Postdoc - Grassland diversity and Spatial Modelling

80% / 8046 Zürich-Affoltern ZH

**good food, healthy environment**
The international Biodiversa project GreeNet which aims to explore grassland diversity and its drivers in the Alps and in other European case studies in order to identify drivers of local and regional grassland biodiversity by evaluating location-specific information about diversity-supporting grassland management regimes, their legacies, interactions, drivers and constraints. For this purpose, the project team will interact with stakeholders including farmers and use ground-truth data describing plant, bird and insect diversity and grassland management regimes and multitemporal earth observation data (satellite and aerial imagery, maps, climate, soils, terrain). This information will be used to predict biodiversity indicators over the case study regions.

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**Your tasks**
- Prepare a literature review about the landscape indicators that influence biodiversity indicators
- Model the existing diversity and grassland management information and predict the diversity over space (Alps and European case study regions)
- Predicting biodiversity in space (Alps and European case study regions)
- Collaborate with international economical and ecological interdisciplinary teams, streamline the data unification and synthesis

**Your profile**
- PhD in Environmental Sciences, Biology or equivalent
- Strong skills in concepts of spatial science, biodiversity, environmental modelling and remote sensing
- Sincere interest in spatial modelling e.g. in R, and Machine Learning
- Knowledge of two official Swiss languages and good knowledge of spoken and written English

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Agroscope is the Swiss federal centre of excellence for research in the agriculture and food sector. Its researchers carry out their work at a number of sites in Switzerland. Headquartered in Bern-Liebefeld (as of 2025: Posieux FR), Agroscope is attached to the Swiss Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER. The research group “Agricultural landscape and biodiversity” is situated in Reckenholz near Zurich. The project is carried out in close collaboration with a economical PhD student at the ETH.

We offer an intriguing job in a dynamic work environment, as well as thorough training and a modern research infrastructure. Flexible working hours and good social benefits are among the perks of this position.

The Federal Administration is attentive to the different needs and backgrounds of its employees and promotes diversity. Equal treatment is a top priority.

If you are interested in this position and fulfil the requirements, we look forward to receiving your online application including contact information of 2-3 referees on www.stellen.admin.ch, Ref. Code 5083 (English is not an official Swiss language, please select German, French, or Italian as correspondence language).

Additional information can be obtained from Yvonne Fabian, project leader in the research group Agricultural landscape and biodiversity, phone: +41 58 481 93 66, e-mail: yvonne.fabian@agroscope.admin.ch (please do not send applications to this email address).

Start: 01.06.2023 or by arrangement. The duration of the contract is two years.

You can find more interesting vacancies for the Federal Administration at www.stellen.admin.ch