

Open Position:

Postgraduate Research Associate in Forest Genetics & Climate Adaptation

The university of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna (BOKU) is currently seeking a: Postgraduate Research Associate within the project: "**Climate-Resilient Conifer Forests through Integrative Genomics and Phenotyping (KoniPheGe)**"

Context: Climate change poses immense challenges to European forests. Conifer species essential to forestry, such as Norway spruce, are increasingly affected by drought and pest pressure. This project aims to advance our understanding of the genetic basis of adaptability and drought-stress tolerance in four key conifer species: Norway spruce, Black pine, Douglas fir, and Lebanon cedar. By combining state-of-the-art genomic analyses (e.g., Genotyping-by-Sequencing) with high-throughput phenotyping (HTPP) methods, we aim to identify adaptive genetic variation and develop practice-relevant tools for future-proof forest management.

As part of our interdisciplinary team (BFW & BOKU), you will make a significant contribution to uncovering the genetic basis of climate-relevant traits and translating this knowledge into practical applications for forest owners.

The role will focus on:

- Planning and conducting drought tolerance experiments.
- Analyzing large-scale genomic and phenotypic data using bioinformatics.
- Preparing findings for publication and scientific communication.

Profile: We are seeking candidates with a degree in Bioinformatics, Biology, Forest Sciences, or a related field, a strong interest in the research topic, and good teamwork and communication skills.

For a complete description of the position, salary, required qualifications, and the application process, please refer to the official advertisement.

Full Advertisement:

- Euraxess: <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/node/464417> (English)
- BOKU: https://boku.ac.at/fileadmin/data/H01000/mitteilungsblatt-jobs/2026/RN176_oD_DM.pdf (German)

Application Deadline: 30th of September 2026