



The Institute of International Forestry and Forest Economics, one of 14 specialized institutes of the Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute, Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries, invites applications, for a

**Research Scientist  
to engage in Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) of tropical forests**

The engagement is limited to three years and 75% of the regular weekly working time (at the moment 29,25 hours weekly).

We are searching for a forest scientist with specialisation in economic topics or a graduate in economics or related disciplines, with experience in tropical forestry.

Within the interdisciplinary research project “LaForeT-Landscape Forestry in the Tropics” the applicant will conduct PES and governance assessments either in Ecuador or in the Philippines. He or she will evaluate PES data. The work will be conducted in close collaboration with another scientist who will assess similar data in the other of the two countries evaluating governance data.

**Tasks**

- methodological design of a PES research component for national, regional and local levels in tropical countries in collaboration with the LaForeT team
- empirical research into demand and willingness to pay for selected ecosystem services
- Field assessments of PES and governance in Ecuador or in the Philippines
- quantitative and qualitative evaluation of PES data from both of these countries
- interdisciplinary and intercultural collaboration within the LaForeT project
- Publication in international scientific journals

**Requirements:**

- University degree in forest sciences, economics or related disciplines
- Knowledge of forest legislation in the tropics, institutions, use rights, environmental economics and/or incentive systems
- Knowledge of qualitative and quantitative statistical methods; experience with specific methodologies is an asset (social network analysis, expert interviews, economic valuation of public goods)
- excellent knowledge of written and spoken English; Spanish is an asset
- Ability to work in the tropics; work experience in the tropics
- Willingness to stay and work in Ecuador or the Philippines for several months and possibly to travel to other tropical countries
- Flexibility, team spirit, ability to work in interdisciplinary and multicultural teams; personal commitment is a prerequisite.

The position includes the possibility to work on a PhD thesis.



The working contract and labour conditions are based on the German „Tarifvertrag für den öffentlichen Dienst (TVöD)“ (Wage agreement for public service). Remuneration is according to wage group 13 TVöD. Part-time employment is in principal possible.

The temporal contract-limitation is based on § 2 Abs. 1 Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz.

The Thünen Institute supports gender-equality. Qualified female applicants are encouraged to apply. Disabled persons with similar qualification are specifically considered. However, minimum physical fitness is required.

For additional requests candidates are asked to contact Dr. Peter Elsasser (E-Mail [peter.elsasser@ti.bund.de](mailto:peter.elsasser@ti.bund.de)).

Interested candidates should send their applications (including motivation letter, CV, list of publications, copies of relevant certificates, names and addresses of personal references) referring to “LaForeT-PES” before **23. August 2015** to

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