



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



The Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) with its 1,100 employees has an excellent reputation as an international centre of competence for environmental sciences. We are part of the largest scientific organisation in Germany, the Helmholtz association. Our mission is to seek a balance between social development and the longterm 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: Assessing biofilm-mediated functions in aquatic ecosystems

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

Dr. Mechthild Schmitt-Jansen
mechthild.schmitt@ufz.de

Closing date for applications:

February 28th, 2016

Successful applicants will be invited to a recruitment event at the UFZ on May 26th/27th, 2016.

Place of work: Leipzig

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

Please use our **online application system:**

www.ufz.de/career

Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research GmbH – UFZ | Permoserstr. 15 | 04318 Leipzig | Germany

Your duties:

Aim of this PhD project is to compile a biofilm-related functional toolbox for water quality assessment. Traditional functional metrics like primary production or stream metabolism will be completed by biochemical/molecular-biological functional parameters. Therefore, omics-based approaches (metabolomics/metagenomics) will be used.

The approach will be validated by using fluvial biofilms from mesocosm experiments and from field studies. The project will be implemented in the UFZ - IP 'Aquatic Ecosystems', which is aiming to provide cause-effect relationships of multiple stressors for a better diagnosis of multiple impacted streams.

Your profile:

- Master's degree in Biology, Biochemistry, Environmental Sciences or equivalent fields with strong interests in ecology of fluvial biofilms.
- Trained hydrobiologist with background in molecular biology and/or chemical analytics of metabolites using GC-MS.
- Basic skills in handling and processing large datasets are advantageous.
- Proficient English language skills.
- Motivation to work in an interdisciplinary environment together with ecologists, ecotoxicologists and molecular biologists.

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
- Remuneration in accordance with the TVöD public-sector pay grade 13 (50%)

