Information on your Helmholtz International Fellow Award

The Helmholtz International Fellow Award is awarded in recognition of your personality and service to science and can only be accepted personally by you. The award is not transferable. The Helmholtz International Fellow Award provides funding of € 20,000. You may use this funding to cover the costs of your stay in Germany (e.g. for travel and accommodation costs). Yet you are free to use the funding flexibly and however you like. Please arrange a starting date for your stay in consultation with your host researchers in the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ. The duration of the research period will depend on the relevant requirements and conditions of the planned research cooperation and will also be agreed between you and your host. If desired, the research period can be divided into several short-term stays.

You can receive a first instalment or, if preferred, the entire sum of your prize money from your hosting Helmholtz Centre when you arrive in Germany. In this case, the funding will be transferred to a German bank account that has to be provided by you, which is to be set up upon your arrival in Germany with the help of your hosting Helmholtz Centre. Alternatively, you may choose to have the Helmholtz Centre administrate the funds for you and use them to pay for your trip to a stay in Germany and all necessary expenses. In some cases the transfer of a cheque is also possible.

We would like to draw your attention to the fact that when you transfer parts of the funding to your home country you are liable to the legislation there that may include special regulations on the taxation on awards. The Helmholtz Association would like to point out that in Germany awards are generally not liable for income tax under German tax legislation if they primarily honour the award winner’s lifetime achievements, overall work or personality, fundamental views or role-model status. This is the association’s intention in awarding research prizes aimed at honouring the award winners’ overall achievements to date as internationally outstanding researchers.