



Conditional on final approval the research group of Geoecology invites applications for

## a PhD Position on nutrient cycling by plants and microorganisms

as part of the German Research Foundation Priority Program “Earthshape” ([www.earthshape.net/](http://www.earthshape.net/)).

The overarching research question of this project is how microorganisms, animals, and plants influence the shape and development of the Earth’s surface over time scales from the present-day to the distant geologic past. Therefore, a pronounced climate gradient in the Chilean Coastal Cordillera is used as study area. The prospective PhD candidate will particularly study climate and drought effects on (i) the resource limitation of plants and soil microorganisms, and (ii) the efficiency of resource exploitation by plants and soil microorganisms. Part of the work will be located in Chile, whereas laboratory analyses (e.g., nutrient analysis of litter and soil, stable isotope analysis of oxygen-bound in NO<sub>3</sub> and PO<sub>4</sub>) and the data evaluation will be conducted in Tübingen, Germany.

### Qualifications and skills:

- M.Sc. degree in Geoecology, Environmental Sciences, Soil Science, Physical Geography, Landscape Ecology, Microbiology, Biology, Environmental Chemistry, or similar.
- Excellent knowledge of and laboratory experience is required.
- Ability to independently conduct sampling campaigns and experiments in Chile is required.
- A driving license (equivalent to the German Class B) is required
- Very good English and Spanish communication and writing skills are highly desirable.
- Extended knowledge of stable isotopes in the environment is desirable.
- High motivation and commitment to participate in an interdisciplinary research program.

The project offers the opportunity to actively participate in the interdisciplinary, German-Chilean collaboration project “Earthshape”, which includes regular meetings and students workshops .The position itself is located in the Geoecology group at the University of Tübingen, Germany. We offer an enthusiastic, motivating work environment with ample opportunities for personal development.

The position will be limited to three years and will start on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. The salary is in accordance with the German Public Service salary scale (75%, TV-L E13). We particularly encourage female applicants to apply for this position. Disabled persons will be preferred in case of equal qualification.

Please send your application (including a cover letter, full CV, copies of certificates, and names, phone numbers and email addresses of two academic referees) as a single PDF file attached to an email to: Dr. Harald Neidhardt ([harald.neidhardt\[at\]uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:harald.neidhardt[at]uni-tuebingen.de)). The application deadline is December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the review of applications will continue until the position is filled.