The Allianz Climate Risk Research Award

Launched in 2017, the Allianz Climate Risk Research Award supports scientific research that improves our understanding of climate change-related risks.

The first edition was open to PhD candidates and Post-Doctoral researchers whose research focuses on:

- Reducing the risk of extreme weather events that are intensified by climate change
- Fostering resilience by applying technological solutions

A jury of high profile experts shortlisted four applicants to present their research at an awards ceremony in Munich. The four finalists were selected from among several dozen applicants from all over the world.

" The Allianz Climate Risk Research Award is an opportunity to help improve societal understanding of climate change risks."

AMER AHMED, CEO OF ALLIANZ RE

THE ALLIANZ CLIMATE RISK RESEARCH AWARD

2017

For enquiries, contact:
RESEARCH-AWARD@ALLIANZ.COM

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MEET THE 2017 FINALISTS

ELIZABETH TELLMAN

Elizabeth is a PhD Candidate at the School of Geographical Science and Urban Planning, Arizona State University, US. Her research focuses on human-environment problems, in particular flooding. She has published extensively in this field.

A graduate of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Elizabeth lived in El Salvador between 2009 and 2012, where she co-founded an NGO whose mission was to build community resilience to landslides and floods in a region of the country.

This experience exposed Elizabeth to the fact that although proven flood mitigation and adaptation strategies exist, they tend to be too expensive for many developing countries.

Her research therefore aims to:
- detect floods at historic and global scales from multiple satellites using cloud computing and remote sensing techniques, and
- develop new methods to assess social vulnerability based on flood damage and fatality data.

VIKTOR RÖZER

Since June 2016, Viktor has been pursuing his PhD at the Institute of Earth and Environ-mental Science, University of Potsdam, Germany. He tries to understand and model the processes that lead to damage of residential homes caused by pluvial floods.

A graduate from the Freie Universität zu Berlin, Germany, Viktor has worked as a Tutor at Ludwig- Maximilians-Universität Munich as well as Chief Data Analyst for a Berlin-based private company and has several scientific articles in this field.

Recent pluvial flood events in some cities such as the devastating rainstorms in Houston, Texas, in 2016 and 2017 show the need to better understand the damaging processes of pluvial floods.

Viktor's research thus aims to:
- collect empirical data from recent pluvial flood events,
- analyze the data to improve the understanding of the damaging processes,
- develop a probabilistic, multivariate loss model for pluvial floods, and
- integrate the loss model in and early warning system for an impact based risk management.

BERNHARD SCHAUBERGER

Bernhard is pursuing his PhD at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impacts Research (PIK), Germany. Before submitting his dissertation in July 2017, he moved to France as an Exchange Researcher at the Labora-toire des Sciences du Climat et de l'Environnement (LSCE). He has several publications to his credit and has work experience in the field of renewable energy.

Bernhard's academic background as a bio-informatician allows him to combine knowledge from different fields for a forecast system such as crop modelling, statistics, and big data analysis.

He applies this diverse knowledge to a real-life problem: Crop yields depend highly on weather and are mostly influenced by extreme weather conditions like drought, floods or heat waves.

Therefore, his research aims to:
- quantify agricultural performance under climate change and the impact of extreme weather on crop yields, and
- set up a global, publicly available yield forecasting system for the early assessment of loss risks.
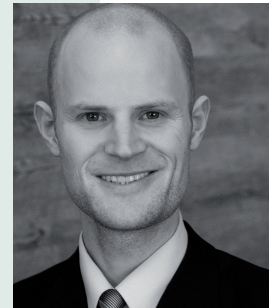
ERWIN NUGRAHA

Erwin is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Geography, Durham University, UK. With an academic background in Risk and Environmental Hazards, Erwin worked as a Consultant for Climate Change adaption for an inter-national NGO before starting his PhD. Erwin has several publications to his credit.

Since 2008, two cities in his native Indonesia began to experiment with climate adaptation planning and actions. He is evaluating the respective cities' approach and how local actors were mobilized in this process.

Specifically, his research aims to:
- analyze the rationale behind the concept of urban resilience,
- analyze the actors and institutions that are deployed to manage urban resilience, and
- analyze the subjectivity(ies) that are sustained to manage urban population for building urban resilience.