



## Press Release

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*Joint press release of the Cluster of Excellence "The Future Ocean" and GEOMAR | Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel*

### **Further Top Level Support for Kiel Marine Sciences Continuation of the Cluster of Excellence "The Future Ocean" granted**

**June 15, 2012 /Kiel.** Today the federal Grants Committee for the Excellence Initiative approved a further five year funding period for the Kiel Cluster of Excellence "The Future Ocean". This decision brings with it considerable further funding for top international research in the marine and geological sciences at Christian Albrechts University in Kiel (CAU), GEOMAR | Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel, the Institute for the World Economy (IfW) and the Muthesius Academy of Fine Arts and Design. The Grants Committee is made up of scientists, the science ministers of the federal states and representatives from the German government. The decision of the committee was eagerly anticipated today in Kiel.

"This decision is not only an acknowledgement of our ex



create a real added value,” says Professor Peter Herzig, Director of the GEOMAR | Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel. In the second phase we want the network – not only in Kiel but also with our cooperation partners worldwide – to become *the* contact point for decision makers.”

With the Kiel Institute for the World Economy (IfW) world-wide leaders in economics contribute their expertise to the Cluster of Excellence “The Future Ocean”. In ocean research economic analyses play an increasingly important role. This is especially true in the valuation of raw materials in the ocean or in regard to the economic importance of storage processes for carbon dioxide. “For strategies and new concepts for alleviating climate change we must also take economic impacts into account”, emphasizes IfW President Dennis Snower. “For this reason the cooperation between economic and marine research in the Cluster of Excellence is very important.”

The Cluster of Excellence “The Future Ocean” wants to get the public interested in marine research and introduce them to current research topics. To this end, communications designers, architects, film makers and artists of the Muthesius Academy of Fine Arts and Design are developing new forms of science communication. “The Muthesius Academy was able to set striking accents already in the first phase of the Cluster – foremost with various formats for visualization of the topics and results of ocean research. In the coming five years the art academy will broaden its engagement with research projects of its own”, announces Muthesius President Professor Rainer W. Ernst.

#### **About the Cluster of Excellence “The Future Ocean”**

The Kiel Cluster of Excellence “The Future Ocean” is a research network of more than 200 scientists from the Christian Albrechts University in Kiel (CAU), the GEOMAR | Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel, the Institute for the World Economy (IfW) and the Muthesius Academy of Fine Arts and Design (MKHS). The goal of the interdisciplinary network of marine and geological scientists, economics experts and medical, mathematics, legal and social scientists is to investigate ocean and climate change together, to reevaluate the risks and opportunities and enable world-wide sustainable management of the oceans and their marine resources. The Cluster of Excellence “The Future Ocean” is funded within the framework of the Excellence Initiative of the German Science Foundation on behalf of the German federal and state governments.

#### **Links:**

[www.futureocean.org](http://www.futureocean.org) Cluster of Excellence “Future Ocean”  
[www.uni-kiel.de](http://www.uni-kiel.de) Kiel University  
[www.geomar.de](http://www.geomar.de) GEOMAR | Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel  
[www.ifw-kiel.de](http://www.ifw-kiel.de) Institute for the World Economy  
[www.muthesius.de](http://www.muthesius.de) Muthesius Academy of Fine Arts and Design

#### **Images:**

Images are available for download at [www.geomar.de/go/kommunikation](http://www.geomar.de/go/kommunikation)

#### **Contact:**

Professor Martin Visbeck, Chair of the Cluster of Excellence “The Future Ocean”,