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Leibniz Association strengthens research cooperation with Israel

The Leibniz Association has signed an agreement with the marine science institute of the Israeli universities in Eilat to extend its research cooperation with Israel. On the basis of the agreement, six Leibniz institutes will be undertaking joint interdisciplinary marine research together with the Interuniversity Institute for Marine Sciences (IUI).

Matthias Kleiner, President of the Leibniz Association and Amatzia Genin, Scientific Director of the Interuniversity Institute for Marine Sciences in Eilat signed the cooperation agreement in Berlin in April. They were accompanied in the signing by Hildegard Westphal, Vice-President of the Leibniz Association and Director of the ZMT, and Isaiah Arkin, Vice-President of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

A workshop in Berlin with 80 researchers from 18 Leibniz institutes and seven Israeli universities marked the start of the cooperation in February. Preceding the workshop a delegation headed by Leibniz President Matthias Kleiner visited the Israeli partners in June last year.

The Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Ecology (ZMT) was instrumental in setting up the agreement. The Bremen-based institute has cooperated with the IUI for many years. Also taking part in the open collaboration are the Senckenberg Nature Research Society, the Leibniz-Institut für Analytische Wissenschaften (ISAS), the Leibniz Institute for Tropospheric Research (TROPOS), the Leibniz Institute DSMZ – German Collection of Microorganisms and Cell Cultures (DSMZ) and the Leibniz Institute for Applied Geophysics (LIAG). The joint research between the IUI and the Leibniz institutions will at first be focusing on fields such as the resilience of corals with regards to environmental changes, marine active ingredient research, oceanography as well as the interactions between the atmosphere and the ocean. In addition to research, methods training and joint summer schools for PhD students are planned.

Located at the Gulf of Akaba at the Red Sea, the IUI unites the tropical marine research of the six Israeli universities and the Weizmann Institute of Science. The Hebrew University is the coordinator of the IUI. Based at the most northern of the tropical seas, the IUI has a unique research infrastructure. With view to the cooperation of all Israeli partners within this research area the IUI is also a distinctive entity from the perspective of scientific policy.

Press photos are available at
www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/medien/presse/pressebilder/

Caption: “Matthias Kleiner, President of the Leibniz Association, Amatzia Genin, Scientific Director of the Interuniversity Institute for Marine Sciences (IUI) in Eilat, Hildegard Westphal, Vice-President of the Leibniz Association and Director of the Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Ecology (ZMT), and Isaiah Arkin, Vice-President of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem at the signing of the cooperation agreement in Berlin.”

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The Leibniz Association

The Leibniz Association connects 88 independent research institutions that range in focus from the natural, engineering and environmental sciences via economics, spatial and social sciences to the humanities. Leibniz institutes address issues of social, economic and ecological relevance. They conduct knowledge-driven and applied basic research, maintain scientific infrastructure and provide research-based services.

The Leibniz Association identifies focus areas for knowledge transfer to policy-makers, academia, business and the public. Leibniz institutions collaborate intensively with universities – in the form of “Leibniz ScienceCampi” (thematic partnerships between university and non-university research institutes), for example – as well as with industry and other partners at home and abroad.

They are subject to an independent evaluation procedure that is unparalleled in its transparency. Due to the importance of the institutions for the country as a whole, they are funded jointly by the Federation and the Länder, employing some 18,500 individuals, including 9,300 researchers. The entire budget of all the institutes is approximately 1.7 billion EUR.

www.leibniz-association.eu