



Three postdoc positions on ecological synthesis:

- 1-2 open positions for synthesis in the Infrastructure Priority Programme [Biodiversity Exploratories](#) (3 years)*
- 1 open position for synthesis in the Research Unit [Reassembly](#) (Ecuador) (4 years)*

Positions will be located in the [Ecological Networks lab](#) at the TU Darmstadt, starting around **March 2026** and will form a dynamic team. Successful candidates must hold a Dr./PhD in ecology or related subjects, and ideally have some postdoctoral experience as well.

Important criteria:

- (1) Do you have experience of managing and analysing **large, complex datasets** using advanced statistical methods?
- (2) Have you successfully **published** your research in renowned scientific journals?
- (3) Would you enjoy working in a **team** with several international scientists from different ecological disciplines and supporting young international scientists with data analysis (e.g. providing help desk support and running workshops)?

Focal topics include (but are not restricted to) **biodiversity** change, **community** ecology, species **interaction networks**, functional **traits**, **climate change** responses, microclimate, **time series**, **land use** and ecosystem **regeneration**. In both projects, the postdoc positions will lead major syntheses across different subprojects and multiple taxa, advise others, conduct workshops and support subprojects with analyses and further syntheses.

You can apply for one or both positions / projects; please indicate your preference. Please send your application to Nico Blüthgen (bluethgen@bio.tu-darmstadt.de) before **October 25th 2025** or preferably sooner. You may also send an informal request beforehand, together with your Google Scholar link and/or publication list. Emails will receive a confirmation within 3 days, if not, please don't hesitate to send a reminder.

Positions are full-time and expected to be in Darmstadt; visits to field sites and conferences are welcome. Part-time positions are also possible.

Our lab: Research in the Ecological Networks lab led by Prof. Nico Blüthgen focuses on species interactions across different ecosystems and functional groups, their responses to land-use and climate change, ecosystem restoration and biodiversity. Nico Blüthgen is the speaker of the Research Unit "Reassembly" and the designated speaker of the "Biodiversity Exploratories" infrastructure programme. Other focal topics in research and teaching include investigations on climate change effects on biodiversity and ecosystem properties in forests surrounding Darmstadt. We share the lab with the Evolutionary Animal Ecology group led by Prof. Michael Heethoff working on soil ecology,

functional morphology of predator-prey interactions and 3D imaging and digitisation of arthropods. The joint lab has a vibrant exchange across people, projects and a broad spectrum of methods, and besides having their own focus, researchers in the lab actively participate across projects.

Technical University of Darmstadt is one of Germany's leading universities and offers an inspiring professional environment: Over 5,000 employees work, research and teach at TU Darmstadt in a wide variety of positions. As an employer, we value diversity, equal opportunities and opportunities for personal development. TU Darmstadt stands for openness and international focus in study, teaching and research and is open for students and scientists from all over the world.

Links:

<https://www.biodiversity-exploratories.de/en/>

<https://www.reassembly.de/>

<https://www.econetlab.net/>

*) subject to final confirmation by DFG by the end of September (Reassembly) / December (Exploratories)