Leipzig, June 5, 2023

Leipzig University seeks to fill the following position at the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig at the earliest opportunity:

Student/Research assistant (f/m/d)
Scientific support work in the research group ‘Biodiversity Economics’ incl. option for BSc./MSc. thesis

Work volume: 10 to 15 hrs/week, depending on your availability
Duration: 8 months or more
Salary: 12.00 €/h to 12.72 €/h
Place of work: iDiv in Leipzig

Background:
The Biodiversity Economics research group aims at improving the scientific basis for establishing sustainability in human-nature relationships. Main areas of research are the sustainable use of renewable natural resources (e.g. marine fish stocks, rangelands, forests) and the conservation of biodiversity from regional to global scales. We study how economic incentives shape human behaviour towards nature, how sustainability – understood as justice in human-nature relationships – can be conceptualized, and how economic policy instruments could contribute to this. Our methodical expertise comprises quantitative ecological-economic modelling, dynamic optimization, statistics, economic experiments, conceptual modelling, and approaches from game theory and capital theory. Our research group is internationally well connected. We engage in integrative interdisciplinary research with natural and social scientists and researchers from the humanities. The position is supervised by Prof Martin Quaas (head of iDiv’s Biodiversity Economics Group) and Dr. Julian Sagebiel (postdoctoral researcher in the same group).

Job description:
- Carry out statistical programming tasks in R and other languages.
- Participate in the development of (micro)economic models.
- Support in literature research.
- Participate in project meetings.
- Work independently on small project tasks.

Requirements / expected profile:
- You are a BSc or MSc student in economics or a related research discipline (e.g. environmental resource management).
- You have profound knowledge in microeconomics or econometrics.
- You come with experience in statistical programming, ideally in R.
- You have basic knowledge in environmental economics esp. environmental economic valuation.
- You have a genuine interest in economic theory and/or empirical research.

You will be employed as student/research assistant via Leipzig University. We offer you the opportunity to carry out your BSc or MSc thesis project in our group (joint supervision with faculty from University Leipzig or the university where you are enrolled as a student is possible).

The preferred starting date is 01 August 2023 or shortly thereafter. Applications are accepted until the position is filled.
Applications should include:
- A cover letter (max. 1 page)
- Your curriculum vitae
- If applicable, an example of scientific work you have conducted so far, e.g. a specific code in R or another programming language, or a paper (e.g. from a seminar, thesis)

Applications should be directed to Dr. Julian Sagebiel (julian.sagebiel@idiv.de) in a single PDF file with reference "HIWI Biodiversity Economics" in the subject line.

Severely disabled persons are encouraged to apply and will be given preference in the case of equal suitability. Please note that applying via email is not entirely secure under data protection law. The sender assumes full responsibility.

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.

The German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) is a DFG National Research Centre located in Leipzig and jointly hosted by the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU), the Friedrich Schiller University Jena (FSU), the Leipzig University (UL) and the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ). Its central mission is to promote theory-driven synthesis and data-driven theory in the emerging field of Biodiversity Science. The concept of iDiv encompasses the detection of biodiversity, understanding its emergence, exploring its consequences for ecosystem functions and services, and developing strategies to safeguard biodiversity under global change. More information: www.idiv.de.