



Universität Hamburg

DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG



DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS IN THE DFG GRADUATE PROGRAM “BIOTA-MEDIATED EFFECTS ON CARBON CYCLING IN ESTUARIES (RTG2530) – ALLUVIAL TREE-MICROBIOTA INTERACTION” § 28 SUBSECTION 3 HMBHG

Institution: Faculty of Mathematics, Informatics and Natural Sciences, Department of Biology, Institute of Wood Science

Salary level: EGR. 13 TV-L

Start date: 01.04.2026, fixed till 31.03.2029 (This is a fixed-term contract in accordance with Section 2 of the academic fixed-term labor contract act [Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz, WissZeitVG]).

Application deadline: 2025-11-20

Scope of work: part-time

Weekly hours: 65 % of standard work hours per week

The overall mission of the Research Training Group 2530 (RTG 2530) is to fill existing knowledge gaps on biota-mediated effects on estuarine C cycling under current conditions and with respect to global change scenarios. Embedded into the inspiring academic environment of the University of Hamburg, RTG 2530 provides Doctoral and Postdoctoral Researchers an outstanding platform for their career development. The RTG has been established by an interdisciplinary group of 17 Principal Researchers with scientific backgrounds ranging from terrestrial and marine ecology, via geoscience to microbiology and molecular animal biology. The RTG is funded by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG). Currently, we have 14 open positions (TVL E13, 65%) for doctoral researchers (see www.biologie.uni-hamburg.de/en/forschung/grk2530/openpositions.html).

Your responsibilities

Active participation in a structured graduate program.

The doctoral researcher will be a member of RTG 2530 and the lab of Functional Forest Ecology and will

- investigate the impacts of rising flooding frequency on the specificity of the interaction between tidal alluvial forest trees and the associated microbiota of the Elbe estuary
- conduct common garden growth and substrate addition experiments under controlled conditions in the botanical garden of UHH
- analyse the quantity and composition of root exudates (LC-MS)

- study the abundance and functional diversity of rhizosphere microbes at different trophic levels (omics- approaches)
- develop technologies to monitor phage titers in soil
- write and publish scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals
- present results at national and international conferences

Your profile

A university degree in the field(s) of i.e., Biology, Geosciences, or Environmental Sciences

The successful candidate should have knowledge and experience in plant ecology, biogeochemistry and/or environmental sciences. Strong skills in root physiology, rhizosphere ecology, and/or biogeochemistry are a plus. Experience with tree experiments, mass spectrometry, metabolomics, and/or metagenomics are beneficial. Team-orientation and interest in conducting interdisciplinary research as well as being proactive are a must. Excellent German and/or English communication skills (spoken and written) are required.

We offer



Reliable remuneration based on wage agreements



Continuing education opportunities



University pensions



Attractive location



Flexible working hours



Work-life balance opportunities



Health management, EGYM Wellpass



Educational leave



30 days of vacation per annum

- a structured and interdisciplinary program with colloquia and workshops
- an inspiring university environment with international visiting scholars
- funding for international research stays for members of the Research Training Group
- excellent research infrastructure with administrative offices, shared workspaces and an attractive working environment
- a wide range of support services during the doctoral phase and national and international continuing education and training opportunities
- participation in cultural and scientific university events

Universität Hamburg—University of Excellence is one of the strongest research educational institutions in Germany. Our work in research, teaching, educational and knowledge exchange activities is fostering the next generation of responsible global citizens ready to tackle the global challenges facing us. Our guiding principle “Innovating and Cooperating for a Sustainable Future in a digital age” drives collaboration with academic and nonacademic partner institutions in the Hamburg Metropolitan Region and around the world. We would like to invite you to be part of our community to work with us in creating sustainable and digital change for a dynamic and pluralist society.

The University of Hamburg is committed to equity. Diversity enriches our university life, whether in our studies, research, teaching, education, or workplace. We therefore welcome all applications, regardless of gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnic or social background, age, religion or belief, disability, or chronic illness.

Severely disabled and disabled applicants with the same status will receive preference over equally qualified non-disabled applicants.

Instructions for applying

Contact

Prof. Dr. Ina C. Meier
ina.meier@uni-hamburg.de
[+49 40 42816-238](tel:+494042816238)

Dr. Awaz Mohamed
awaz.mohamed@uni-hamburg.de
[+49 40 42816-213](tel:+494042816213)

Location

Reference number

319

Application deadline

2025-11-20

Use only the online application form to submit your application with the following documents:

- cover letter
- CV
- copies of degree certificate(s)
- summary of your MA thesis

The selection days will take place online from December 8 -9, 2025

If you experience technical problems, send an email to bewerbungen@uni-hamburg.de.

More information on [data protection](#) in selection procedures.