

The KIT Institute of Geography and Geoecology invites applications for a

PhD position (TV-L E 13, 65 %, 3 years) – functional ecology and remote sensing

within the project *URBORETUM: Preventing urban tree mortality and linking ecosystem services to biophysical and ecological processes: an inter- and transdisciplinary study to co-create sustainable and resilient urban forests of the future – Work Package TreePulse*. The project is funded by BMBF under the REGULUS program.

The research will include an irrigation experiment and will focus on the eco-physiological and morphological responses of urban trees under drought stress. The interdisciplinary study will combine urban tree inventory, monitoring of tree physiological processes by sensors (below and above ground), laboratory analyses, satellite time series analysis and terrestrial remote sensing. The successful candidate will be expected to present results at conferences and in peer-reviewed journals.

Starting date: 01.05.2024 or earlier

Personal qualification

- M.Sc. in Ecology, Geoecology, Physical Geography, Forestry, Environmental Sciences or related disciplines
- Ability to work independently; positive attitude to problem-solving; willingness to work in an international and diverse team
- Driving license valid in Germany (class B)
- Programming skills in R or a comparable language
- Good communication and scientific writing skills in English

Successful candidates will have experience in some of the following areas

- Ecophysiology of trees
- Remote sensing
- Statistical theory and data analysis
- Inventory of city trees, urban soil assessments

What we offer:

- Motivated team
- Flexible working hours
- Karlsruhe offers an inspiring research environment in the heart of Europe, with close proximity to France and the Black Forest

Interested candidates should send a letter of motivation (maximum two pages), CV, and certificates (all assembled in one pdf document) to Prof. Dr. Schmidlein (sebastian.schmidlein@kit.edu), who you can also contact with any questions. The position is open until filled and the review of applications starts on 15.03.2024.

KIT prefers to balance the number of female and male employees. We therefore kindly ask female applicants to apply for this job. Qualified applicants with disabilities will be preferred.