The Plant Ecology Group at the University of Tübingen is searching for

2 PhD students in Plant Ecology (65%)

within the framework of the NamTip project.

The NamTip project – funded by the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) within the BioTip call – aims to gain better understanding of degradation processes leading up to desertification tipping points in dryland ecosystems, on the example of Namibian rangelands.

PhD 1: **Identification of early-warning signals for rangeland desertification by means of productivity time-series analysis**

PhD 2: **Identifying rangeland degradation and desertification along grazing gradients using UAV remote sensing**

Please find the detailed advertisements for both positions attached.

EBERHARD KARLS
UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN

The Plant Ecology Group at the University of Tübingen is searching for a

PhD student in Plant Ecology

We are looking for an ecologist with excellent theoretical and practical knowledge in the field of plant ecology with a focus on community ecology or ecosystem ecology. The candidate should hold a M.Sc., Diploma or equivalent degree in biology or a related subject. S/he should have a strong conceptual approach to ecological questions and a profound knowledge of biostatistics and/or time series analyses. Furthermore, basic knowledge of any of the following topics would be advantageous: ecology of drylands, rangeland ecology, remote sensing of vegetation.

The NamTip project – funded by the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) within the BioTip call – aims to gain better understanding of degradation processes leading up to desertification tipping points in dryland ecosystems, on the example of Namibian rangelands. NamTip is a transdisciplinary group of practitioners, stakeholders and researchers from Namibia and Germany, that strives not only to understanding ecological processes around desertification tipping points, but also societal and management related aspects that may promote, deter or mitigate rangeland desertification.

Identification of early-warning signals for rangeland desertification by means of productivity time-series analysis

This advertised PhD project aims to identify early warning indicators for desertification tipping points on basis of long-term ecological monitoring data from drylands of Namibia as well as other dryland areas. Hence, experience with time series data and analysis and/or the handling of large datasets and/or remote sensing data would be advantageous.

The main working place is Tübingen, a lively and pretty university town in South-West Germany. Our working group is very international; thus, an excellent knowledge of English is a prerequisite for this position. The position is scheduled for 3 years with an anticipated starting date of May 2019. The salary is based on the German public tariff E13 TV-L (65%) and includes social benefits.

The University seeks to raise the number of women in research and therefore urges qualified female academics to apply for this position. Disabled candidates will be given preference over other equally qualified applicants.

Please send your application including a letter of motivation and CV as a single pdf-file to **Dr. Jan C. Ruppert (vegetation@bot.uni-tuebingen.de)** to whom also inquiries should be addressed. Please also make sure that two letters of reference will be sent to the above address independently.

The deadline for applications is March 31st 2019, or until the position is filled.

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The NamTip project – funded by the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) within the BioTip call – aims to gain better understanding of degradation processes leading up to desertification tipping points in dryland ecosystems, on the example of Namibian rangelands. NamTip is a transdisciplinary group of practitioners, stakeholders and researchers from Namibia and Germany, that strives not only to understanding ecological processes around desertification tipping points, but also societal and management related aspects that may promote, deter or mitigate rangeland desertification.

Identifying rangeland degradation and desertification along grazing gradients using UAV remote sensing

This advertised PhD project aims to identify early warning indicators for desertification tipping points along degradation gradients in Namibian rangelands by means of plant ecological surveys and UAV-based remote sensing. Hence, experience in either of the mentioned approaches would be highly advantageous.

Work will be split between the Waterberg area in Namibia and Tübingen, a lively and pretty university town in South-West Germany. Hence, excellent knowledge of English and the willingness for travel is a prerequisite for this position. The position is scheduled for 3 years with an anticipated starting date of May 2019. The salary is based on the German public tariff E13 TV-L (65%) and includes social benefits.

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