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UNIVERSITÄT
BERN

Postdoctoral Researcher (80-100%)

Synthesis on the role of Nature for Human Wellbeing in the Kilimanjaro Social-Ecological System

80% - 100%, initially for two years with potential prolongation subject to funders decision

The advertised position is part of the [research project](#) "**The role of Nature for Human Wellbeing in the Kilimanjaro Social-Ecological System**". In the interface between natural and social sciences, the project aims to improve understanding of major components of the social-ecological system at Mount Kilimanjaro under land-use, climate, and governance change. This will be achieved by assessing the relationships between multiple components of biodiversity, Nature's contributions to people (NCPs), human well-being, societal developments, major stakeholder groups and their governance.

In the [synthesis subproject](#) "**Kilimanjaro as an integrated Social-Ecological System**" we integrate the information gained across the project to address synergies and trade-offs between components of biodiversity, NCPs, and multiple constituents of well-being of major stakeholders, to address the natural and social drivers of social-ecological relations at the landscape scale, and to identify opportunities for future decision-making.

For this synthesis work, we seek a **postdoctoral researcher** who will lead **innovative synthesis approaches particularly at the landscape scale**. For example, the researcher may upscale existing plot-level data to the landscape scale or model how land-use change and conservation policies may affect stakeholder-specific NCP supply. The research will be in close alliance with researchers at multiple institutions in Switzerland, Germany, and Tanzania.

For this highly collaborative work, we seek a person with **quantitative and spatial skills and an understanding for social-ecological data sets**. Specifically, we search for a person with the following **skills**:

- PhD in Ecology, Environmental Geography, Environmental Sciences, or Biology
- Excellent knowledge of at least two of the following: biodiversity, land system science, land management, remote sensing, spatial modelling, ecosystem services, NCPs
- Fluency in R and an understanding of advanced statistical techniques
- Competency in spatial data analyses
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English
- Capacity to collaborate effectively within a large and diverse team of researchers
- An ambition and capacity to publish high impact science
- Experience in upscaling or the use of remotely sensed data is advantageous

The position will be based in the [Plant Ecology Group](#) led by Prof Markus Fischer at the Institute of Plant Sciences of the **University of Bern**. The institute offers a stimulating, international

research environment and excellent facilities within the Botanical Gardens. The **attractive salary and benefits** are according to the Postdoc employment regulations of the University of Bern. Bern is a beautiful city with a **high quality of life**.

Applications should constitute a motivation letter including your research interests, a CV including a full publication list, and contact details of two academic referees. Application materials (as a single PDF) and queries about the position should be forwarded to dominic.martin@unibe.ch. Applications will be reviewed from **15th of October 2023** until the position is filled.

Please note that the group currently advertises a [second position](#) in the frame of the [Biodiversity Exploratories](#). You may simultaneously apply for both positions, but if you do so, please briefly state in the cover letter which of the two you would prefer and why.