

**iDiv**German Centre for Integrative
Biodiversity Research (iDiv)
Halle-Jena-LeipzigMARTIN-LUTHER-UNIVERSITÄT
HALLE-WITTENBERG

Zentrale Universitätsverwaltung Abteilung 3 – Personal

Halle (Saale), November 03rd 2017**1417/2017**

External Job Announcement Reference file number- 4-10905/17-D

The German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) is one of four National Research Centres funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). It is located in the city of Leipzig and jointly hosted by the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU), the Friedrich Schiller University Jena (FSU), the University of Leipzig (UL), and the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ). It is supported by the Max Planck Society, the Leibniz Association, the Klaus Tschira Foundation and the Free State of Saxony. Its central mission is to promote theory-driven synthesis and data-driven theory in this emerging field. The concept of iDiv encompasses the detection of biodiversity, understanding its emergence, exploring its consequences for ecosystem functions and services, and developing strategies to safeguard biodiversity under global change.

The Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, in cooperation with iDiv, offers the following position **starting February 1st 2018** and limited until September 30th 2020. The salary will be determined up to pay grade 13 TV-L depending on the assigned tasks and personal qualifications.

Research officer for „sPlot – the global vegetation plot database“ (Full time employment)

sPlot is the first global vegetation plot database with more than 1.1 million plots and aims at analysing the global patterns of plant community trait-environment relationships. sPlot is a research platform within the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig (www.idiv.de/splot). Project development of sPlot will be in close cooperation with researchers at iDiv in Leipzig and the principal investigators in the global sPlot consortium.

Requirements/ expected profile:

- University degree (Diploma/ M.Sc.) in Biology, Ecology or Biodiversity Research
- Doctoral degree (rer. nat. or PhD) in Plant Ecology, Vegetation Ecology, Functional trait analysis, Biogeography or Macroecology
- Extensive experiences in ecoinformatics and with large databases, in particular vegetation databases
- Profound knowledge in data analysis and statistical modelling with the statistical software R, with a focus on multivariate methods, spatial statistics and randomization techniques
- Fluent English skills (spoken and written language), basic knowledge of German is an asset but not required
- Excellent publication record in international journals, with a focus on functional trait analysis and macroecology
- Outstanding communication skills and the ability to work in large teams

Tasks/ job description:

- Expanding and updating the sPlot database, in particular filling gaps in tropical regions
- Independent research on the sPlot platform, development of own research projects
- Data analysis by linking vegetation data to trait, phylogeny, environment and remote sensing data
- Writing publications for international journals
- Assistance in organizing the sPlot consortium, support of current sPlot projects, communication with sPlot members and preparing workshops
- Active involvement in iDiv activities
- The possibility is given to participate in teaching and mentoring of interns, Bachelor and/or Master students

Severely disabled persons are encouraged to apply and will be given preference in the case of equal suitability. Women are strongly urged to submit an application.

For any queries please contact Prof. H. Bruehlheide, Tel.: (0345) 55-26222, Fax (03 45) 55-27228,
E-Mail: helge.bruehlheide@botanik.uni-halle.de

Please submit your full application dossier only in English and in electronic form **with registration number 4-10905/17-D** in the subject line **until 15th December 2017** to the above mentioned E-mail address. It should be in a single PDF file including (a) a letter of interest, (b) a brief overview of the skills and experiences that the candidate has that could be applied to this topic (1 page), (c) curriculum vitae, (d) complete publication list, (e) certificates, and (f) the names and email addresses of two individuals who could provide an evaluation of the candidate upon request.

The interviews are likely to be held at the beginning of January 2018.

The position is offered with reservation of possible budgetary restrictions. Application portfolios will not be returned, application costs will not be reimbursed.