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

**Postdoctoral Researcher (f/m/d)**

on the flexpool project 3: “Analysing plant invasions in their environmental context (iCon)”

Planned for 2 years and initially limited until 30 September 2021, an extension to the entire 2 years is dependent upon successful renewal of DFG funding for iDiv (evaluation in spring 2021)

100 percent of a full-time position

Work place: Halle (Saale)

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**

iDiv invites applications to 6 postdoctoral researcher positions in its 5th flexpool call from fall 2020 onwards (see overview in published flexpool general announcement).

Studies of invasion success and traits of successful species so far tend to ignore that success and related traits are habitat specific. Here we aim to analyse traits of invasion success and plant species performance in situ, i.e. integrating local environmental conditions with traits based on plot data from regional and global networks. This will be complemented by synthesis based on published studies and databases/datasets. The project is supervised by Prof. Dr. Ingolf Kühn.

**Your tasks:**

- Collating and harmonizing in-situ (community) data on plant species composition and environmental conditions from various large-scale, distributed networks
- Habitat specific macroecological analysis of invasion success of plant species
- Analysis of trait-environment relationship with respect to species performance of alien and native plant species
- Writing and publishing scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals
- Presenting results at national and international conferences

**Requirements:**

- PhD or equivalent degree in a project-related field (e.g. ecology, geo-ecology, geography)
- Expertise and experience in the biological invasions and analysis of plant traits
- Interest and ability in linking macroecology and community ecology with species assembly
- Strong statistical skills (in R), incl. the application of Bayesian methods
- Excellent English communication skills (spoken and written)
- Team-oriented and strong organizational skills

Kindly send your application, quoting the reference number 02/2020, via our application portal at [https://apply.idiv.de](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

Deutscher Platz 5e, D-04103 Leipzig

**Submission deadline is 10 September 2020.** Selected candidates will be invited to the online joint recruitment symposium on 28 September until 29 September 2020.
All applications should include:

- Cover letter in English describing motivation for the project, research interests and relevant experience
- Complete curriculum vitae including names and contact details of at least two scientific references
- Digital copy of master and PhD 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 Professor Dr. Ingolf Kühn (ingolf.kuehn@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.