

Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ

Institution: Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Leipzig, Germany

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Research for the Environment

Being an international competence center for environmental research, the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ is investigating the interaction between man and environment in used and disturbed landscapes. UFZ develops concepts and methods to assure a healthy environment for future generations.

The Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ is located in Leipzig, Germany.

The Department of Ecological Modelling is seeking two

PhD candidates (f/m)

to work within a project funded by the German ministry of education and research, BMBF, starting February 1, 2007, for three years.

You will do interesting and challenging research in a team, investigating questions of sustainable use of ecosystem services under uncertainty with methods of ecological, environmental and resource economics and ecological-economic modeling.

Position 1: Modeling economically managed savanna ecosystems

You will model and analyze savanna ecosystems which are managed for their economic use as rangelands and are subject to strong environmental fluctuations, and investigate the sustainability of different grazing strategies. In collaboration with the team's economists, you will determine how options of economic policy affect the sustainability of the use of ecosystem services. You will take part in developing a criterion of sustainability, which is applicable for coupled ecological-economic systems and takes into account uncertainty.

The ideal candidate is experienced in ecological modeling, has substantial knowledge about savanna ecology and basic skills in economics.

Position 2: Empirical economic modeling to evaluate options of economic policy

You will develop empirical models to assess to what degree economic policy options assure a sustainable use of ecosystem services of rangelands. In collaboration with the team's ecologists you integrate ecological knowledge. You are involved in collecting data in Namibia and in developing a criterion of sustainability which is applicable for coupled ecological-economic systems and takes into account uncertainty.

The ideal candidate is experienced in applied econometrics and has substantial knowledge in ecological, environmental and resource economics or agricultural economics, and development economics.

Candidates for both positions are accessory expected to

- have an excellent degree in a relevant subject
- have the skills and ambition for interdisciplinary collaboration
- are markedly interested in doing research about sustainable use of ecosystem services
- have first ideas for the own PhD dissertation

For further information please contact: Dr. Martin Quaas, Phone +49341/235-2037, email martin.quaas@ufz.de

The place of work is Leipzig, Germany. Salary will be according to the appropriate civil service level.

Physically handicapped persons will be favored if they are equally qualified.

Women are explicitly encouraged to apply to increase their share in science and research.

Please send your complete application documents until January 8, 2007 under the code digit 84/2006 to the personnel department, P.O. Box 500136, D-04301 Leipzig, Germany