



Friedrich Schiller University is a traditional university with a strong research profile rooted in the heart of Germany. As a university covering all disciplines, it offers a wide range of subjects. Its research is focused on the areas Light—Life—Liberty. It is closely networked with non-research institutions, research companies and renowned cultural institutions. With around 18,000 students and more than 8,600 employees, the university plays a major role in shaping Jena's character as a cosmopolitan and future-oriented city.

The German Centre for integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig seeks to fill the position of a

Scientific Employee on the iDiv Flexpool Project: "Comparative genomic and macroevolutionary insights into the evolution of biotic dispersal traits"

commencing **on 1 January 2024** or at the earliest opportunity thereafter and **limited to 31 December 2025**. The position is offered with reservation of possible budgetary restrictions and dependent upon final approval of funding

This is a full-time position with 40 hours per week; place of work is the Evolutionary Ecology (EvE) Group of the Institute of Ecology and Evolution at the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) in Leipzig, Germany.

Background:

The **German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig** is a National Research Centre funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). Its central mission is to promote theory-driven synthesis and data-driven theory in this emerging field. It is jointly hosted by the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU), the Friedrich Schiller University Jena (FSU), the University of Leipzig (UL), and the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ). For more information please visit: www.idiv.de.

The project aims at addressing the question of what traits facilitated the evolution of fleshy (animal-dispersed) fruits, and what genes and genetic pathways may have been involved in the repeated evolutionary transition from dry to fleshy fruits across the angiosperm tree-of-life. The project will combine phylogenetic comparative and genomic tools, relying on large functional trait, phylogenetic and genomic datasets. The project will rely on available (yet-to-be-published) data and will not require field or lab work. The successful candidate will be working at iDiv (Leipzig) but will have the possibility to also work in collaborator institutes, such as Naturalis (Renske Onstein, Netherlands), the Leibniz Institute for Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research (IPK) (Martin Mascher), and Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (Belinda Kahnt). A team of experts covering all relevant fields will support the successful candidate. An annual budget for travelling (work stays, conferences) and project-related expenses will be available. The successful candidate will integrate into [iDiv's postdoc program](#) and receive support in career development, individual coaching, and other activities.

Your responsibilities:

Independently lead an ambitious postdoc project, including:

- Data assembly, filtration, quality control
- Data analysis
- Writeup of at least two peer-reviewed manuscripts
- Presenting results in international conferences

Your profile:

- Scientific University degree (Diploma/ M.Sc.) in a project related field
- PhD in a project-related field (e.g., evolutionary biology, plant systematics, ecology); alternatively a set date for doctoral defence within 3 months of the beginning of the project
- At least three years of experience in research (including doctoral studies) and in the publication of scientific results
- Experience in at least one of the following:
 - genomics
 - comparative analysis; phylogenetic methods
- Background in seed dispersal ecology / animal-plant interactions is an advantage
- Hands-on experience in the Unix shell and in R, python or a similar computational environment
- Ability to work independently and experience in project management
- Excellent English communication skills (spoken and written)
- Team-oriented with interest and ability in interdisciplinary research and organizational skills

We offer:

- Work in a dynamic, international, and interdisciplinary environment in the beautiful city of Leipzig (Germany)
- Opportunities to develop and advance scientific networks
- Flexible working hours and a family-friendly working environment
- Participation in our iDiv career support programme
- Integration into several workgroups at iDiv and beyond
- Attractive fringe benefits, e.g. capital formation benefits (VL), Job Ticket (benefits for public transport), and an occupational pension (VBL)
- Remuneration based on the provisions of the Collective Agreement for the Public Sector of the Federal States (TV-L) at salary scale E13— depending on the candidate's personal qualifications — including a special annual payment in accordance with the collective agreement
- 30 days of vacation per calendar year plus two days off on December 24 and 31

Queries concerning the application process should be directed to flexpool@idiv.de, for project-related questions, please contact Dr. Omer Nevo (omer.nevo@uni-jena.de).

All applications should include:

- Cover letter describing the motivation for the project, research interests, and relevant experience
- Complete curriculum vitae including names and contact details of at least two scientific references
- digital copy of master and PhD (if applicable) certificate or equivalent

Candidates with severe disabilities will be given preference in the case of equal qualifications and suitability.

Are you eager to work with us? Kindly send your application, quoting the vacancy ID 219/2023, via our application portal at <https://apply.idiv.de> by **18 August 2023**. While we prefer applications via this portal, hard-copy applications may also be sent to: German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research –iDiv (Halle-Jena-Leipzig), Scientific Networks, Puschstr. 4, 04103 Leipzig.

iDiv is committed to establishing and maintaining a diverse and inclusive community that collectively supports and implements our mission to do great science. We will welcome, recruit, develop, and advance talented staff from diverse genders and backgrounds.

For further information for applicants and the information on the collection of personal data, please refer to <https://www.uni-jena.de/en/job-market>