

PhD position (UNIVERSITÄT FRANKFURT)

Bewerbungsfrist: 15.10.2023

The Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt am Main is one of the largest universities in Germany with around 44,000 students and with about 5,700 employees. Founded in 1914 by Frankfurt citizens and since 2008 once again proud of its foundation status Goethe University possesses a high degree of autonomy, modernity and professional diversity. As a comprehensive university, the Goethe University offers a total of 16 departments on five campuses and 154 degree programs along with an outstanding research reputation. Furthermore, the Goethe University is part of the Group of Rhine-Main-Universities (RMU).

Within the *Department of Geoscience/Geography, Institute of Physical Geography, the Biogeography and Biodiversity Lab of Prof. Severin Irl* at the Goethe-University Frankfurt is seeking a **PhD Student (m/f/d) (E 13 TV-G-U 65 % part-time)** for the duration of three years, starting as 16.01.2024.

Tasks: You will conduct research in the DFG-Project “Quartz Islands II - Cross-scale determinants of plant diversity and endemism in quartz island archipelagos in southern Africa“ in collaboration with Dr. Ute Schmiedel (University of Hamburg) and Prof. Severin Irl (Goethe-University Frankfurt). The project investigates plant diversity and endemism in unique quartz habitats (so-called quartz islands) along the Western Cape of southern Africa by combining approaches from vegetation ecology, island biogeography and remote sensing as well as experimental ecology. The Quartz Island II project consists of two PhD-student positions, of which one is located at the University of Hamburg with Dr. Ute Schmiedel and the other with Prof. Severin Irl at the Goethe-University Frankfurt. The position advertised in this add will focus on the island biogeography and functional ecology of the flora of the quartz islands in southern Africa and offers chances for collecting data in the field (vegetation plots, species identification, functional trait measurements) as well as using large databases for macroecological analyses. You will also have the possibility to conduct self-determined research for further scientific qualification. Your tasks encompass project work (e.g., several weeks of field work in South Africa), scientific project coordination and other scientific services as well as contributing to academic self-administration. Place of employment is Frankfurt am Main. Qualification goal is a PhD. Main supervisor will be Severin Irl.

Your profile: An above-average scientific university degree in Ecology, Biology, Physical Geography or another related discipline. Requirements: i) Advanced knowledge of island biogeography and vegetation ecology, ii) good skills in plant identification, iii) good skills in botany and soil chemistry, iv) very good skills in R and GIS for establishing databases, advanced statistical analyses and GIS analyses, v) willingness to conduct several scientific field trips to the study area under expedition conditions, vi) motivation to publish and present scientific results in international peer-reviewed journals and scientific conferences. A further requirement is fluency in English (oral and written). Remote sensing skills are helpful but not required.

The university advocates gender equality and therefore invites women to apply. If qualified equally, applicants with disabilities are treated preferentially. In 2005 the Goethe-University was granted the certification as family-friendly employer. The university emphasizes a family-friendly arrangement of working conditions and supports professional re-entry after parental leave. Positions can be divided if this does not conflict with the work task. Fixed-term work contracts of scientific employees underlie the regulations of the Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetzes in combination with the Hessisches Hochschulgesetz.

Applications: Please send your application including CV, cover letter and, if applicable, list of publications until **15.10.2023** as pdf to Rita Peters, rita.peters@em.uni-frankfurt.de. Please put the following application ID in the subject line: **QISL2024**. For further questions please contact Prof. Severin Irl: telephone number: +49-69-798-40171, e-mail: irl@geo.uni-frankfurt.de.