

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to advertise a **fully funded four-year postdoctoral position in forest genomics** at the Institute of Forest Ecology, Slovak Academy of Sciences (IFE SAS), in Zvolen, Slovakia.

We are seeking an excellent and highly motivated researcher in genomics/genetics for a position focused on the genomic basis of resistance, adaptation and resilience of forest trees to major biotic and environmental stressors.

The research will focus primarily on **Norway spruce (*Picea abies*)** and will combine genomic data with phenotypic, ecological and environmental information to investigate variation in tree performance and survival under changing environmental conditions.

We are looking for an ambitious researcher with strong expertise in genomics and genomic data analysis who is interested in taking substantial scientific responsibility for the genomic component of an interdisciplinary research project at the interface of forest genomics, evolutionary ecology and forest disturbance ecology.

Candidate profile

We are looking for a scientifically ambitious, responsible and reliable researcher with:

- a PhD in genomics, population genetics, evolutionary genetics, bioinformatics, forest genetics or a closely related field;
- a strong publication record appropriate to career stage, demonstrating scientific excellence and the ability to lead high-quality research through to publication; experience publishing in highly ranked international journals is highly desirable;
- demonstrated expertise in the analysis of genomic datasets;
- experience with GWAS, population genomics, landscape genomics, genotype–environment associations, selection analyses or related genomic approaches;
- strong quantitative and bioinformatic skills, preferably including relevant genomic analysis pipelines and R, Python and command-line tools;

- the ability to work independently, think critically and take substantial scientific responsibility for analyses, interpretation and preparation of high-quality publications;
- a proactive, reliable and collaborative approach to research, including constructive engagement with co-authors and scientific feedback;
- willingness and physical ability to participate actively in fieldwork in mountainous forest terrain.

❓ A strong background in plant, forest, population or evolutionary genetics/genomics, with an understanding of ecological and evolutionary processes relevant to adaptation and stress responses, is essential. Experience working with forest trees, conifers, or plant responses to biotic and abiotic stress is highly desirable. Willingness to participate actively in field sampling in mountainous forest terrain is expected. Previous involvement in field sampling of mature forest trees would be an advantage.

International research environment

The position benefits from the international research network and collaborations established through **RESDiNET** – Network for novel remote sensing technologies in forest disturbance ecology. Although the original Horizon Europe RESDiNET project has been completed, the RESDiNET scientific network and collaborations continue.

The network connects IFE SAS with leading European research institutions, including the Finnish Geospatial Research Institute, University of Eastern Finland and Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, and provides an interdisciplinary research environment spanning forest ecology, remote sensing, tree physiology, genetics and forest disturbance research.

The successful candidate will be based at **IFE SAS in Zvolen** and will have opportunities to interact and collaborate with researchers within this broader international network.

Position details

Institution: Institute of Forest Ecology, Slovak Academy of Sciences (IFE SAS)

Location: Zvolen, Slovakia

Duration: four years

Starting date: as soon as possible; the exact starting date is negotiable

Salary: Competitive in the context of the Slovak academic and research sector

Zvolen offers a comparatively moderate cost of living and is a university and research town surrounded by forests and mountains, with excellent access to field research sites.

Applications and enquiries

Applications are welcomed from researchers demonstrating scientific excellence, intellectual independence, responsibility, reliability and ambition, together with a genuine commitment to collaborative research and high-quality scientific publication.

Please submit:

- a CV, including a publication list;
- a brief motivation letter describing your relevant research experience and interest in the position;
- contact details for two academic referees.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. **Early applications are strongly encouraged.**

Please send your application to [resdinet.eu\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:resdinet.eu[at]gmail.com) with “**Forest Genomics Postdoc**” in the subject line.

RESDiNET research network

Website: resdinet.eu