

## OCCR Flash – News from the Oeschger Centre

**The Oeschger Centre, together with partners from the private sector, is developing new scientific activities. At the Mobiliar Lab a new research group studies climate risks, and a new professorship in environmental and climate economics has just been founded in cooperation with the Mercator foundation.**

### A new lab for natural hazards

The *Mobiliar Lab for climate risks and natural hazards* that was created by the OCCR and Swiss Mobiliar insurance company in 2013 has now started to work on a range of projects. The research focus is on hail, floods, wind, and mass movement. The research at the Mobiliar Lab will concentrate on applied projects and should lead to the development of products for practitioners in public administration, engineering companies and the insurance industry. The new research group



There is a strong need for research on hail. Despite the large damage potential a substantial lack of knowledge about hail climatology and risk, hail forecasting, cloud microphysics, and the relationship between hail probability and climate change does exist.

co-operates closely with the Mobiliar Chair for Climate Impact Research in the Alpine Region at the OCCR. The Mobiliar Lab currently consists of 2 PostDoc and 4 PhD positions. Its aim to play a leading role in hail research is underlined by a meeting organized this summer in Bern. The 1<sup>st</sup> European Hail Workshop on 25–27 June 2014 will bring together researchers studying different aspects of hail and representatives from insurance, business and agriculture.

[www.mobiliarlab.unibe.ch](http://www.mobiliarlab.unibe.ch)

[www.oeschger.unibe.ch](http://www.oeschger.unibe.ch) > events > conferences

### A new professor of climate economics

The University of Bern, with the support of the Mercator foundation Switzerland, has created a new assistant professorship for empirical and experimental climate and environmental econom-

ics. This new professorship will complement the research of the OCCR's two existing groups that work in related fields. The new professor who will start work by the end of this year will investigate and develop optimized mitigation and adaptation strategies to climate change. New scientific findings should provide society, business, administration and politics with options for action and sound basis for decisions.

### CH2014-Impacts study released

More than 20 research groups were involved in the first research project to quantitatively describe a broad range of impacts of future climate change in Switzerland on the basis of the recent Swiss Climate Change Scenarios CH2011. Now, this common effort of the Swiss climate research community has been published in the report *CH2014-Impacts – Toward Quantitative Scenarios of Climate Change Impacts in Switzerland*. CH2014-Impacts, initiated and coordinated by the OCCR, produced quantitative impact projections from diverse fields, including climate indices, the cryosphere, hydrology, biodiversity, forests, agriculture, energy and health. All these results refer to the same climatic changes in temperature and precipitation as given in the CH2011 scenarios. This common approach makes CH2014-Impacts highly consistent across the wide range of its studies. The full report (in English) and the summaries (in English, German, French and Italian) can be downloaded from [www.ch2014-impacts.ch](http://www.ch2014-impacts.ch). (See article on page 8 as well)

### The OCCR hosts the Nano-Camp 2014

For more than 10 years the science programme *Nano* of the TV broadcaster 3sat has been organizing summer camps for high school students. 3sat is a joint production of the German speaking countries and thus invites teenagers from Germany, Austria and Switzerland to participate in its research camp. In 2014, for the first time the so-called *Nano-Camp* will take place in Switzerland. The OCCR has proudly accepted an invitation to be the scientific partner of the camp and will host 12 students in early July.

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