

MeteoSwiss, the Swiss Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology, is by Federal mandate the national provider of weather and climate services in Switzerland. Its Climate Analysis Team is engaged in the study of climate variability and climate change by analyzing observations and model data with modern statistical techniques. Within the framework of the National Centre of Competence in Research on Climate (NCCR Climate), MeteoSwiss performs a project in collaboration with SwissRe Reinsurance Company. For this project, we have a vacancy for a

#### Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the field of Decadal Prediction

Decadal predictions are an emerging field of study in climate science. The timescale of interest ranges from, one to ten years, thus filling the gap between seasonal forecasting and longer-term climate change projections. While this timescale is scientifically challenging since it is sensitive to both initial and boundary conditions, it represents an important planning horizon for many climate-sensitive sectors, such as energy, infrastructure, water management, or agriculture.

This post involves the analysis of climate models and observations with respect to climate predictability on the decadal time scale. A central task will be to assess the potential for possible applications, specifically in Europe and the Alpine region with a focus on the reinsurance sector. In doing so, you will use data from international projects such as ENSEMBLES, from the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) and from research partnerships. You will publish your work in scientific journals and reports and present the findings at national and international conferences.

Alongside being a proactive team player, the applicant should also have a university degree in natural sciences and have completed a dissertation in the field of meteorology or climatology. She or he should enjoy transferring scientific findings and knowledge into concepts relevant to society and experimental products. Ideally, the candidate is experienced in climate variability studies and/or probabilistic model verification. The applicant should be familiar with programming (particularly shell and R) and be capable of handling complex and large data sets from climate models. Good verbal and written communication skills in English - and ideally in German or one of the other Swiss national languages - are a prerequisite.

We are seeking a motivated and communicative person, in return for which we offer a diverse and interesting post in an ambitious project and a multifaceted and fascinating environment at the interface between research and application, as well as opportunities for continuous professional development.

This post is limited to two years and is based in Zurich.

Please forward your application, complete with all relevant information to:  
Bundesamt für Meteorologie und Klimatologie MeteoSchweiz, Personaldienst,  
Postfach 514, Krähbühlstrasse 58, 8044 Zürich, Switzerland,  
ensuring that it arrives no later than 8 February 2010.

For further technical details regarding this post, please contact  
Dr A. Weigel, tel. +41 (0)44 256 9717 or Dr M. Liniger, tel. +41 (0)44 256 9327.