

# POTSDAM SUMMER SCHOOL 2018

## THE SKIN OF THE EARTH – THE EARTH SURFACE SYSTEM

September 10 until September 19, 2018 in Potsdam, Germany



### POTSDAM SUMMER SCHOOL 2018 – CALL FOR APPLICATIONS IS STARTING NOW

**This year's Summer School will take place from September 10 through September 19 2018 in Potsdam, Germany. It will address these central questions:**

- Why is the Earth Surface System dynamic?
- What are the Triggers for dynamic Processes?
- What are possible societal Adaptation Strategies for Sustainable Land Management?

The fifth summer school event will explore the terrestrial earth surface system which is driven by geological, biological and climatic forces. They form a complex system of closely coupled processes and feedbacks that are not yet sufficiently understood. Knowledge of these interactions is essential since the earth's surface is the foundation for all human activity. Its dynamics have an impact on all facets of life, habitability and sustainability.

With its overarching theme - "THE SKIN OF OUR PLANET – THE EARTH SURFACE SYSTEM" - the Potsdam Summer School will continue the transdisciplinary and interactive event series that has been held annually in Potsdam since 2014. The intense ten-day, multi-faceted programme will help participants to acquire transdisciplinary knowledge and understanding of the processes which are shaping the earth's vulnerable skin – our habitat. They will be engaged in discussions and group works on these key issues.

The aim is to bring together talented early-career scientists and young professionals operating in the private sector, governmental agencies and non-governmental organisations from many different parts of the world to discuss frontier (research) questions on future sustainable development. Participants are expected to form part of a new generation of researchers and practitioners with the necessary background and tools to evaluate and mitigate the effects of present-day and future environmental change. In this context, the Potsdam Summer School provides a unique opportunity for all participants to foster international cooperation and an interdisciplinary exchange of ideas.



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These issues span a multitude of natural and social science disciplines and invite stakeholders from the public and private sector to get involved.

Experts, stakeholders, and guest lecturers from high level national and international institutes and organisations will contribute knowledge and insights to the Summer School programme. It will comprise lectures, various discussion formats, and interactive group work activities.

**The application process for this international Summer School Event is now open until 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018.**

The organisers welcome applications from up-and-coming scholars and young professionals with different backgrounds. The entire programme will be conducted in English.

In partnership with [GeoX](#) and the [City of Potsdam](#) the Potsdam Summer School will be jointly organised by the [Alfred Wegener Institute \(AWI\)](#), the [Helmholtz-Centre Potsdam - GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences](#), the [Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies \(IASS\)](#), the [Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research \(PIK\)](#) and the [University of Potsdam](#).

**For further information and for the download of the application form, please visit the [Potsdam Summer School](#) website or contact [Angela Borowski](#).**

