The German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig invites applications to **5 doctoral researcher positions in its 6th flexpool call** from spring 2021 onwards (*see overview in published flexpool general announcement*).

The Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ seeks to fill the following position in cooperation with the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (Div) in Leipzig at the earliest possible date:

Doctoral Researcher (f/m/d)
on the flexpool project 4: "DeForESG – Deforestation explained by social-ecological dynamics and governance shifts"
Initially limited until 30 September 2021, an extension for further 2.5-3 years is possible and dependent upon successful renewal of DFG funding for iDiv (evaluation in spring 2021)
65 percent of a full-time position
Salary: *Entgeltgruppe 13 TVöD*

The UFZ is an equal opportunity employer. Female scientists are explicitly encouraged to apply for increase their share in science and research. Physically handicapped persons will be favored if they are equally qualified.

Background

Tropical deforestation is a key threat to global biodiversity, climate change mitigation and rural livelihoods. Yet the growing body of scientific knowledge on this topic is largely isolated within single disciplines and governance components. Particularly social-ecological modelling and governance research have strong but unconnected and underused transformative potential. This PhD project will therefore adopt a transdisciplinary approach to the analysis of dynamics and patterns of tropical deforestation in Peru, Colombia and Brazil to identify potential leverage points for improved forest governance.

The project is supervised by Dr Yves Zinngrebe, Prof Dr Josef Settele, Prof Dr Christine Fürst and Dr. Calum Brown. Place of work will be in Leipzig, UFZ.

Your tasks:
- Analysing and mapping deforestation data in the Amazon basin across Peru, Colombia and Brazil
- Statistical correlations of deforestation with demographic and social-economic data
- Analysing the effectiveness of policy options in deforestation time-series
- Adjusting social-ecological models to analyse deforestation dynamics in the Latin America Context
- Agent based modelling of governance options to assess their potential impact.
- Writing and publishing scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals
- Presenting results at national and international conferences and political fora
- Active participation in the yDiv graduate school

Requirements:
- M.Sc. or equivalent degree in a project-related field (e.g. ecology, environmental sciences, social science, geography)
- Expertise and experience in GIS analyses
- Interest and ability in environmental governance and sustainability transformation
- Strong interest in transdisciplinary research
- Good level of statistical skills (incl. experience in R)
- Excellent English communication skills (spoken and written)
- Optional assets:
  - good knowledge of either Spanish or Portuguese
  - working experiences in Latin America
  - conceptual knowledge from the field of ecology and/or political science
- Team-oriented and strong organizational skills

Kindly send your application, quoting the reference number 04/2020, via our application portal at https://apply.idiv.de. While we prefer applications via this portal, hard-copy applications may also be sent to:

German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research – iDiv (Halle-Jena-Leipzig)
Dr. Christa Genz
Puschstraße 4, D-04103 Leipzig

Submission deadline is 27 January 2021. Selected candidates will be invited to the online Flexpool recruitment symposium on 23/24 February 2021.

All applications should include:
- Cover letter describing motivation for the project, including conceptual and methodological ideas, research interests and relevant experience
- complete curriculum vitae including names and contact details of at least two scientific references
- digital copy of master certificate or equivalent

Queries concerning the application process should be directed to Mrs. Christa Genz (christa.genz@idiv.de), for project-related questions, please contact Dr. Yves Zinngrebe (yves.zinngrebe@ufz.de).

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.