



The Department of Conservation Biology is offering a half-time position for a

**Research Scientist (m/f)
(code digit 165/2012)**

available for up to 36 months, conditional on final approval of the EU, within the EU-FP 7-funded project

**Operationalisation of natural capital and ecosystem services: from concepts to real-world applications
(OpenNESS).**

The project with more than 30 European partners will develop innovative and practical ways of applying the ideas of ecosystem services (ESS) and natural capital (NC) in land, water and urban management: it will identify how, where and when the concepts can most effectively be applied to solve problems. To do this, it will work with public and private decision makers and stakeholders to better understand the range of policy and management problems faced in different case study contexts (ranging across locales, sectors, scales and time). The project is thus trans-disciplinary but also highly interdisciplinary requiring close interaction between natural and social scientists from various disciplines.

The successful candidate will have the following responsibilities

- Together with other project partners work on advancing the concepts of ESS and NC and develop operational frameworks for the application of these concepts in real-world management and decision-making situations.
- Independently conduct specific tasks (guide and conduct analyses, e.g. on the suitability of different ESS concepts for different fields of application),
- Interacting with other working groups within the project, in particular in relation to case study work and policy analysis (e.g. applying and testing the ESS concepts and frameworks).
- Contribute to the analysis and publication of project results and contribute to reporting and project management

The successful candidate preferably should have a PhD in a discipline relevant for OpenNESS, e.g. integrated environmental and natural sciences or social sciences. She/he should be used to interdisciplinary work between the sciences and the humanities preferably in the field of ecosystem services science, conservation biology or biodiversity research; he/she should be familiar with conceptual work in the environmental sciences. An interest in issues of environmental ethics is appreciated, as are experiences with social science methods. We seek a scientist who is highly motivated to work within and take over responsibilities in a team with a broad range of scientific backgrounds, has an interest both in interdisciplinary research on ecosystem services and biodiversity, extending into the field of the interface between science and policy.

The place of work is Leipzig, Germany. Salary will be according to the appropriate civil service level TVöD. The UFZ is an equal opportunity employer. Women are explicitly encouraged to apply to increase their share in science and research. Physically handicapped persons will be favoured if they are equally qualified.

Further Information:

Prof. Dr. Kurt Jax, Tel. ++49-(0)341 235 1648, E-Mail: kurt.jax@ufz.de

Please send your complete application documents until **07.12.2012** under the code digit **165/2012** to the personnel department, P.O. Box 500136, D-04301 Leipzig, Germany or by E-Mail to application@ufz.de. The post will remain open until a suitable candidate is found.

The Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research GmbH (UFZ) is the first research institution with EMAS certification. In order to promote sustainability, we ask you to send your application via email.