

Poster: The NFDI4Earth Academy –Your training network to bridge Earth System and Data Science

Friday 8 December 2023 12:30 (30 minutes)

The NFDI4Earth Academy connects early career scientists with a passion for integrating Earth System and Data Science across institutional boundaries. Our mission is to equip the next generation of scientists with the skills and mindset that enable them to navigate the dynamic landscapes of big data, open and data-driven research and artificial intelligence. We provide tailored training in Data Science, interdisciplinary networking opportunities, and support for innovative research, projects to achieve this. As a part of three research networks (Geo.X, Geoverbund ABC/J, and DAM) and the NFDI, Academy Fellows benefit from a dynamic and expanding research community that leverages the strengths and expertise of our collaborative partners. Core elements of the Academy is the integration of doctoral and postdoctoral researchers, who collectively form a think tank for bridging Earth System Sciences and Data Science.

Our two-year Academy program offers a complementary unique approach to traditional graduate school curricula. We prioritize peer-mentoring and flexible event structures to meet fellows' specific training needs. The first year focuses on Machine Learning and Data Science skills, starting with a Kick-off retreat, followed by virtual workshops and in-person/hybrid schools. During the Kick-off, we develop a code of conduct and a roadmap for the Academy to create a motivational and inspiring working environment. The second year emphasizes collaborative and networking events, including "Think tank" sessions and Hackathons with other NFDI consortia, where fellows can actively work on data science and AI problems and gain hands-on experience. Participation in NFDI4Earth events is encouraged, and access to relevant external training opportunities is provided.

Our first cohort of 39 fellows from 24 institutions in Germany successfully started in November 2022 and completed their first twelve months within the Academy.

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