

The **Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology – Hans Knöll Institute** (Leibniz-HKI, www.leibniz-hki.de) investigates the pathobiology of human-pathogenic fungi and identifies targets for the development of novel natural product-based antibiotics. The junior research group **(Epi-)Genetic Regulation of Fungal Virulence** invites talented and highly gifted candidates, willing to start at the earliest possible date, to apply as a

Postdoctoral Researcher (f/div/m) in Microbial Diversity Research, Epidemiology and Diagnostics

for three years.

Research Area:

The fungal genus *Fusarium* primarily infects plants but certain species are also able to cause severe human infections (fusariosis). In Germany, *Fusarium* is the third most common fungal pathogen after *Candida* and *Aspergillus* and the main causative agent of fungal keratitis. Due to the intrinsic resistance of *Fusarium* spp. against important antifungals, infections are difficult to treat and prevention is a cornerstone of disease control. Due to drastic changes of the taxonomy of this genus, our knowledge about diversity in indoor environments and main reservoirs is poor. The project aims to determine the source of pathogenic *Fusarium* species and to reconstruct the ways of infection. Furthermore, we will develop diagnostic tools based on conventional and qPCR techniques that allow an early detection of the disease. The project is funded by the Free State of Thuringia with means of the European Social Fund (ESF).

Candidate's profile:

- PhD degree in Biology, Biochemistry, Microbiology or a related discipline
- Strong interest in diagnostics, diversity research and epidemiology
- Educational background in one or more of the following subjects: medical mycology, fungal taxonomy, fungal molecular biology, diagnostics of fungal pathogens
- Practical experience in isolation and cultivation of fungi, morphological and molecular identification of fungi, qPCR, and primer design are an advantage
- Ability to perform team-oriented as well as independent work
- Very good communication skills in English and German are necessary

Job Advertisement

Leibniz-HKI-64/2022



Leibniz Institute
for Natural Product Research
and Infection Biology
Hans Knöll Institute

We offer:

- An interdisciplinary scientific project hosted by the junior research group **(Epi-)Genetic Regulation of Fungal Virulence** of **Dr. Slavica Janevska** in close cooperation with the **German Reference Center for Invasive Fungal Infections (NRZMyk)**
- A place in a friendly and committed team, with strong local, national and international scientific collaborations
- Joining the Leibniz-HKI which is renowned for its research in infection biology and natural products and embedded in the outstanding scientific environment Beutenberg Campus, providing state-of-the-art research facilities and a highly integrative network of life science groups
- The postdoc candidate is granted the possibility to get extra skills training at the Graduate Academy of the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena

Salary is paid according to German TV-L (salary agreement for public service employees). As an equal opportunity employer, the Leibniz-HKI is committed to increase the percentage of female scientists and therefore especially encourages them to apply.

Further information:

Dr. Grit Walther | +49 3641 532 1038 | career@leibniz-hki.de

Applications:

Complete applications in English should include a cover letter, a CV containing a complete list of publications, a brief statement of research experiences, a certificate of study/transcript of records, the addresses of two possible referees, and should be submitted via the Leibniz-HKI **online application system**. The deadline for the advertisement is **February 10, 2023**, but applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.