The mission of the Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) as a nationally and internationally active research institute is to scientifically resolve and explain causal relationships in agricultural landscapes and to provide society with a knowledge base for the sustainable use of agricultural landscapes through excellent research. ZALF is a member of the Leibniz Association.

The Research Area 1 Landscape Functioning of ZALF investigates the functioning of agricultural landscapes and aims at contributions to the United Nations' Sustainability Goals (SDGs) Zero Hunger, Climate Action, and Life on Land. For further information http://www.zalf.de/en/struktur/pb1/Pages/default.aspx.

We offer positions for

2 Phd Projects (m/f/d) - Start: Autumn 2020

Working Place: ZALF campus (35 minutes by regional train from Berlin)

Both positions are part of the DFG-funded project 'Erosion-induced impact on C dynamics in a crop rhizosphere microbiota soil organic matter continuum (CropRhizoSOM)' that investigates as an ultimate goal the carbon sequestration in agricultural soil.

Phd Project 1 – Plant-Soil Carbon Dynamics (WG Isotope Biogeochemistry & Fluxes)

Your tasks:
- Conduction of $^{14}$C plant labelling in pot experiments & chemical analysis of radioactively labelled plant & soil fractions
- Presentation of results on national & international conferences
- Publication of results

Your qualifications:
- MSc (or close to be finished) in plant, soil OR agricultural sciences
- Very good communication skills (incl. English)
- A high capability in self-management & very good teaming skills
- Willingness to travel in Germany & abroad

Advantageous:
- Practical experiences with plant pot experiments & radioactive tracer techniques
- Advanced knowledge in statistics (e.g. ANOVA, NLR)

Phd Project 2 – Microbiome’s Functions (WG Microbial Biogeochemistry)

Your tasks:
- Microbiome analyses incl. metagenomics, qPCR, soil enzymes
- Presentation of results on national & international conferences
- Publication of results in scientific journals

Your qualifications:
- MSc (or close to be finished) in microbiology, microbial ecology OR agricultural sciences
- Very good communication skills (incl. English)
- A high capability in self-management & Very good teaming skills
- Willingness to travel in Germany & abroad

Advantageous:
- Practical experiences with the analysis of metagenome and/or gene data, Network analyses and/or metabolic reconstruction
- Driving license
We offer:

- A collegial & open-minded working atmosphere in state-of-the-art facilities
- Family-orientated work
- Possibility to achieve a doctoral degree at Humboldt University of Berlin
- Participation in national & international conferences
- Membership in ZALF’s and HU’s graduate program (incl. benefit from skill training courses)
- Scientific and personal exchange with Czech Partners of SoWa & University of South Bohemia
- Salary according to the collective agreement of the federal states (TV-L) EG13 with a 65% weekly working time

Women are particularly encouraged to apply. Applications from severely disabled persons with equal qualifications are favored. Please, send your application by email as a single PDF file (max. 5 MB) with all required documents (letter of motivation, CV, proof of qualification & certificates) stating the reference number **35-2020** until **15 July 2020** to **Bewerbungen@zalf.de**

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Phd Project 1: Prof. Jürgen Augustin - jaug@zalf.de; Phd Project 2: Prof. Steffen Kolb - kolb@zalf.de.

For cost reasons, application documents or extensive publications can only be returned if an adequately stamped envelope is attached.

If you apply, we collect and process your personal data in accordance with Articles 5 and 6 of the EU GDPR only for the processing of your application and for purposes that result from possible future employment with the ZALF. Your data will be deleted after six months.

You can find further information at: [www.zalf.de/en/ueber_uns/Pages/Datenschutzerklaerung.aspx](http://www.zalf.de/en/ueber_uns/Pages/Datenschutzerklaerung.aspx)