



## MSc Thesis: Land-use effects on the biodiversity – ecosystem service relationship (BES)

### Description:

The thesis will be carried out within the framework of the project – „Sensing Biodiversity Across Scales“ (SEBAS) – belonging to the Biodiversity Exploratories funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). The three Exploratories encompass the German regions: biosphere reserve Schorfheide-Chorin (BB), Hainich-Dün (TH) and Schwäbische-Alb (BW).

This master thesis topic addresses the conflict associated with managed semi-natural grasslands, which on the one hand provide fodder as an ecosystem service, but on the other hand also represent diversity-rich but threatened ecosystems. The aim is to investigate the impact of grassland management on the taxonomical & functional diversity of plants, as well as to improve the understanding of land-use effects on the biodiversity – ecosystem service relationship (BES). You will analyse ecological field data and predicted ecological data from remote sensing techniques in response to land use intensity and environmental gradients.

### Start and fieldwork duration:

- Start: April 2023
- Fieldwork: each three weeks in spring (June) and autumn (September) 2023

### Tasks:

- 6 weeks fieldwork: vegetation records, biomass and plant functional trait measurements
- Laboratory work
- Data clearing & statistical analysis

### Requirements:

- Master studies in organismic biology or ecology
- Knowledge of grassland plant species is of advantage
- Fluent in English

### What we can offer?:

- Financial coverage of fieldwork
- Participation in an international and interdisciplinary research group
- Insights into Field Spectroscopy

### You are interested or have questions? Contact:

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