

Modern, interconnected, conscious of tradition: Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU) is the oldest and largest university in the State of Saxony-Anhalt with a history dating back more than 500 years. Today more than 20,000 students are enrolled at the university. MLU's core research areas are in the nanosciences and biosciences, the Enlightenment, as well as in social and cultural research. The university is also home to a range of small disciplines, some of which can be found nowhere else in Germany. The university has excellent national and international ties, and works closely together with leading research institutes, industry, and more than 250 universities around the world.

The Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, in cooperation with the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig, offers the following 1-year position with possibility of renewal, starting as soon as possible (preferably 1 March 2023):

Geospatial Modeler and Remote Sensing for the European Topic Center on Biodiversity and Ecosystems (ETC-BE) (m-f-d)

as full-time employment.

The salary will be up to Entgeltgruppe 13 TV-L if the personal requirements and tasks are fulfilled. This position will be based at iDiv in Leipzig within the Biodiversity Conservation research group.

The project and research group:

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 integrative biodiversity research. It is located in the city of Leipzig and it is a central institution of the Leipzig University, jointly hosted by the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU), the Friedrich Schiller University Jena and the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ). More information about iDiv: www.idiv.de.

This position is affiliated with the Biodiversity Conservation Professorship of Prof. Henrique Pereira. The successful candidate will join a new ETC-BE team coordinated by Prof. Pereira and Dr. Néstor Fernández. The Biodiversity Conservation group investigates patterns and processes of global biodiversity change, with the goal of informing environmental policy and management of ecosystems. For more information, please visit our lab website: www.idiv.de/research/idiv_core_groups/biodiversity_conservation.html.

This position is funded by the **European Environment Agency (EEA) European Topic Centre on Biodiversity and Ecosystems 2023-2026 Program (ETC-BE)**. ETC-BE aims to support the EEA with updated information on biodiversity and ecosystems, mostly through co-creation, and thus support

the EEA with the next generation of thematic and integrated biodiversity and ecosystem assessments as well as identification of actionable nature-based solutions. Thereby, the joint work of the EEA and ETC BE will support the implementation of the Green Deal. The job will be performed in collaboration with a large consortium of partner institutions and organizations across Europe.

The position aims at developing and advancing the science required for the integration of information from the different information streams supporting the European Nature Directives, Nature Restoration Law, Protected Areas Reporting, and other aspects related to the ETC-BE reporting requirements using state-of-the-art modeling and statistical techniques. This position will be a part of a wider ETC-BE-iDiv technical and scientific team and the post holders will be required to promote and maintain a transversal view of related tasks.

Tasks:

- Analyzing methodologies to monitor ecosystem condition using remote sensing, including Copernicus data
- Research on Essential Biodiversity Variables workflows
- Research on mapping of potential forest restoration and supporting the work on forest condition assessments for the implementation of the European Nature Restoration Law
- Research on extent, distribution and connectivity of existing and potential old growth forest sites across Europe, within and outside protected areas and forest habitats areas
- Coordinating the assessment and development of methodologies for mapping and monitoring EUNIS habitat types by integrating remote sensing with other sources of information
- Writing research articles on the work carried out

Requirements:

The successful candidate will demonstrate the following:

- Scientific University degree (Diploma/M.Sc.) in Geography, natural sciences, computer science or related fields
- PhD degree in Ecology, Environmental Sciences, Biodiversity Informatics, or a related field is a plus
- Extensive knowledge of state-of-the-art spatial and statistical modeling techniques accompanied by strong programming skills in Python and/or R
- demonstrated experience in machine learning modeling is advantageous
- Demonstrated experience in state-of-the-art remote sensing of vegetation
- Demonstrated ability in handling and analyzing large geo-spatial biodiversity data from different sources and with different levels of uncertainty
- Demonstrated scientific writing skills
- self-driven and highly motivated, organized and willing to perform both research and administrative duties
- Strong interpersonal skills, a sense of diplomacy and a collaborative spirit
- Strong written and verbal communication skills and an eye for details
- Fluency in English



The Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg gives priority to applications from severely disabled candidates with equivalent qualifications. Women are particularly encouraged to apply. Applicants with a degree that was not obtained at a German higher education institution must submit a Statement of Comparability for Foreign Higher Education Qualifications from the Central Office for Foreign Education (Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen) to prove equivalence.

Queries concerning the application process should be directed to hr@idiv.de. For queries about the research project please contact hpereira@idiv.de.

Please submit your full application dossier only in English with registration number 4-401/23-D until 02.02.2023. Applications should be submitted via our iDiv application portal at <https://apply.idiv.de>. Applications should include motivation letter tailored to call, curriculum vitae, a digital copy of the highest academic degree (e.g. PhD), publication record and contact from two independent referees. Application portfolios will not be returned, application costs will not be reimbursed.

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.