



CESSMA - Stories from the Road

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The coordination of large research projects can be very different due to the actual project structure and/or the framework in which the project manager is employed. The centre for earth system science management (CESSMA) is a new network consisting of science managers in Germany, who are working in similar fields of the earth system sciences. It came to life through funding money of a cooperative project (HD(CP)²) with the aims of establishing a system of knowledge transfer between different science managers and of laying the foundation of a long-term institution (organization), since this ensures a passing on of best-practice recommendations for specific tasks of scientific project management. Thus, CESSMA focuses explicitly on creating opportunities of exchange in physical and virtual spaces. During the year 2017 there were several meetings in which members met to establish the network's infrastructure, clarify near-future goals and to discuss the possibilities of institutionalization. These workshops also showed which structural problems arise when turning a network idea into a long-term institution.