

sDiv Newsletter

sDiv is the Synthesis Centre for Biodiversity Research of iDiv

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to our first official sDiv newsletter. sDiv is the Synthesis Centre of *iDiv*, a research centre funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). In the last months some new professors and their staff started to fill the rooms. Now are six of the eight professorships filled (Nicole van Dam – Molecular Interaction Ecology, Aletta Bonn – Ecosystem Services, Henrique Pereira – Biodiversity Conservation, Jonathan Chase – Biodiversity Synthesis, Stan Harpole – Physiological Diversity, Nico Eisenhauer – Experimental Interaction Ecology). *yDiv*, iDiv's graduate school is recruiting more and more students and IT-wise, iDiv now hosts a huge High Performance Computer Cluster.

sDiv's THIRD CALL
 for Workshops, Post-
 docs and Sabbaticals in
 2015 is still open!

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
 15th November 2014**

Please find all important
 information and application
 documents here.

➔ www.idiv.de/sdiv/calls



f.l.t.r.: Agnes, Carolin, Marten, Franziska, Dagmar

sDiv Activities

Since our foundation, sDiv has been very active. First of all, we enlarged our team and welcomed six helping hands (Dagmar Bankamp, Franziska Hübner, Agnes Reuter).

sDiv Workshops - 1st half of 2014

The 1st half of this year sDiv was again full of exciting workshops, among them also two second meetings of specific working groups, which were also very successful and showed the advantage of having more than one meeting (please see [here](#) for workshop summaries).

Among those workshops we also hosted several working groups of the joint social-environmental synthesis activity with *SESYNC* and the *UFZ*. **We think, this unique cross-continental and cross-centre activity turns out to have had a great start and will hopefully continue this way.**

To proceed with this success story of synthesis centre collaboration, sDiv will host the next meeting of the *International Joint Synthesis Centre Consortium (IJSC)* taking place at iDiv from 26th to 29th January 2015.

➔ www.idiv.de/sdiv/workshops/workshops-2014

➔ www.sesync.org

➔ www.synthesis-consortium.org

sDiv activities so far in a nutshell

29

As outcome of the first sDiv activities and the 1st and 2nd call, sDiv approved funding for 23 workshops with **29 meetings**.

15

sDiv supported **12 postdocs** and **3 sabbatical fellows**.

502

sDiv welcomed **502 participants** (413 individuals, 32% female) from 37 countries from all continents except Antarctica.

85

Internal surveys indicated that the majority of workshop participants (**85%**) experienced scientifically excellent workshops at sDiv.



Group of SESYNC – From water to land

Upcoming Workshops 2014 / 2015

sTability – *Plant diversity effects on ecosystem resistance to and recovery from perturbations*

PIs: Nico Eisenhauer, Forest Isbell

2nd date: 06. – 10.10.2014

BIODIVERSITY CHANGES – *Debating the existence of local biodiversity loss and developing new projects to build consensus*

PIs: Nico Eisenhauer, Forest Isbell

date: 10. – 12.10.2014

sWEEP – *Unifying marine and terrestrial biodiversity at the interplay of macroecology, macrophysiology and macroevolution*

PIs: Miguel Ángel Olalla Tárrega, Ignacio Morales Castilla

associated Postdoc: Joanne Bennett

date: 21. – 24.10.2014

sSUMMITDiv – *Europe's alpine flora: past, present and future*

PI: Sonja Wipf

date: 10. – 20.11.2014

sFunDivEUROPE – *Scaling biodiversity-ecosystem functioning relationships: a synthesis based on the FunDivEUROPE research platforms*

PIs: Eric Allan, Lars Gamfeldt

date: 24. – 26.11.2014

sRareBioS – *Importance of rare microbes for soil ecosystem services*

PIs: Gera Hol, Alexandre Jousset

date: 25. – 28.11.2014

sPlot – *Plant trait-environment relationships across the world’s biomes*

PIs: Helge Bruelheide, Oliver Purschke; associated Postdoc: Jürgen Dengler

2nd date: 02. – 05.12.2014

sEcoToxDiv – *Ecotoxicology for B-EF research: experimental design of aquatic multi-trophic experiments*

PIs: Frederik De Laender, Paul Van den Brink

date: 15. – 19.12.2014

SESYNC – Socioecology of Acacia– *Anticipatory governance and societal feedbacks in socio-environmental transitions: multicontinental acacia invasions as a model system*

PIs: Christoph Kueffer, David Richardson

date: 16. – 19.02.2015

sErVICES – *Synthesizing Ecosystem Responses to Varied Impacts that Compromise Ecosystem Services*

PIs: Laura E. Dee, Steven D. Gaines

date: 16. – 20.03.2015

sESMOD – *Next Generation Models for Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity*

PIs: Elena Bennett, Gretchen Daily

date: 14. – 17.04.2015

SESYNC – LU-BD-ES trade-offs – *Effects of land use on the trade-off between biodiversity and provisioning ecosystem services*

PIs: Sandra Lavorel, Ralf Seppelt

date: 20. – 24.04.2015

SESYNC – Human decisions & ESS – *Synthesis of micro-scale human decision making to mitigate risks to ecosystem services*

PIs: Maja Schlüter, Marco Janssen

date: 29.06. – 03.07.2015

sTEP – *Synthesizing Trait Evolution in Plants*

PIs: William D. Pearse, Jeannine Cavender-Bares

date: 18. – 22.05.2015

Participants feedback

We received some very encouraging feedback on the workshops...

"sDiv provides a great environment for brainstorming and innovation."

"We were very glad about the child care option."

"Very well organized – a great group of people well-marshalled and kept on topic. I think the research in this field was moved forward to a significant degree. Awesome!"

Workshop Publications

The first workshop papers are starting to appear:

Blackburn, T. M., et al. (2014): *A Unified Classification of Alien Species Based on the Magnitude of their Environmental Impacts*. *PLOS Biology* 12(5): e1001850. ([sImpact](#))

Jeschke, J. M., et al. (2014): *Defining the Impact of Non-Native Species*. *Conservation Biology*. in press. ([sImpact](#))

Kumschick et al.: *Ecological impacts of alien species: quantification, scope, caveats and recommendations*. *BioScience*. accepted. ([sImpact](#))

Hillebrand, H., et al.: *Think ratio! A stoichiometric view on biodiversity-ecosystem functioning research*. *Basic and Applied Ecology*. in press. ([sTOICHFUN](#))

For more iDiv and sDiv publications, please see [here](#).



Posing picture by sTUNDRA workshop

- ➔ www.idiv.de/sdiv/workshops/workshops-2013/simpact
- ➔ www.idiv.de/sdiv/workshops/workshops-2013/stoichfun
- ➔ www.idiv.de/idiv-global/publications/publications-2014

sDiv Scientists

sDiv heartily welcomes *Prof. Tiffany Knight* (Washington Univ., US) as new Sabbatical fellow and two new Postdocs: *sAnne Bjorkman* (US, *sTundra workshop*), *sJoanne Bennett* (AU, *sSWEEP workshop*) and *sVincent Doublet* being back at sDiv continuing his research after the *2nd TRANSBEE workshop* (he became father of a beautiful girl – CONGRATULATIONS!).

Unfortunately sDiv already had to say goodbye to a few scientists. *sAleksandra Lewandowska* left to a new job at the University of Oldenburg. *sKelly Ramirez* also left to start a new position at the Netherlands Institute of Ecology (NIOO-KNAW) in Wageningen. *Evan Weiher* as well as *Colleen Webb* finished their sabbatical visit at sDiv.

All of them will be of course still in touch with us and still working on sDiv related scientific issues. For this reason, sDiv will run an [alumni page](#), which will be crowded in the upcoming month and years with related information.

- ➔ www.idiv.de/sdiv/sabbaticals/sabbatical-visits
- ➔ www.idiv.de/sdiv/postdoc-fellowships/workshop-postdocs
- ➔ www.idiv.de/sdiv/workshops/workshops-2014/sweep
- ➔ www.idiv.de/sdiv/workshops/workshops-2013/stransbee
- ➔ www.idiv.de/sdiv/alumni

Childcare

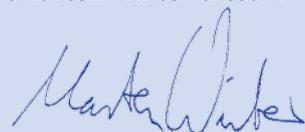
sDiv is proud to announce that we have the possibility of organizing child care at our Synthesis Centre. If interested, of course, we always need all important information asap before the workshops start.



Since your feedback is always welcome, please do not hesitate to contact sMarten Winter, the Scientific Coordinator, or Carolin Kablau, sDiv secretary, at carolin.kablau@idiv.de or +49 341 9733130.

With our best regards from sunny Leipzig

sMarten Winter & team



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