

IOW Press Release, September 11, 2018

Europe's CO₂ observers meet in Prague – with IOW among them.

The European ICOS research infrastructure network wants to generate more knowledge about the exchange of greenhouse gases in order to help prevent a future “hothouse Earth”. On September 11 – 14, ICOS scientists will meet in Prague to discuss their data. The marine chemist Gregor Rehder from Warnemünde is among them.

The research infrastructure ICOS (Integrated Carbon Observation system) enables greenhouse gas measurements in Europe in which 12 countries participate. Together they form a network of more than 130 observation stations across the continent - and beyond. The ICOS data provide a comprehensive view of the greenhouse gases produced by humans as well as their natural sources and sinks in ecosystems.

Gregor Rehder and his team participate in this network with measurements in the surface water of the Baltic Sea. Their unique approach: On board a ferry that regularly travels from Travemünde to Helsinki and back (the ship FINNMAID operated by the shipping company Finnlines), the content of CO₂, methane and soon also nitrous oxide in the surface water is automatically measured. As the only observation line operated in a marginal sea, the so-called "BALTIC-VOS" line (VOS = voluntary observing ships) is of special importance for linking land and ocean observations within ICOS.

The 3rd ICOS Scientific Conference brings together leading scientists in the field of greenhouse gas research from all over the world. In addition to purely scientific and technical topics, the participants will also discuss how the knowledge gained can be used in policy-making to ensure that the exceeding of potential limit values on Earth is counteracted before it is too late. Gregor Rehder's contribution to the conference will also address how ICOS measurements can also improve HELCOM's monitoring of the ecological status of the Baltic Sea.

For further information: www.icos-ri.eu/event/431

Contact IOW:

Prof. Dr. Gregor Rehder
Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde
Department Marine Chemistry
Tel.: +49 381 5197 336
E-Mail: gregor.rehder@io-warnemuende.de

Press and Public Relations at IOW:

Dr. Kristin Beck | Phone: +49 (0)381 – 5197 135 | kristin.beck@io-warnemuende.de
Dr. Barbara Hentzsch | Phone: +49 (0)381 – 5197 102 | barbara.hentzsch@io-warnemuende.de

IOW is a member of the Leibniz Association with currently 93 research institutes and scientific infrastructure facilities. The focus of the Leibniz Institutes ranges from natural, engineering and environmental sciences to economic, social and space sciences as well as to the humanities. The institutes are jointly financed at the state and national levels. The Leibniz Institutes employ a total of 19.100 people, of whom 9.900 are scientists. The total budget of the institutes is 1.9 billion Euros. (www.leibniz-association.eu)

