



The Institute of Zoology and Anthropology at the University of Göttingen is offering a

## PhD position (f/m/d)

with 65% of a full position. Regular working hours will currently be 25.9 hours per week with a limited contract of 3 years. This position should be filled by 01 May 2025. Salary: Pay grade E13 TV-L.

The position is part of the DFG-funded project

**“Changes in arthropod communities of forest ecosystems on Changbai Mountain, north-east China: Trophic structure and energy channeling in soil and canopy food webs”**

and forms part of long-standing collaboration between the Animal Ecology Group of the University of Göttingen and the Northeast Institute of Geography and Agroecology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Changchun, China.

For information on the Animal Ecology Group of the University of Göttingen see <http://www.uni-goettingen.de/animal-ecology>.

### Your duties

As part of the German – Chinese project team the Research Assistant will investigate the trophic structure and channeling of energy in above- and belowground food webs of forests which will be investigated in a quantitative way. The project focuses on changes in the trophic structure of below- and aboveground communities along major biomes on Changbai Mountain using state-of-the-art technologies such as bulk and compound-specific stable isotope analysis of major invertebrate taxa in soil and the canopy of trees. The project is based on extensive earlier work on soil and aboveground invertebrates along elevation gradients on Changbai Mountain.

### Your profile

- You hold a completed master/diploma degree in biological sciences or a closely related field.
- You have a background or strong interest in animal ecology, invertebrate biodiversity and/or above- / belowground interactions.
- You are experienced in doing field and lab work.
- You are curious exploring linkages between soil and canopy animal communities.
- You are interested in exploring trophic interactions using analytical approaches such as stable isotope analysis.
- You have experience in statistical methods and you are familiar in using R.
- You have good oral and written English language skills.
- You are interested in teaching, supervising and working with students in an international team.

This post is designed to serve in fostering young researchers and scientists and give the successful applicant the opportunity to pursue a doctoral degree.

The University of Göttingen is an equal opportunities employer and places particular emphasis on fostering career opportunities for women. Qualified women are therefore strongly encouraged to apply in fields in which they are underrepresented. The university has committed itself to being a family-friendly institution and supports their employees in balancing work and family life.

The mission of the University is to employ a greater number of severely disabled persons. Applications from severely disabled persons with equivalent qualifications will be given preference.

Please send your application with the usual documents in electronic form as one single pdf file (file name: Surname\_Name.pdf) attached to a single email with the subject line “PhD in soil animal ecology” by 01 March 2025 to Prof. Dr. Stefan Scheu, e-mail: [sscheu@gwdg.de](mailto:sscheu@gwdg.de)

If you have any questions, please contact Prof. Dr. Stefan Scheu (phone: +49 (0)551 3925445, e-mail: [sscheu@gwdg.de](mailto:sscheu@gwdg.de)).

### Please note

With submission of your application, you accept the processing of your applicant data in terms of data-protection law. Further information on the legal basis and data usage is provided in the Hinweisblatt zur Datenschutzgrundverordnung (DSGVO) <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/hinweisdservo>