

POST DOCTORAL POSITION
GEMBLOUX AGRO-BIO TECH
FIELD: SOIL MICROBIOLOGY
START DATE: 09/2024

The University of Liège is the biggest French-speaking public university in Belgium. It has more than 5,700 members of staff in four campuses, including 3,600 teachers and active researchers in all fields of the human and social sciences, science and technology, and health sciences. It hosts nearly 27,000 students of 123 different nationalities in one of the most multicultural and dynamic cities in Europe, less than an hour from Brussels and Cologne, two hours from Paris and three hours from London and Amsterdam.

Actively involved in the social and environmental transition, ULiège supports students to fulfil their roles as responsible citizens (training in sustainable development, Green Office, etc.) and promotes ethical, multidisciplinary and open research. ULiège is committed to the region in which it operates and contributes towards its socio-economic development. It has developed numerous partnerships, notably with the CHU de Liège. International and united, it participates in the [European University of Post-Industrial Cities, UNIC](#) initiative and has one of the most extensive collaborative networks in the world.

ULiège offers attractive career prospects [in a high-quality working environment](#), promoting well-being, diversity and equality of opportunity. Since 2011, it has been proud to hold the European label [Human resources strategy for researchers](#) (HRS4R) which reflects its commitment to open, transparent and merit-based procedures. In addition, it recognises the quality and diversity of research in line with the recommendations of the [Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment](#) (CoARA). ULiège encourages the internationalisation of its academic staff and facilitates the arrival of international researchers through its EURAXESS centre.

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We are inviting applications for a post-doctoral position to join the "Transdisciplinary Agroecosystem Platform for Integrated Research (TAPIR)" project, funded by the University of Liège.

TAPIR brings together multiple partners from ULiège faculties, including Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech and Sciences, with expertise in crop science, modeling, soil microbiology, plant ecophysiology, pasture and animal science and nutrition, energy systems, ecosystem physical modeling, image and signal analysis, plant genetics, phytopathology, plant-microbiome interactions, remote sensing, and regional climate modeling.

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Addressing the sustainability challenges of current food systems and the threats posed by climate change requires the redesigning agricultural systems based on agroecological principles. This involves promoting practices that enhance the ecological functions of biodiversity, rethinking farm-level energy consumption, and considering the overall greenhouse gas (GHG) emission and adaption to climate change. Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech, the agricultural college of Liège University conducts a cutting-edge research to address these challenges.

TAPIR aims to integrate two unique research infrastructures at ULiège—EcoFoodSystem (https://www.terra.uliege.be/cms/c_4082756/en/terra-agriculture-is-life?id=c_4082756) and the Ecotron (https://www.terra.uliege.be/cms/c_4082744/en/terra-environment-is-life)—creating a multi-scale tool to investigate the above-mentioned impacts of the redesign of agricultural systems. The project seeks to enhance participation in international projects that support the agroecological transition of agricultural systems in response to environmental and societal challenges posed by climate change.

JOB DESCRIPTION

The post-doc will have the opportunity to investigate the impact of long-term agroecological experiments on the soil (micro)biology by establishing and managing a soil (micro)biology platform to standardize and systematize soil biology measurements related to soil health. In addition to his/her own research, s/he will help in giving access to the analytical equipment and processes to both ULiège scientists and international collaborators through partnerships and training programs.

The post-doc will also assist in the submission of related international projects, including attending meetings, finding partners, and writing proposals.

The post-doc will be based in Gembloux, Belgium at the heart of the beautiful countryside of Wallonia.

The position can be either full or part-time position depending on the post-doc profile.

This is an equal opportunity position open to all candidates regardless of gender, ethnicity, nationality or other considerations.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED / PROFILE

- ▶ PhD in a relevant field with demonstrated expertise and scientific publications in soil biology, particularly soil microbiology.
- ▶ Experience in submitting research projects.
- ▶ Excellent oral and written communication skills in English.
- ▶ Appointment duration: 18 months, with the possibility of renewal.

APPLICATIONS

To be eligible, applications must be submitted **no later than 30th August 2024 (before midnight Belgian time)**. Reviewing of applications begins on 1st September 2024, and will continue until a suitable candidate is identified.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

- ▶ Resume,
- ▶ Cover letter,
- ▶ A reference list of two people, at least

These documents must be sent via email decanat.gembloux@uliege.be. Please use the job reference as subject line.

INFORMATION

For inquiries, please contact Prof. Pierre Delaplace (pierre.delaplace@uliege.be) or Dr. Caroline De Clerck (caroline.declerck@uliege.be).

REMUNERATION:

Net salary after taxes and social benefits: approximately € 2950 per month for a full-time position, based on the candidate's personal status.