



iDiv

German Centre for Integrative
Biodiversity Research (iDiv)
Halle-Jena-Leipzig

External Job Announcement Reg.-Nr. 4-9691/24-D

Modern, interconnected, conscious of tradition: Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU) is the oldest and largest university in the State of Saxony-Anhalt with a history dating back more than 500 years. Today more than 20,000 students are enrolled at the university. MLU's core research areas are in the nanosciences and biosciences, the Enlightenment, as well as in social and cultural research. The university is also home to a range of small disciplines, some of which can be found nowhere else in Germany. The university has excellent national and international ties, and works closely together with leading research institutes, industry, and more than 250 universities around the world.

The Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, in cooperation with the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig, offers the following position in Leipzig, starting as soon as possible and limited for 36 months (if PhD position) or 26 months (if Postdoc Position):

Scientific employee for the Biodiversa+ Project "*WildINTEL*" (m/f/d)

as full-time employment (100%, Postdoc position) or part-time employment (65%, PhD position).

The salary will be up to Entgeltgruppe 13 TV-L, if the personal requirements and tasks are fulfilled. The workplace will be in Leipzig in the Biodiversity Conservation research group.

The project and research group:

The **German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig** explores how biodiversity can be recorded, how it develops in the course of evolution, how it changes, what consequences it has for the functioning of ecosystems and how it can be preserved in the long term. iDiv is jointly funded by the University of Leipzig, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Friedrich Schiller University Jena and the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research GmbH - UFZ and will be continued with generous support from the federal states of Saxony-Anhalt, Thuringia and Saxony after termination of the DFG funding. More information about iDiv: www.idiv.de.

This position is open to PhD and Postdoc applicants, depending on the evaluation of the candidates. It is supervised by Dr. Néstor Fernández and affiliated with the Biodiversity Conservation Group of Henrique M. Pereira. The Biodiversity Conservation group aims to understand the patterns and processes of biodiversity change, with the goal of informing environmental policy and management of ecosystems. For more information, please visit our lab website: <https://www.idiv.de/en/groups-and-people/core-groups/biodiversity-conservation.html>.

The project "**Building a scalable WILdlife monitoring system by integrating remote camera sampling and artificial INTELigence with Essential Biodiversity Variables - WildINTEL**" is funded by Biodiversa+ and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG). The goal of the project is to advance data-model integration of camera trapping observations for monitoring biodiversity. The successful applicant will develop a workflow for Essential Biodiversity Variables based on camera observations and apply this workflow for monitoring biodiversity in various study areas. She or he will also carry out a field camera trapping study in the Oder Delta region between Germany and Poland and analyze the data collected in the region since 2021. This research will be in collaboration with an international team involving other partners and study areas of the Biodiversa+ Consortium, including in Poland, Norway, and Spain.

Tasks:

- Develop a standardized workflow for estimating Essential Biodiversity Variables from camera trapping data and apply this workflow to characterize state and trends in mammal communities in different study sites
- Develop the code for making the standardized workflow and analyses easily reproducible by multiple users, e.g., through Bon-in-a-Box (<https://boninabox.geobon.org>)
- Conduct a camera trapping study to analyze mammal communities in the Oder Delta
- Develop statistical models to estimate population abundance, community composition and species interaction using camera trapping, e.g.: distance-sampling, random encounter, joint species distribution, and other methods
- Contribute to achieve the milestones and deliverables of the WildINTEL Project, including writing the reports
- Participate actively and contribute to the organization of project-related workshops and meetings, including project coordination meetings, meetings and workshops with stakeholders and users of the products, etc.
- Write research articles about the findings of the research and present the work in scientific meetings and conferences

Requirements:

- A completed scientific University degree (Diploma/M.Sc.) in Ecology, Conservation Biology, Environmental Sciences or related disciplines
- A good publication record in relation to years of research experience
- Provable research skills in ecological statistics and modeling as well as geographic information systems
- Experience in ecological field surveys and camera trapping is a plus
- Fluency in English in speaking and writing; a good command of German is a plus
- Overall excellent communication skills
- German or international driving license is necessary

The Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg gives priority to applications from severely disabled candidates with equivalent qualifications. Women are particularly encouraged to apply. Applicants with a degree that was not obtained at a German higher education institution must submit a Statement of Comparability for Foreign Higher Education Qualifications from the Central Office for Foreign Education (Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen) to prove equivalence. This Statement can also be submitted after successful completion of the hiring process.

Queries concerning the application process should be directed to hr@idiv.de. For queries about the research project please contact Dr. Néstor Fernández (nestor.fernandez@idiv.de).

Please submit your full application dossier in English with registration number 4-9691/24-D by 16.10.2024. Applications should be submitted via our iDiv application portal at <https://apply.idiv.de>. Applications should include a motivation letter tailored to the research project, a curriculum vitae, the digital copy of the Master's degree/Diploma as well as the PhD certificate (if applicable), a publication record and contact details of two independent referees. Application portfolios will not be returned, application costs will not be reimbursed.

This announcement is subject to possible budgetary restrictions.

iDiv is committed to establishing and maintaining a diverse and inclusive community that collectively supports and implements our mission to do great science. We will welcome, recruit, develop, and advance talented staff from diverse genders and backgrounds.