

The Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (www.leibniz-zmt.de) in Bremen is a member of the Leibniz Association, which is supported by the German Federal and State Governments. Through its research, ZMT contributes to developing science-based strategies for sustainable use of tropical coastal systems.

The Working Groups **Institutional and Behavioural Economics** and **Development and Knowledge Sociology** at ZMT are currently looking for a

Post-Doctoral Researcher: Institutional Tipping Points & Food Security

(Reference number: 115 – Food for the Future)

to conduct research within the BMBF-funded project Food for the Future (F4F).

Description of the project: Food for the Future is an interdisciplinary project comprising of natural and social sciences working on potential changes in the food sector and potential future forms of how in particular the German society is going to be nourished. For doing so, it is looking at new and globally entangled, terrestrial and marine food sources. It distinguishes on the one hand design food and on the other hand natural food that might fill our plates in the future. The social science components will explore the forms, drivers and consequences of change in future nutrition systems. In particular, they will identify the determinants of nutritional decisions at the micro level from an economic and cultural perspective, and analyse the impact of decisions on society. Next they will examine the dynamics of institutional adjustments at the meso level, and in particular, determine the tipping points between these scenarios. At the macro level, the entire food system and its relationships and dependencies on world trade will be modelled. Finally, a reflection on the research process at the meta level will take place.

Description of research to be undertaken in the sub-project: You will work in the sub-project "Institutional evolutions for aquatic food production along "No Land"/"No Trade" triggered tipping points". Taking an institutional lens, like New Institutionalism, Evolutionary Governance Theory, or Institutional Economics, this project will look at transition processes in the marine food sector. As much of the marine production relevant for German nutrition takes place outside Germany, the project takes as a case study for the producers side the Philippines and their aquaculture development. The concept of (social) tipping points is of importance. The greatest recent shift which aquatic production is going through is the move from wild fisheries to aquaculture. This leads to an immense institutional shift in the production process: Living fish of the ocean, now caged, becomes private property for the first time in human history; fishers convert into farmers, etc. This is the first transition process to be examined. The analysis of it will help us to understand potential future scenarios to be explored in the project, which might affect substantially the governance of aquatic production. The second potential transition process to be analysed is the one of "no-land", meaning that no more land is available for food production. This could imply that the marine realm is taking over a much more important role in food supply. This would provide a lot of opportunities but also challenges. Institutional changes would be the necessary consequence. Germany's aquatic consumption heavily relies – more than other sectors – on imports. From this perspective it is particularly interesting to analyse the consequences of a regime shift to a no trade scenario, where the tropics will not be the key production areas for aquatic protein anymore. This will be the third transition process to be investigated.

Requirements:

- Applicants should hold a PhD in any social science discipline, such as geography, political science, sociology, social anthropology or economics
- Preferably, the PhD should have dealt with questions of institutions and institutional change in the area of natural resource use, which could be fisheries or any other food related sector

- Qualitative, optionally quantitative, research methodological expertise
- Willingness to travel and to conduct primary field research in the Philippines
- Willingness to work in an interdisciplinary team comprising natural and social scientist
- Being particularly interested in doing research of high policy relevance and investigating for society possible future sustainability transformations in the food sector
- Fluency in the English language, experience in the Philippines or the region and knowledge of Tagalog are an additional asset

For additional information please **contact:** Prof. Dr. Achim Schlüter, achim.schlueter@leibniz-zmt.de; or Prof. Dr. Anna Katharina Hornidge, anna-katharina.hornidge@leibniz-zmt.de.

Details of position: The contract will be for 31 months. Salary will be paid according to the German TV-L EG 13, 100%. ZMT is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants with a migration background are welcome. Disabled persons with comparable qualification receive preferential status.

We offer:

- An exciting working environment in an interdisciplinary and internationally oriented institute and research project
- Possibilities to build and extend an international professional network and participate in a research field of high public and scientific interest
- A family-friendly working environment

Submission of application: Please send your application (a motivation letter, a copy of the relevant certificates, a complete CV with a list of publications and skills, names with email addresses and telephone numbers of two referees) by March 15, 2019 as a single pdf file with the reference number "115 – F4F Institutional Tipping Points & Food Security" to Mrs. Lena Oehlmann, email: bewerbung@leibniz-zmt.de.

Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research, Fahrenheitstraße 6, D-28359 Bremen, Germany.