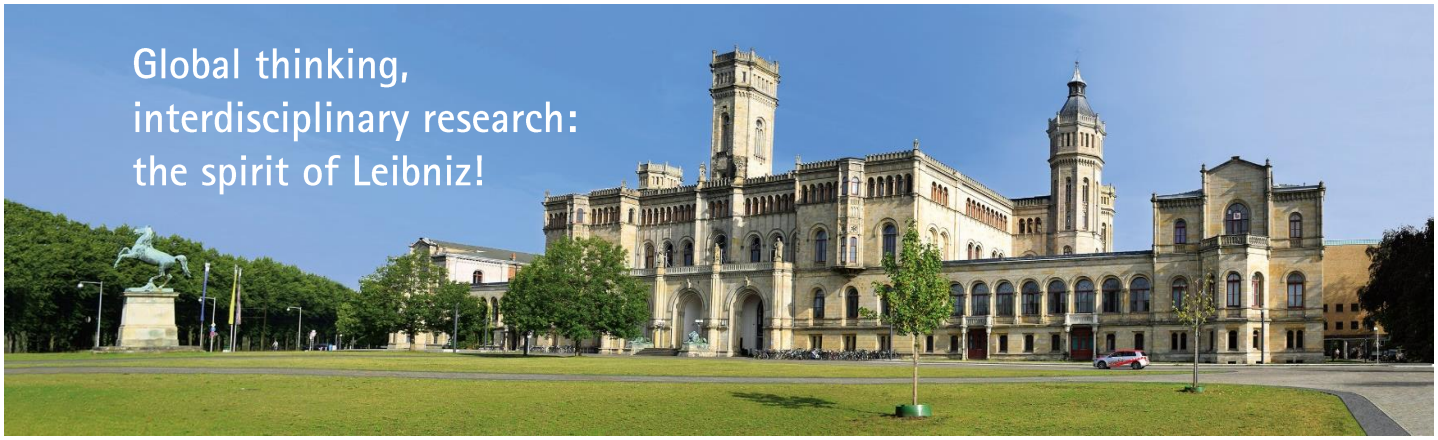
Leibniz Universität Hannover



Nestled in a modern city surrounded by nature and with an exceptional standard of living, Leibniz University Hannover offers excellent working conditions in a vibrant scientific community.

The Institute of Earth System Sciences / Section Soil Science welcomes applications in the frame of a DFG-funded Research Unit (FOR5903) for the following position starting October 1st, 2025:

Research Staff (PhD Position) for the topic "Effects of rurbanity on soil quality and soil contamination with microplastic" (salary scale 13 TV-L, 65 %)

The fixed-term position cannot be split and is limited to 48 months.

FOR5903 'Sustainable Rurbanity' is an interdisciplinary and internationally oriented consortium that researches various dimensions of global urbanisation processes under the novel framework of 'Sustainable Rurbanity'. The main place of service is Hanover, but field assignments are also planned for several months per year in India and Ghana. Fitness for service in the tropics is, therefore, mandatory.

Your role

- You will conduct field campaigns to collect soil samples at the study sites in Accra (Ghana) and Bengaluru (India).
- You will be responsible for analysing soil samples for physical and chemical soil quality parameters and microplastic contamination.
- You will be involved in the development of new methods for spectral analysis of microplastics and soil quality parameters.
- You will work closely with other PhD students in the project on field work and laboratory analysis, especially with the PhD students from University of Kassel working on PFAS contamination.
- You will be involved in drone flights on site, which are carried out by project partners in Ghana and possibly carry out own flights in India.
- You will participate in project-related seminars and workshops and present your own results at national and international conferences.
- You will write scientific publications on your project results.

Who are we looking for?

- You have a Master's degree in soil sciences, geosciences, environmental sciences or related fields.
- You are fluent in written and spoken English.
- Your are willing to work in a dedicated team with an international and intercultural background in India, Ghana and Germany.
- You are aiming for a doctorate.

In addition, we are looking for a candidate with the following:

- We expect you to be confident with MS Office or similar (Word, Excel, Power Point).
- We expect teamwork and communication skills.
- Experience with soil-physical and soil-chemical analysis methods is desirable.
- Knowledge of spectral analysis methods is an advantage.

Equal opportunities and diversity are core values at Leibniz University Hannover. Our goal is to tap into individual potential and open up possibilities. We therefore welcome applications from anyone interested in the position, irrespective of gender, nationality, ethnic origin, religion or ideology, disability, age, sexual orientation and identity.

We strive towards a balanced and diverse workforce and a reduction in under-representation in accordance with the Lower Saxony Equal Rights Act (*Niedersächsisches Gleichberechtigungsgesetz – NGG*). We therefore also welcome applications from women for the above-mentioned position. Preference will be given to equally-qualified candidates with disabilities.

Why join us?

With more than 5.000 employees, Leibniz University Hannover is one of the largest and most attractive employers in the Hannover region. We offer a vibrant interdisciplinary and international working environment, and promote personal and professional development ranging from subject-related skills to leadership and languages.

Remote work (mobile work, work from home) can be arranged upon request. We support employees with balancing work and family life, through services such as back-up childcare, childcare during school holidays, and parent-child offices, as well as providing individual advice regarding family responsibilities and caring for dependants.

To promote health and well-being among employees, we offer an extensive sports programme with over 100 different sports, as well as a fitness centre with a sauna and climbing space. Health management measures, such as courses on stress management, good nutrition and relaxation, aim to ensure a healthy workplace.

Additional information

For further information, please contact Prof. Dr. Stephan Peth (tel.: +49 (0)511 762-3623, email: peth@ifbk.uni-hannover.de). More information on the project can be found here: www.uni-kassel.de/go/for-5903

Please submit your application and supporting documents by August 15th, 2025 electronically to

Email: peth@ifbk.uni-hannover.de

or alternatively by post to:
Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Universität Hannover
Institut für Erdsystemwissenschaften / Abteilung Bodenkunde
Prof. Dr. Stephan Peth
Herrenhäuser Str. 2, 30419 Hannover

http://www.uni-hannover.de/en/jobs

Information on the collection of personal data according to article 13 GDPR can be found at:
https://www.uni-hannover.de/en/datenschutzhinweis-bewerbungen/