



Call: SPP 2080 Early Career Support

The SPP 2080 “DynaKat” (<http://spp2080.org/>) is a Priority Programme, which aims at investigating catalysts and reactors under dynamic conditions for energy storage and conversion. The SPP 2080 is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and coordinated by Prof. Dr. Jan-Dierk Grunwaldt (grunwaldt@spp2080.org) at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT).

To support early career researchers (ECRs) and especially projects interesting for the next funding period of the SPP2080, the SPP 2080 calls for proposals which can be put up by scientists at German institutions on the postdoctoral, group leader and junior professor (W1, including tenure track) level. The aim is to support ECRs for envisaged projects within the SPP, especially for the preparation of the second funding period (starting end of 2021), and to prepare ECRs to get their own funding proposal related to SPP2080 in place. The ECRs are supposed to interlink with other consortia.

The project topic should closely fit to the SPP2080, i.e. electrocatalytic or catalytic conversion into energy storage molecules. The focus should be on the understanding of processes in catalysts and in reactors under dynamic conditions and their effects on activity, selectivity and stability. Any of the following areas may be covered: characterisation methods, theoretical descriptions and kinetic modelling, material design and novel reactor/electrolysis concepts. The proposed research program needs to be complementary, yet distinctly different and thus an important add-on, to the research already conducted in the consortia of the SPP2080, and should be supported by one or more consortia.

The support amounts to a maximum of 10,000 Euro and must be spent by end of the year 2021; prolongation is not possible. The funding can be used for equipment, research staff including HIWI, travel and conferences, in line with regulations of the DFG and the university/research institute of the applicant.

Application

The written application must include:

- Project proposal of 1.5 pages (state of the art, own expertise, work objectives) and should explain how the planned research will contribute to the topic of SPP 2020 together with a detailed financial plan/justification (0.5 pages) which results in maximum 2 pages.
- The proposal should be written in English language.
- Curriculum vitae including publication list (1-2 pages).
- Motivation letter outlining the benefit of the proposed project to the SPP2080.
- Supporting letter(s) by consortia currently active in SPP2080 (one or all PIs) that will benefit from the proposed research or that will directly collaborate with the applicant.
- The proposal can be sent by the ECR or by a consortium currently active in SPP2080 on behalf of the applicant.
- Please provide all documents within a single PDF file.

Please send the application by March 25, 2021, to applications@spp2080.org. The board will decide whether proposals meet the aims of the call and in case of too many proposals select the best ones based on the recommendation of an evaluation committee (possibly after a presentation by the ECR).