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1. DFG notification about proposal results

The DFG has informed us this week that the official notification about the outcome of the SAMPLE proposals will be sent to each PI by the end of November. The Geophysics applications, which so far had been put on halt, will need to be more tightly integrated in order to strengthen their relation to the goals and scope set forth in second phase of the project.

The PI, whose proposals have been positively evaluated, are kindly requested to communicate the name(s) and contact detail(s) of their appointed doctoral student(s) as soon as possible, so that we can keep them updated about national and international research programs and instruments particularly suited for young scientists.

2. First SAMPLE Steering Committee Meeting

On Saturday, 15 November, the SAMPLE Steering Committee had a first “technical” meeting in Berlin where the project development got elaborated for the next 18 months. In particular, a major issue of the meeting was the organization of the first SAMPLE workshop. The 3-days event will take place in the first week of May 2009, most likely between 4 and 9 May 2009 (the exact dates and venue are to be defined/ finalised in the next two weeks!!!) and will guest international top-class speakers.

3. Introduction of new SAMPLE administrator - Greta Küppers

We would like to take the opportunity to welcome Greta Küppers as the new SAMPLE administrator. Greta has started the position and will be your contact point from now on. Greta took her Diploma in Foreign Languages (English and German) at the University of Bologna (Italy) in 2001. Since 2002 she has been working at the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich. Greta has a strong background in administration and coordination of national (DFG, BMBF) and EU projects, such as the 14-partner Marie Curie Research Training network SPICE with 5.5 Million Euro overall funding. Any questions, requests etc are to be addressed to her.

4. SAMPLE website

<http://www.sample-spp.de/>

The SAMPLE website will be regularly updated with information about upcoming network wide and external meetings and workshops, special sessions and deadlines, job announcements and training opportunities, research developments and outcomes. Please browse through the pages and write any comments / suggestions regarding contents and form of the www page to Greta (kueppers@geophysik.uni-muenchen.de).