

Leipzig, 29 June 2018

The Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ offers the following position, desired starting date 1 October 2018:

Postdoctoral Researcher
on “PoIDiv- Automated high throughput pollen diversity monitoring to study the ecosystem services air quality and pollination (wind and insect pollination)”

(limited either 2 years with 75 percent of a full-time employment or 18 months with full-time employment)
Remuneration in accordance with the TvöD public-sector pay grade 13

Background:

Pollen play a central role as an allergen that impairs air quality and at the same time as a crucial element of the ecosystem service of pollination. The PoIDiv project integrates across the following disciplines: single cell analysis (flow cytometry), medical research on allergens, biodiversity and weather data monitoring, new sensor and exploration technology, social impact and outreach, plant and pollination ecology and computer science. Our aim is to improve the investigation of air quality and of the ecosystem service of pollination. We will achieve this by developing a new method for pollen identification via flow cytometry. This method will enable the analysis of large sample sizes and automated identification and quantification. High throughput measurements will be used to better understand the relationships between pollen abundance, particulate matter, incidence of allergy symptoms as well as plant-pollinator interactions. For further pollen and insect sampling we aim to establish a citizen science campaign. The PoIDiv project is part of a series of projects that will foster integrative biodiversity research.

Topic/job description:

- developing a novel method for the automated measurement of pollen diversity
- developing a pollen monitoring dataset and a quantitative pollinator network
- organizing daily sampling and sample handling (pollinators, trapped pollen), as well as measurements
- exploring potentials for citizen science involvement to prepare a future project
- proposal writing for subsequent funding options
- close cooperation with scientists from the related iDiv projects as well as research group leaders from iDiv and UFZ
- organizing joint meetings to bring together different expertise
- attending national and international conferences

Requirements / expected profile:

- an excellent PhD degree in a relevant field of research, including biology or geology
- a solid background in biology, ecology and physiology, knowledge of palynology and experience with flow cytometry would be a plus
- good knowledge of species of Central Europe
- ability to organize and prioritize work efficiently
- strong interest in integrative biodiversity research
- excellent written and oral communications skills in English

We offer you a two-year or 18 months Postdoc position at the **Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ**. The project is supervised by Dr. Susanne Dunker (Department of Physiological Diversity). We provide top level interdisciplinary research at a research centre which enjoys an excellent reputation within Germany as well as internationally.

Applications are accepted until **20 July 2018**.

All applications should include:

- Cover letter (in English) describing motivation, research interests & relevant experience
- Curriculum vitae in tabular form
- One letter of recommendation
- Contact information of former professor(s)/ supervisor(s) who know the applicant
- MA/PhD certificates

Applications are preferred via our application portal under www.apply.idiv.de. Hard copy applications can be sent to German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig; Dr. Hanna Weise; Deutscher Platz 5e; 04103 Leipzig. Severely disabled persons are encouraged to apply and will be given preference in the case of equal suitability. For queries on the application process, please contact hanna.weise@idiv.de.

Applying via email is questionable under data protection law. The sender assumes full responsibility.
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