



The UFZ has a strong commitment to **diversity** and actively supports **equal opportunities** for all employees regardless of their origin, religion, ideology, disability, age or sexual identity. We look forward to applications from people who are open-minded and enjoy working in diverse teams.

**Your contact for any questions you may have about the job:**

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Please submit your application with your cover letter, CV and relevant attachments per Email.

**Place of work:** Leipzig

The Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) with its 1,100 employees has gained an excellent reputation as an international competence centre for environmental sciences. We are part of the largest scientific organisation in Germany, the Helmholtz association. Our mission: Our research seeks to find a balance between social development and the long-term protection of our natural resources.

Green roofs (roofs with a planted surface) may provide important ecosystem services in urban areas. They represent increased urban wildlife habitats, and may enable an improved regulation of building temperatures and a smarter stormwater management. The Department of Environmental Microbiology offers a MSc thesis topic, which is aiming at the exploration of potentials of green roofs for the *in situ* biodegradation of relevant air- and water-borne chemical environmental pollutants (e.g. endocrine-disrupting phthalate ester plasticizers such as bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate [DEHP], or dibutyl phthalate [DBP]).

## Master thesis (m/f/x)

### “In situ biodegradation potential of green roofs”

Full-time, according to university requirements.

#### Your tasks:

- Set-up of pollutant-spiked *in situ* microcosms on a green roof research facility available at UFZ
- Sampling of microcosms and corresponding control plots, and laboratory analyses of biodegradation-relevant parameters (pollutant concentrations, bacterial and fungal biomass, microbial activity, etc.)
- Data interpretation in the context of potential biodegradation processes on green roofs

#### Your profile:

- You should have a background in environmental sciences and/or microbiology and be interested in related experimental work.
- You should be highly motivated and able to work in the laboratory and to deal with different kinds of chemical, microbiological, and biochemical analyses.
- You should have good English communication skills in English.

#### We offer:

- A close and good supervision
- Insight into of on state of the art environmental and microbiological methods
- Excellent technical facilities and work in interdisciplinary, multinational teams
- The possibility to introduce your own ideas and impulses from the beginning