together with the number of person months for each,
  - Other resources e.g. for travel, partners and so on.
- Previous track record or expertise in this area.
- A letter of support from stakeholders is desirable. Ultimately, it must be plausible that the results of the project will support the development of climate services.
- If applicable, a concept for supervising the project’s PhD students over the full length of the project. Any combination of PhD students and postdocs that is justified in terms of content and research strategy and fits into the financial framework is feasible.

### Cluster proposal:

- Title of the proposed cluster
- Proposal format:
  - Naming all involved individual projects within the cluster,
  - Naming a coordinating person for the cluster with contact data,
  - A chapter showing the planned cooperation within the cluster,
  - A chapter mentioning the intended synergy effects within the cluster.
- Costs as a wrap up of the costs of the individual projects within the cluster plus possible additional costs for cluster activities (workshops, meetings, ...).

The project proposal should be written in English and have a length of not more than 8 pages. It should be written as single-spaced typescript using a font size of 11 point in Arial typeface, and page margins should be a minimum of 2 cm.

The additional cluster proposal should have a length of not more than 2 pages. It should also be written as single-spaced typescript using a font size of 11 point in Arial typeface, and page margins should be a minimum of 2 cm.

### **Closing date for submission of proposals**

Proposals must be submitted as a pdf attachment to the HICSS Secretariat ([info@hicss-hamburg.de](mailto:info@hicss-hamburg.de)) by 16.00 h on Friday, 01. September 2023.

### **Contact**

Should you have any questions about the process please feel free to get in touch with:

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