City of Leipzig

Closest airports
- Leipzig / Halle (LEJ)
  train, every 30 min
- Berlin (SXF/TXL)
  train, every 60 min
- Frankfurt/Main (FRA)
  train, every 60 min
- Munich (MUC)
  train, every 60 min

Travel times
- Berlin: 2,0 h, 1,0 h
- Hamburg: 4,0 h, 3,0 h
- Frankfurt: 4,0 h, 3,5 h
- Munich: 4,5 h, 3,5 h
- Cologne: 5,0 h, 5,5 h

Leipzig
iDiv is situated in Leipzig in the heart of Europe. Leipzig is a city known as Venice of the North, rich in culture, music and commerce. At the centre of many historic events – from the 1813 Battle of the Nations to the peaceful German revolution in 1989 – Leipzig embraces tradition alongside zeitgeist. Enjoy exploring this vibrant, fast-growing and very “green” city.

sDiv in a nutshell
- 208 publications with support of sDiv
- 26 postdocs funded
- 19 sabbatical researchers funded
- 63 working groups
- 1564 participants attended meetings
- EUR 4.92 Million third-party funding raised

sDiv calls
For more and detailed information about current sDiv calls please visit: www.idiv.de/sdiv/calls

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sDiv synthesis centre of iDiv

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Arniocera spec., Katavi National Park, Tanzania
Photo by Gregoire Dubois (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0)
The aim of sDiv is to

- Foster biodiversity synthesis and theory in a data-rich world
- Integrate the national and international scientific community
- Promote young scientists
- Form a network with other centres, e.g., closely collaborate with other synthesis centres via joint programs, student exchange, and expert databases
- Produce relevant and high-impact outcomes

Funding mechanisms

**Workings groups**

sDiv funds 12 to 18 working group meetings per year. Working groups are usually established for a period of two to three years with a minimum of two meetings during this time. sDiv also supports writing retreats for working groups and grant writing retreats for third-party funding.

**Postdocs**

sDiv supports two different kind of postdocs over the course of two to three years: Working group postdocs usually support the working group analyses and outcomes. Individual postdoc fellows conduct their own synthesis project in a stimulating and supportive international environment at sDiv.

**Sabbatical researchers**

The sabbatical programme is designed to attract leading scientists in biodiversity research for a period lasting between a few months and one year (which can be divided into two or more visits of shorter duration).

Collaborations

**BiodivERsA**

sDiv collaborates in the pan-European funding scheme BiodivERsA together with two EU biodiversity synthesis centres, CESAB (F) and SLU (S) in a recent call on Biodiversity and Health. BiodivERsA is a network of national and regional funding organisations promoting research on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and offering innovative opportunities for the conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity.

**International Joint Synthesis Consortium**

Further, sDiv is a member of the informal International Joint Synthesis Consortium (IJSC, www.synthesis-consortium.org) and has ongoing collaborations with several existing synthesis centres (e.g. CESAB (F), CIEE (CDN), Sinbiosis (BRA)).

About iDiv

How is life distributed on planet Earth? How fast do species extinct? What consequences does the loss of biodiversity have for the functioning of ecosystems? These are three of many questions to which the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) is dedicated.

iDiv is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). It is a joint research centre of the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Friedrich Schiller University Jena and Leipzig University and is operated in cooperation with the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ. iDiv is characterised by a network of more than 120 scientists at the main locations Halle, Jena and Leipzig. iDiv offers these members numerous research platforms - such as the iDiv-Ecotron.

In the seven years since its foundation, iDiv has gained great international recognition.