



A newly DFG-funded Research Unit
“**Reassembly of species interaction networks – Resistance, resilience and functional recovery of a rainforest ecosystem**” (FOR 5207)

invites applications for **six PhD positions** beginning in **November 2021** for a period of four years.

The overarching research topic is the dynamics of natural forest recovery from agriculture and the contribution of re-assembled networks to the resilience of ecosystem processes. The research will be conducted in a lowland tropical forest in North-West Ecuador. It involves ecological studies on various groups (trees, birds, bats, rodents, beetles, bees, moths, ants, termites) and functions (predation, pollination, primary and secondary seed dispersal, decomposition, seedling establishment) related to forest recovery. We offer an excellent, international research environment and research training both in individual institutions as well as in the Research Unit.

A **Master’s degree** or equivalent is required – in Biology, Ecology, Conservation or related areas for the empirical subprojects, as well as Physics for a subproject on theory and modelling. Applications from any country are welcome. For all empirical subprojects, field work experience in remote areas such as tropical forests and good physical conditions are desirable in addition to scientific qualifications and good writing and communication skills in English. Spanish is useful, German language proficiency is not required.

Please consult the following homepage for further details on several positions, institutions and contacts:
<https://reassembly.de/the-team/open-positions/>

You may find <https://reassembly.de> helpful for a description of the general project context.

All individual job announcements are compiled and complemented on the above homepage. The deadlines for applications range from **June 15th – July 1st 2021**, although later applications may be accepted until the positions are filled.

General questions on the project context can be addressed to the Speaker of the Research Unit, Prof. Dr. Nico Blüthgen at Technische Universität Darmstadt (bluethgen@bio.tu-darmstadt.de).