

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** to **head the iDiv Metagenomics Support Unit** at the earliest possible date:

**Experienced Postdoctoral Researcher (f/m/d)  
in Metagenomics Bioinformatics and Statistics**

limited until 30 September 2024

(subject to further formal approval of iDiv DFG funding)

100 percent of a full-time position

Salary: *Entgeltgruppe 13/14 TVöD, depending on personal qualification*

Work location: Halle (Saale) with frequent travels to Leipzig and Jena

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

The **Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ)** with its 1,100 employees has gained an excellent reputation as an international competence centre for environmental sciences. The UFZ is part of the largest scientific organisation in Germany, the Helmholtz association. Its central mission: The research seeks to find a balance between social development and the long-term protection of our natural resources.

**The German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig** is a National Research Centre funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). Its central mission is to promote theory-driven synthesis and data-driven theory in this emerging field. Located in the city of Leipzig, it is a Central Institution of Leipzig University and jointly hosted by the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, the Friedrich Schiller University Jena and the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ). More Information about iDiv: [www.idiv.de](http://www.idiv.de).

## Tasks:

- develop and maintain bioinformatics analysis pipelines for metabarcoding, metagenome, and metatranscriptome data of highly diverse (micro)organism communities living in complex and heterogeneous environments
- perform bioinformatics processing and multivariate statistics analyses, as well as modelling, in the context of trophic or biotic interaction networks
- provide guidance and training for and contribute to coordination and networking between iDiv members producing metagenomics and metatranscriptomics data
- write reports, presentations, and manuscripts of scientific articles
- support and coordinate multi-authored synthesis papers
- acquire third-party projects in collaboration with iDiv members

## Requirements:

- PhD in biology or bioinformatics with majors in molecular or microbial ecology or equivalent, plus at least one post-doc experience attesting the capacity to work autonomously
- experience in, and enthusiasm for, assembling and handling of large next generation sequencing metagenomics and metatranscriptomics datasets from complex organismic communities (e.g., cross-kingdom microbial biocoenoses, insect meta-barcoding)
- skills in bioinformatics, incl. programming (e.g., Python, Perl, R, etc.) and workflow-management
- spatial/macroecological analyses, statistical modelling
- experience in data repository and data management systems
- expertise in interdisciplinary scientific discussions, incl. good skills of communicating methodological concepts and presenting scientific results
- expertise in writing and leading multi-authored papers attested by a solid publication record
- experience in project acquisition
- team- and service-oriented spirit, high initiative capacity
- very good spoken and written English skills, German skills appreciated

Please send your application including the following documents - cover letter, curriculum vitae, three representative publications, the names and contact information for three references and a copy of your PhD and MA/BA/Diploma or equivalent - quoting **reference number 03/2021** via our application portal under <https://apply.idiv.de> by **25.07.2021**. While we prefer applications via this portal, hard-copy applications may also be sent to: German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv), HR Department, Puschstraße 4, 04103 Leipzig.

For queries on the application process kindly contact our iDiv HR-team ([hr@idiv.de](mailto:hr@idiv.de)) ; for project-related questions, please contact Professor Dr. François Buscot ([francois.buscot@ufz.de](mailto:francois.buscot@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 welcome, recruit, develop and advance talented staff from diverse genders and backgrounds.