The Leibniz Institute for Agricultural Engineering and Bioeconomy (ATB) as nationally and internationally acting institute is researching at the interface of biological and technical systems. Our research is aimed at sustainable intensification. We analyze, model and evaluate bio-economic production systems. We develop and integrate new technologies and management strategies for a knowledge-based, site-specific production of biomass, and its use for food, as raw materials and fuels - from basic research to application. Thus we are contributing to food security, animal welfare, the holistic use of biomass, and to protect the climate and environment.

ATB is coordinator of the EU-Horizon 2020 project GRASS-BASED CIRCULAR BUSINESS MODELS FOR RURAL AGRI-FOOD VALUE CHAINS (GO-GRASS), an innovation action within the topic Circular bio-based business models for rural communities (CE-RUR-10-2019). The GO-GRASS project has selected grasslands cultivation as agro-food system to study a variety of added value bio-based processes and end-products in a circular configuration at farm and rural community level. The project seeks to realize the potential of grass biomass for a range of new bio-based products and services as well as to support the development of business models in rural areas. To do this, the project counts with a complete consortium where farmers and industrial companies are accompanied by a wide range of other partners with complementary roles. The GO-GRASS project aims to understand patterns in bioeconomy-related businesses and their environments favorable for developing rural enterprises and replicating business models that influence rural-urban trajectories. A main objective of the project is to inform actors from different realms shaping economic, environmental and social pre-conditions in rural areas by describing the patterns and the reasons for successes and failures of emerging business models and ideas in the bioeconomy.

For the GO-GRASS-Project we intend to employ 4 scientists:

Scientist / Project Coordinator (100 %), EG 13 TV-L reference number 2019-2-3
Doctoral Researcher (65 %), EG 13 TV-L reference number 2019-2-4
Doctoral Researcher (65 %), EG 13 TV-L reference number 2019-2-5
Scientist / Postdoc (100 %), EG 13 TV-L reference number 2019-3-4

The positions are to be filled on 01 October 2019 and limited until the end of the project (30 September 2023).

If you would like to contribute your expertise to our interdisciplinary research, please apply by 16 August 2019 by e-mail (preferably as a single pdf document) at karriere@atb-potsdam.de, stating the relevant reference number. The screening of applications begins on 19 August 2019. The advertisement is open until the positions are filled.

Equal opportunities are an integral part of our personnel policy. Severely disabled applicants will be given special consideration if they are equally qualified.

Published on 23 July 2019
Your tasks

- Coordinating and managing the project and partners’ activities as a member of the project coordination team
- Organizing, presiding, moderating and documenting project research activities, meetings, workshops and conferences
- Writing and communicating reports on project activities, progress and results for internal and external partners as well as completing deliverables for funding authority
- Collecting, reviewing to verify consistency and submitting reports, other deliverables (including financial statements and related certifications) and specific requested documents to the funding authority
- Monitoring and evaluating project activities and compliance by the partners
- Following-up and adapting the planning and execution of work packages
- Contributing to research activities related to the characterization and assessment of integrated systems as well as the design of business solutions and governance structures.
- Engaging in replication and capacity building activities
- Disseminating, communicating and clustering with related projects
- Presenting results at national and international conferences and publishing among others in peer-reviewed, international journals
- Collaborating in the design and implementation of courses as well as supervision of graduation theses

Our expectations

- Great interest in innovation studies, business management and regional development
- Excellent project management skills
- Very good university degree or doctorate in a subject area related to the project
- Excellent English oral and writing skills, good command of German is desirable
- Good intercultural communication and teamwork skills
- Experience in coordinating collaborative projects with many partners in an international context
- Experience with the administrative handling of EU projects desired
- Experience in publishing and presenting project results, and organizing and moderating project events
- Willingness to travel within Europe
- Independent work, personal commitment, reliability, flexibility, organisational skills, detail oriented and the ability to work in a team as well as willingness to cooperate

We offer

- Current research on bioeconomy related topics and the transformation of sociotechnical systems
- Cooperation with an interdisciplinary team in an international project
- A challenging and self-responsible activity in a collegial and trusting working atmosphere
- Very good conditions for your own scientific development
- Working conditions conducive to reconciling work and family life

Further information can be obtained from Priv.-Doz. Dr. Philipp Grundmann (Tel.: 0331-5699-229; E-Mail: pgrundmann@atb-potsdam.de).
2 Scientists (Doctoral Researchers) 65 % EG 13 TV-L

Assessing social and economic impacts of integrated bioeconomy systems

reference number 2019-2-4

Analysing the performance and innovation of institutional solutions for emergent activities in the bioeconomy.

reference number 2019-2-5

Your tasks

- Contributing to the design and implementation of integrated systems and bio-based business models
- Assessing techno-economic, social, economic and ecological impacts of technical and non-technical innovations in circular integrated systems using scenario building, modelling and simulation techniques
- Developing criteria and indicators for monitoring and evaluating businesses and the bioeconomy
- Analysing the institutional, social and economic business environment of entrepreneurial activities
- Contributing to the analysis and development of multi-actor engagement and social innovations
- Developing guidelines for business models and business environments
- Contributing to replication and capacity building activities
- Participating in dissemination, communication and clustering activities
- Organizing, supporting and documenting regular meetings, workshops and conferences
- Collaborating with the project coordination team in the management of the project and contributing to the writing of reports and deliverables
- Presenting results at national and international conferences and publishing among others in peer-reviewed, international journals

Our expectations

- Great interest in innovation studies and topics related to business management and rural development
- Very good university degree in an economic or social science discipline, preferably related to agriculture and/or forest, resource, bioeconomy, environmental, landscape and energy economics or another subject area related to the project
- Scientific expertise and ability to conceptualize and initiate empirical analyses based on sound theoretical reasoning preferably demonstrated in one or more fields of activity relevant to the project
- Excellent English oral and writing skills
- Experience in publishing and presenting research results is desirable
- Willingness to travel within Europe to conduct research and work meetings
- Independent work, personal commitment, reliability, flexibility as well as the ability to work in a team
- Good intercultural communication, detail oriented and teamwork skills

We offer

- Current research on bioeconomy related topics and the transformation of sociotechnical systems
- Cooperation with an interdisciplinary team in an international project
- A challenging and self-responsible activity in a collegial and trusting working atmosphere
- Very good conditions for your own scientific further development and support of your own research projects at a high international level
- Possibility of further academic training at a Leibniz Institute and the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and the Berlin Workshop in Institutional Analysis of Social-Ecological Systems (WINS)
- Working conditions conducive to reconciling work and family life

Further information can be obtained from Priv.-Doz. Dr. Philipp Grundmann (Tel.: 0331-5699-229; E-Mail: pgrundmann@atb-potsdam.de).
Scientist (Postdoc), 100 % EG 13 TV-L  reference number 2019-3-4

The candidate’s tasks in work package 3 are to convert strongly lignified grass from flood-plains to biochar and to implement a processing line in agricultural practice including pre- and post-processing steps.

Your tasks

- Analysing agricultural processes and developing a conversion line for the production of biochar in agricultural practice, including pre- and post-processing steps
- Planning, coordinating and evaluating conversion experiments at laboratory and technical scale
- Optimising conversion processes in a way that the products can be used in different applications, especially as soil amendment
- Transferring the knowledge to agricultural farms
- Participating in the organization of project meetings, workshops and conferences
- Supporting the project coordination, as well as coordinating a working group
- Preparation of reports, presenting results at conferences and workshops with farmers
- Publishing results in scientific journals

Our expectations

- Scientific-technical studies, preferentially with a focus on chemical process engineering or thermodynamics
- Scientific expertise, supported by a PhD degree in a relevant subject and by scientific publications
- Basic knowledge of agricultural processes, crop management and soil science
- Experience in designing conversion experiments and their set-ups
- Experience in supervising and guiding scientific projects and acquiring third party funding
- Experience in communication and cooperation with farmers
- Proficient use of German and English
- Independent work, personal commitment, reliability, and readiness to collaborate and work as part of interdisciplinary teams

We offer

- Excellently equipped laboratory with different sized reactors for hydrothermal carbonisation and pyrolysis including a complementary chemical lab for associated analyses (HPLC, FTIR, ICP-OES)
- Cooperation with an interdisciplinary team in an international project
- Travel activities in the context of the EU-project to project meetings and to workshops with regional farmers
- Close contacts for transfer of scientific knowledge in farming practice
- A challenging and self-responsible activity in a collegial and trusting working atmosphere
- Very good conditions for your own scientific development
- Working conditions conducive to reconciling work and family life

Further information can be obtained from Dr. Thomas Hoffmann (Tel.: 0331-5699-310, E-Mail thoffmann@atb-potsdam.de).