

Independent Group Leader Position

TER, the Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Group (www.ecosystem-science.at) at CMESS has an open **4-year Independent Group Leader Position** for an exceptional early career scientist.

We intend to strengthen our on-going research in the area of soil science at the interface with microbiology and environmental processes, complementing the existing expertise at TER. Our goal is to advance the fundamental understanding of how plants and soil microorganisms respond to, and in-turn shape, their abiotic and biotic environment. Additionally, we aim to determine the consequences of these dynamics for the functioning of Earth's ecosystems.

We are looking for highly qualified and ambitious candidates, who have recently completed their PhD (and have some experience as a postdoctoral scholar) and wish to establish an independent research group in one of the following areas:

- **Soil Fauna**
faunal control of microbial community composition and microbial processes
- **Soil Metaproteomics**
metaproteomics targeting microbial community structure and function in soil
- **Soil Fungi**
the role of soil fungi in organic matter decomposition and build-up

Applications for other areas in soil ecology are also considered.

We expect applicants to be serious candidates for prestigious investigator grants, such as the *ERC Starting Grant* or the *Austrian FWF Start Award*. Candidates should have documented publication activity in peer-reviewed journals. A proven record in acquiring third-party funds is an advantage. Experience in teaching and supervision of students is also desirable.

We are a committed team and offer a creative, intellectually stimulating and international working environment at one of Europe's best Centres in the fields of microbial ecology, ecosystem science and climate change research. We offer full access to our unique facilities, infrastructure and analytical instrumentation, as well as a start-up support (to be negotiated).

The application should include the following as one PDF file:

- Short cover letter that describes the motivation for the application
- Scientific CV (including a full list of publications and projects if any)
- Research plan for the next 4 years (2 pages maximum)
- Contact information for at least two academic references

Candidates are encouraged to apply by November 30, 2020, but the position will remain open until filled. Women are particularly encouraged to apply.

Please, submit your application to the following email address: group-leader@ecosystem-science.at

Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Group @CMESS

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