



The environment needs  
people like you  
who put heaven and  
earth in motion with us.



#### Your application:

Equal opportunities are an integral part of our personnel policy, we therefore particularly welcome applications from qualified women. Severely disabled persons are given priority where applicants are equally qualified.

#### Your contact for any questions you may have about the job:

Mr. Dr. Oliver Schweiger  
oliver.schweiger@ufz.de

**Place of work:** Halle (Saale)

**Closing date for applications:** February the 26th of 2017

**Please use our online application system for your application:**

[www.ufz.de/career](http://www.ufz.de/career)

**Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research  
GmbH – UFZ**

Permoserstraße 15  
04318 Leipzig



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. We are part of the largest scientific organisation in Germany, the Helmholtz community. Our mission: Our research seeks to find a balance between social development and the long-term protection of our natural resources.

In a framework of 10 Integrated Projects (IPs) scientists address key environmental challenges following a solution-oriented approach. In order to strengthen its interdisciplinary work, UFZ is currently offering 12 PhD positions. One position will be dedicated to the following subject:

#### PhD position (m/f)

##### Impact of land use on multifunctional agro-ecosystems

Project start: 1st July 2017, working time 50% (19,5 h/week); limited for three years

#### Your duties:

Within an interdisciplinary research team, we are looking for a highly motivated PhD candidate to identify key drivers of soil functional aspects and further, how these soil functions are connected to soil microbial community-driven ecosystem functions and in turn to plant, herbivore, pollinator and predator diversity and functional structure in the context of agricultural land use. In particular the candidate will:

- Develop a predictive model of soil functional types based on local site conditions and agricultural land use.
- Assess the relative importance of agricultural land use for key ecosystem compartments, their functioning and potential of service provision.
- Disentangle direct and indirect impacts of land use on soil processes and properties in connection to species co-occurrence, community assembly and the consequent taxonomic and functional structure of soil microbiota, plants, pollinators, herbivores and birds,

#### Your profile:

- Diploma or MSc degree in biology, ecology, geoecology, geography or a related discipline.
- Expertise in modern concepts of ecology.
- Skills in the analysis of species communities and functional traits are advantageous.
- Experiences with modern statistical methods like univariate, multivariate and/or path analyses.
- Good command of the statistical environment R is advantageous.
- Ability to work in an interdisciplinary team.
- Fluency in written and spoken English.

#### We offer:

- Top level interdisciplinary research at a research centre which enjoys an excellent reputation within Germany as well as internationally
- Excellent technical facilities
- Work in inter-disciplinary and multinational teams
- Excellent links to national and international research networks
- Support and optimal training courses by our graduate school (HIGRADE)
- Remuneration in accordance with the TVöD public-sector pay grade 13