

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Digital Communication Lab for Exchange between Research and Media

28 – 29 October & 4 – 5 November 2022

A conversation between science and the media: Twice a year, ten Humboldt fellows meet ten journalists from the International Journalists' Programmes (IJP). During a four-day workshop and the following nine weeks, they form interdisciplinary teams, which then work together on a compelling piece of journalism dealing with a topic of current societal relevance. Experienced mentors support the development process. Lectures and training sessions focus on what constitutes good science communication.

ComLab#6:

Dwindling Resources – Growing Conflicts

New solutions in the fight against resource scarcity

Rising oil and grain prices, dwindling wood and water reserves: Current geopolitical developments and climate change are making it increasingly clear how dependent we are on stable resources and reliable trade routes. Resource scarcity has far-reaching economic, social and political consequences, the urgency of which is being debated and negotiated in the public and political arena.

What is striking is that the repercussions of the current energy and food crises are being primarily discussed from a national perspective. Yet, they are subject to global interdependencies and have a particularly severe impact on the world's poorest regions. Exploding wheat prices in the wake of the Ukraine war and the famines in large swaths of Africa, climate migration and the resultant social conflicts show the grave extent to which the world has neglected to establish a forward-looking resource management system. Political conflicts – which researchers and experts have long warned about – are intensifying in many places. International bodies are in full agreement: The responsibility for our dwindling resources lies in the hands of the global community. But is this message also being communicated in the political sector, media and society?

ComLab#6 will examine the following questions: Which ecological, political and economic aspects do we have to take into account when dealing with resource scarcity? What alternatives are available with respect to the cultivation, use and transport of resources that are currently overexploited? Which trailblazing, innovative methods have been generated by international research that could help us to cultivate our planet in sustainable ways and establish fair trade conditions? And – not least of all – counter isolationism?

Schedule

28 – 29 October 2022

Have fun while warming up for ComLab. Get to know each other. Discuss what constitutes good science communication. Share ideas on how to collaborate. Get inspired by international science reporting. Learn from science experts. Discuss what new solutions in the fight against resource scarcity might look like. Get started with your own projects.

4 – 5 November 2022

Explore new ideas. Get to know best practices in sustainability. Expand your own science communication tool kit. Share global news on the relevance of science and media. Meet and talk with policy-makers and social innovators. Learn from renowned science correspondents and editors about good science reporting. Pitch your projects to the guest juror.



REQUIREMENTS

Participation is open to ten journalists from the global IJP network, including Germany, and ten fellows from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

Knowledge and experience in science communication is an asset, but not a prerequisite for participating in this four-day workshop.

The workshop takes place **in English** and as a **virtual format**.

EXPECTATIONS

- Strong motivation to engage with an international community of mid-career researchers
- Intention to participate in all four mandatory days of ComLab#6
- Active participation in expert discussions, interactive learning sessions, and creative collaboration in a journalist-scientist tandem
- Commitment to create a compelling piece of journalism together with your team partner

HOW TO APPLY

- **CV in English** (PDF), two pages max. (please include title of your IJP Fellowship Programme, if applicable)
- **Motivation letter** of 500 words max. (PDF)
- **Application video** (via WeTransfer, <https://wetransfer.com>), three minutes max., which gives us a clear initial understanding of why you want to take part in this advanced training
- Please see the video guidelines for more content-related and technical details

All documents should be submitted in **ONE e-mail** to comlab@ijp.org.

Subject line: **Application ComLab#6 and your name**

→ **Application deadline: 5 September 2022**

For more information on the Communication Lab please visit our website:

<https://www.ijp.org/en/alumni/communicating-science>

