

Informationen on the Professorship (W2) ,Biodiversity in Land-Use Systems‘



Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development (HNEE) was founded in 1992, building on the tradition of the forestry school founded in 1830 and the former Faculty of Forestry at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Particularly since its renaming as Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development in 2010, HNEE has developed a distinctive institutional profile centred on the key questions and challenges of sustainable development and environmental protection. The University is characterised by its holistic commitment to sustainability, its unique portfolio of degree programmes addressing issues of critical relevance to the future, its strength in applied sustainability research, and its practice-oriented approach to teaching and learning.

HNEE educates its students to become pioneers of sustainable development and systematically equips them with the competencies required to actively shape societal transformation. Approximately 2,300 students from around 60 countries are enrolled in 23 degree programmes, including two dual-study programmes, in which they engage with questions of sustainable development through an explicitly problem-solving-oriented approach. HNEE offers degree programmes that enable applicants both with and without a traditional higher-education entrance qualification to successfully pursue an academic degree. Its portfolio of consecutive Bachelor's and Master's programmes comprises both nationally focused and internationally oriented degree programmes. A wide range of opportunities for student participation and engagement, including service learning and student-led workshops, provides students with scope for personal development and contributes to a supportive and stimulating academic learning environment.

HNEE's research activities address contemporary challenges in the context of sustainable development, as articulated in the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda and further specified in the German Sustainable Development Strategy. In accordance with the application-oriented mission of German universities of applied sciences, HNEE conducts theory-driven, problem-solving, disciplinary, interdisciplinary, and transdisciplinary research. More than 100 externally funded projects are currently being implemented within the University's two strategic research areas, 'Responsible Land Use for Resilient Ecosystems' and 'Sustainable Economies in the Social-Ecological Transition', in collaboration with national and international partners.

Through its approach to sustainability transfer, the University actively engages with partners from professional practice and incorporates the relevance criteria and measures of success of societal stakeholders. Within its areas of expertise, HNEE collaborates closely with partners at regional, national, and international levels, responding to specific contexts and stakeholder needs. Together with its partners, the University analyses challenges, identifies objectives, and develops viable and sustainable solutions. Through sustainability transfer, HNEE facilitates access to new scientific knowledge for diverse societal groups and thereby contributes to strengthening society's capacity for future-oriented development and transformation.

As an institution, HNEE is equally committed to the principle of sustainability in its own governance and operations and implements this commitment through a whole-institution approach across all areas of activity. The University has received numerous national and international awards in recognition of its commitment to sustainable development. It maintains close regional and global networks with partners from academia and professional practice and is an active member of sustainability-oriented networks.

WHAT WE OFFER AT THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREST – WOOD – ENVIRONMENT



Flat hierarchies



Family-friendly working environment



Stimulating and challenging responsibilities



Collaboration on an equal footing



Purpose-driven work



A supportive and collegial culture



Dynamic working environment



Professional development opportunities

The Department Forest – Wood – Environment has a long-standing tradition in forestry and is recognised for its academically rigorous and internationally renowned forestry education as well as for teaching and research in wood engineering. Building on this foundation, research and teaching are continuously developed to address emerging societal requirements related to forest management, the socio-economic significance of forests, and the efficient use of wood as a renewable resource in support of societal and economic transformation, including bioeconomy, precision forestry, and agroforestry.

The Professorship of Biodiversity in Land-Use Systems has an important cross-cutting function within the Department of Forest – Wood – Environment. Its academic profile encompasses international and systems-ecological perspectives on forest and landscape restoration within existing land-use systems and on the development of resilient ecosystems in response to societal needs and demands. Within this context, the professorship is also expected to contribute to strengthening the links between forest management and wood utilisation, for example by investigating how biodiversity can be enhanced and strengthened through appropriate forest management strategies.

As a new member of the Department, you will benefit from extensive opportunities for collaboration with colleagues who conduct research projects worldwide. The establishment of new networks in the field of international protected area management, for example within the context of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs), and Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs), would complement and further strengthen existing collaborations. This also applies to networks involving national protected-area stakeholders and international organisations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), as well as networks associated with international conventions and frameworks, including the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and, in particular, the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

The still relatively new organisational structure of Schools and Departments at HNEE provides excellent opportunities to contribute new perspectives and ideas and to actively shape a collaborative academic environment. Active participation in academic self-governance through the assumption of responsibilities within the Department of Forest – Wood – Environment or within the schools is expected.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Professorship currently has curricular teaching responsibilities in modules in which international nature conservation and systems ecology constitute either core components or substantial areas of content. These modules are primarily offered within the Master's programmes [Biosphere Reserves Management](#) (BIOM, M. Sc.), [Forestry Systems Transformation](#) (FST, M. Sc.), as well as the Bachelor's programmes [Forstwirtschaft](#) (FOWI, B. Sc.) und [International Forest Ecosystem Management](#) (IFEM, B. Sc.). Teaching is conducted in both English and German. Initially, all courses may be taught in English; in the medium to long term, however, the ability and willingness to offer courses in German is desirable. Building on the existing curricula, the successful candidate will be expected to contribute actively to the further development of teaching content and to integrate relevant subject areas into other degree programmes, including programmes offered by the Department of Landscape – Society – Economy. This further development encompasses both the substantive orientation of teaching towards the professional competencies required of graduates and the structural and didactic advancement of teaching and learning formats, for example through e-learning units and

practice-oriented project work. Particular emphasis is placed on further strengthening internationalisation through cooperation with partner universities in Africa, North and South America, Europe, and Asia. These partnerships should facilitate both incoming and outgoing student mobility and further enhance international academic exchange.

In addition to established professional fields, the existing Bachelor's and Master's programmes prepare students for emerging careers related to nature conservation, including work in climate compensation projects, civil-society initiatives, and participatory dialogue processes requiring systems thinking and visualisation competencies. Further professional fields that have not yet been systematically addressed include activities concerned with global justice in relation to nature conservation and land-use systems. Accordingly, a central responsibility of the Professorship of Biodiversity in Land-Use Systems is to contribute continuously and proactively to the further development of the relevant degree programmes.

In research, contributions and independently developed projects within both of HNEE's strategic research areas are explicitly encouraged: Research Area 1: 'Responsible Land Use for Resilient Ecosystems' and Research Area 2: 'Sustainable Economies in the Social-Ecological Transition'. The Professorship has considerable potential to contribute to the University's internationalisation strategy, as its focus on international nature conservation encompasses multiple levels of governance and practice, ranging from protected-area management, legislation, and policy to international conventions and their implementation by governmental, private-sector, and civil-society actors.

Through this profile, combining a systems-ecological perspective with expertise in participatory dialogue processes, the professorship can make substantial contributions to socially relevant and contemporary issues in both teaching and research. In doing so, it will contribute to meeting the expectation articulated by the German Science and Humanities Council (Wissenschaftsrat) that higher education institutions engage systematically with current societal and technological developments.

Department Forest – Wood – Environment



Subject-specific questions

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Questions regarding the
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Questions regarding equal
opportunities

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