

Postdoc: vegetation science, GIS, landscape ecology (up to 3 years)

We offer a full-time postdoctoral position (starting **January 2023**, up to 3 years) in a field spanning vegetation science, biodiversity, ecological statistics, and geographical information systems. The candidate will join the international team of Dr. **Petr Keil** (<https://petrkeil.github.io>) at the Dpt. of Spatial Sciences at the [Faculty of Environmental Sciences](#), Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague, Czech Republic.

Research project and topic: The research will be part of project GRACE (*"GRAssland Communities Experiment (GRACE): 300 years of insight from a large-scale natural experiment"*, <https://www.adamclarktheecologist.com/grace>). GRACE is a joint project from the Austrian FWF and Czech GACR, with co-PIs Adam Clark (University of Graz) and Petr Keil (CZU, Prague), and cooperation partners Franz Essl at Uni. Vienna and Hana Skokanová at VUKOZ, Brno. Other external collaborators include Helge Bruelheide and Ute Jandt at Uni. Halle (Germany), Stefan Dullinger at Uni. Vienna, and Milan Chytrý at Masaryk University Brno, as well as the European Vegetation Archive (EVA) and its ReSurveyEurope initiatives.

The research focuses on tracking interactive dynamics of landscapes and grassland plant communities, based on the natural experiment arising from differences in landscape structure along the Austrian-Czech border region.

Job description: The work will be mostly computational, with an opportunity to also participate in summer fieldwork (optional). It will involve handling of the European Vegetation Archive data (<https://euroveg.org/eva-database/>), land use data (<https://www.ekologie-krajiny.cz/en>), and data from our own field surveys. This will involve data cleaning and management, programming, and custom-tailored statistical analyses (in R, Python, Julia, or similar). There will be intensive use of geographic information systems (GIS). The postdoc will work with collaborators in Brno, Graz, and Vienna. Apart from being the lead author on papers and presenting on conferences, the postdoc will help with organization of meetings with the project co-PIs.

Requirements

- PhD in ecology, botany, geography, bioinformatics, environmental sciences, or related field.
- Ability to develop scientific questions and analyses, publish peer-reviewed papers, handle multiple co-authors, and coordinate and work with international collaborators.
- Experience with spatial/geographical data and GIS.
- Experience with statistical analyses and programming in R, Python, or similar environments.
- Interest in vegetation and history of Central Europe is advantageous.

- **We aim at increasing the diversity of our team**, and welcome applicants of all genders, cultures, backgrounds, ages, or countries. We believe that a diverse team will broaden perspective and enhance creativity.

We offer

- **Starting gross salary of 60,000 CZK/month (ca 2,400 EUR as of Sep 2023)**, which is ca 46,900 CZK/month net, but the latter varies depending on family situation and other circumstances. Median salary in the Czech Republic in the first quarter of 2022 was 31,923 CZK/month gross. Living costs (childcare, transportation) are generally lower than in Western Europe. For costs of accommodation see <https://www.sreality.cz/en>.
- Full medical insurance and social security as a standard part of the employment contract.
- 40 days of paid holiday per year.
- Motivational bonus payments for high-quality publications.
- Daycare at CZU campus for children of employees (≥ 2 years old).
- Funds for travel to conferences and workshops abroad. Funds for additional training.
- State-of-the-art scientific and computing equipment, software, access to journals and scientific databases.
- Subsidized lunches at the university canteen (Menza).
- International working environment (the working language is English), green spacious campus in Suchbátka in the outskirts of Prague, 30 min to Prague city center by public transportation or bike, 15 min walk to several natural protected areas. The campus has various sports facilities, including a swimming pool, gym, athletic track, and indoor and outdoor playfields. The university also offers cheap holiday accommodation in mountains outside of Prague. Prague is one of the safest cities in the world with excellent public transportation, international accessibility, and healthcare.
- **Starting date in January 2024.**

Applications

To apply, please send by email (beast@fzp.czu.cz), **in a single .pdf of less than 10 MB**:

- Motivation letter (1-2 pages) describing your expertise, research interests, stating why do you see yourself as a good fit, and where do you see yourself and your research in the future.
- Your CV including your publications and any other relevant or interesting outputs (code repositories, reports, your personal website, etc.).
- Contact details for 2-3 academic referees, e.g. your former supervisor, boss, or collaborator.
- Put "GRACE postdoc" and your name in the subject of the email and the name of the .pdf. file.

Review of applications will begin on **31st of October 2023**, and will continue until the position is filled.