

The Thünen Institute of International Forestry and Forest Economics of the Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institute, Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries, in Hamburg is offering a 75 %-position (currently 29,25 hours per week) for a

**Researcher (f/m/d)**

**(environmental or agricultural sciences, preferably with specialization in rural livelihoods in the tropics)**

**in the working group ‘Forestry Worldwide’ for Analysis of rural households as subsistence-oriented or market-oriented drivers of land use change in tropical forested landscapes.** The position includes the possibility to work on a PhD thesis and is limited to a fixed term of three (3) years and is to be filled as soon as possible. The temporal contract-limitation is based on § 2 (1) S. 1 Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz.

The Thünen Institute is currently conducting an interdisciplinary research project “**Landscape Forestry in the Tropics**” (LaForeT) ([www.la-foret.org](http://www.la-foret.org)) in cooperation with the partners in Ecuador, Zambia and the Philippines that seeks to produce science-based policy advice to reduce tropical deforestation. One of the key areas that the LaForeT project focuses on is forest-based livelihoods. Main research objectives in this area are to understand the role that forests play in rural livelihoods in the three countries, and to analyse how policy measures that restrict access to forest resources affect the livelihoods of the people who live in close proximity to forests. Of particular interest are the opportunity costs of preserving forests from the perspective of a household farm.

**Tasks:**

- Compare indicators of commercial and subsistence-oriented land use and their implication on livelihoods and land use change
- Elaborate land use decisions on the household and the community level and their implications on land use change
- Collect additional information on the background of land use change in each country, socio-economic trends (population growth, migration, economic policies), geographical location, natural disasters, and their implications for land use change (desk research, possibly KII and expert interviews)
- Present research results at international conferences
- Prepare publications in international journals and support to policy briefs
- Collaborate with interdisciplinary team members to achieve research outcomes

**Requirements:**

- University degree (Diploma/M.Sc.) in Forestry, Forest Economics, Environmental or Agricultural Sciences or related subjects, preferably with a focus on tropical forest management
- Understanding of rural livelihoods and development, particularly in forested landscapes
- Interest and experience in interdisciplinary research
- Experience in both quantitative and socio-empirical research methods is desired
- Very good statistics skills and experience in relevant statistical software, e.g. Stata, JMP, R
- Experience in field work under tropical conditions is desired
- Openness, creativity and high motivation in taking over new tasks
- Very good command of English (verbal and written), basic German and Spanish would be an asset
- Flexibility, team capability, ability for intercultural and interdisciplinary cooperation and personal engagement are required

The employment is governed by the Wage Agreement for Public Services (TVöD-Bund). The payment of remuneration is carried out according to tariff-category 13 TVöD.

The Thünen Institute promotes the professional equality of women and men and is thus especially interested in applications from women.

Job vacancy at the Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institute



Severely disabled applicants with equal qualification will be given particular consideration. Only a minimum physical aptitude is expected from them.

For further inquiries please contact PD Dr. Sven Günter (E-mail: [sven.guentner@thuenen.de](mailto:sven.guentner@thuenen.de)).

Interested candidates should send their electronic (preferred) or hard-copy applications in English language (including motivation letter, CV, list of publications, certificates or letters of recommendation, names and addresses of personal references) referring to the keyword **“Livelihoods”** until **31.03.2019** to

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Informations about Artikel 13 DSGVO: [www.thuenen.de/datenschutzhinweis-bewerbungen](http://www.thuenen.de/datenschutzhinweis-bewerbungen).