The ISOE – Institute for Social-Ecological Research, based in Frankfurt am Main/Germany, is a leading non-profit and non-university institute for transdisciplinary sustainability research. For over 25 years, the Institute has been developing social-ecological concepts to support sound decision-making processes by policy makers, civil society and industry. This way, ISOE contributes to sustainable development and provides the impetus for critical and sustainable science. Our clients and sponsors include national and international public institutions and corporations.

The ISOE – Institute for Social-Ecological Research, Research Unit Biodiversity and People invites applications for

**2 Postdoctoral Positions in Social-Ecological Transdisciplinary Biodiversity Research**

(100%, 3 years, Salary equivalent to a public service position in Germany – TV-H)

The research unit addresses the interaction between biodiversity and people. This interface is conceptualized as a social-ecological system based on ecosystem services relating society to nature. The focus is on the change of ecosystem services and the corresponding effects on human population dynamics. We investigate the effects of societal changes on ecosystem services as well as society’s perception and valuation of biodiversity.

We offer an innovative, cooperative, and open working environment, encourage new ideas and independent work. Being a part of ISOE also means you will have a chance to further develop the research field of social-ecological transdisciplinary biodiversity research.

**Position 1: Social-ecological systems and biodiversity**

This position contributes to the further development of the research unit Biodiversity and People. The candidate is expected to actively contribute to the existing close collaboration with the Senckenberg Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre (SBiK-F). We seek a post-doctoral researcher whose work bridges the natural and social sciences. Knowledge of the scientific discourse on social-ecological systems and their application, as well as of the critical discourses on ecosystem services and biodiversity values is of advantage. In case of successful integration into ISOE and the project, we aim for a permanent position. German language skills are obligatory.

The candidate should have experience on at least one of the following topics:

- Biodiversity change and societal transformations (e.g. multifunctionality, bioeconomy, dynamics of ecosystem services)
- Sustainable development of agricultural systems
- Biodiversity conflicts (e.g. agricultural systems, human-wildlife systems)
- Biodiversity and global change trade-offs

**Position requirements**

- PhD in a relevant field (Human Geography, Environmental Sciences, Political Sciences, or a related field).
  The PhD thesis must have been submitted before the application deadline.
- Research experience in interdisciplinary working environments
- Strong skills in quantitative and/or qualitative empirical social research (e.g. semi-structured interviews, workshops, survey design, statistical analysis, analysis of qualitative interviews)
- Regular publication of interdisciplinary research in leading international journals
- English language proficiency is mandatory
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
Position 2: Social-ecological transformation processes in Mongolia

This position is part of the BMBF project MORE STEP. This is an interdisciplinary project aimed at investigating social-ecological dynamics in the Mongolian steppe ecosystem in order to identify irreversible changes (tipping points) and their possible consequences. We seek a post-doctoral researcher who has experience in inter- and transdisciplinary research, particularly in different cultural contexts. In case the project is successful, the position can be extended for 3 more years. German language skills are of advantage.

The candidate will work on the following topics:

- Social-ecological conditions of rural to urban migration in Mongolia
- Traditional ecological knowledge
- Societal transformations and their impact on societal relations to nature
- Transdisciplinary integration: knowledge integration (interdisciplinary and stakeholder)

Position requirements

- PhD in a relevant field (Human Geography, Environmental Sciences, Political Sciences, or a related field). The PhD thesis must have been submitted before the application deadline.
- Intercultural work experience
- Research experience in inter- and transdisciplinary working environments (e.g. stakeholder dialogues, workshop organisation)
- High willingness to travel and to stay for extended field work in Mongolia (circa 2 months)
- Strong skills in qualitative empirical social research (e.g. semi-structured interviews, workshops, analysis of qualitative interviews); knowledge of quantitative empirical social research is required
- Regular publications of interdisciplinary research in leading international journals
- English language proficiency is mandatory; knowledge in Mongolian Language is of advantage or willingness to learn Mongolian
- Excellent oral and written communication skills

Salary and benefits are equivalent to a public service position in Germany (TV-H E 13). The positions will be full-time (100%) for 3 years. Part-time employment is possible. ISOE is an equal opportunity employer. The place of employment will be Frankfurt am Main, Germany. The employer is ISOE – Institute for Social-Ecological Research.

Please send your application via e-mail in a single PDF file (max. 5 MB). Please include the reference to the positions (ISOE-BB-position-1, and ISOE-BB-position-2, respectively) in the subject line. Include a cover letter describing your motivation to apply, and a detailed CV, relevant certificates, the names of two references plus a copy of your three most relevant publications by October 10th, 2018 to:

ISOE – Institute for Social-Ecological Research, Dr. Thomas Jahn, bewerbungen@isoe.de

For scientific enquiries please contact Dr. Marion Mehring (mehring@isoe.de).