

The **Wyss Academy for Nature** at the University of Bern brings together scientists, business leaders, policymakers, and communities to co-design innovative solutions to pressing, interconnected problems such as climate change, biodiversity loss, land use change, and rising inequality. Our vision is to achieve a just and sustainable world in which nature conservation and human well-being reinforce each other. Our Research and Innovation team on *Climate Scenarios for Sustainable Development* led by Professor Edouard Davin is now welcoming applications for a

PhD position in future pathways for climate, land use and biodiversity

Starting: At earliest convenience

Location: Kochergasse 4, 3011 Bern, Switzerland

Apply by: 25 May 2025

The Research and Innovation team on *Climate Scenarios for Sustainable Development* works at the interface between climate, land use and biodiversity with a focus on future pathways to tackle the climate and biodiversity crises synergistically. Our work addresses the following overarching questions: 1) What are the risks to terrestrial ecosystems and people arising from future climate change? 2) Which strategies, in particular land-based and Nature-based options, can help address these risks? 3) What is the potential to upscale these strategies and what are the resulting co-benefits and unintended consequences? We ultimately aim to produce actionable knowledge that inform solutions tested in our Regional Stewardship Hubs located in Europe, South America, East Africa, and Southeast Asia.

The successful candidate will generate and analyse future projections of climate, land use and biodiversity. The goal will be to better understand the interactions between these components and identify pathways maximizing benefits across them, with a focus on the role of Nature-based Solutions. The work will involve Earth System Modelling and/or Species Distribution Modelling and will leverage observations, remote sensing and statistical techniques to complement model-based projections.

Your main tasks:

- Conduct a PhD in Climate Sciences with a focus on Scenarios for Sustainable Development
- Generate and analyze future pathways of climate, land use and biodiversity
- Engage with stakeholders and other units at the Wyss Academy, particularly the Regional Hubs, to translate research insights into concrete solutions
- Present your research at scientific conferences and publish results in international peer-reviewed journals

Your qualifications:

- Master's degree in Climate, Earth, or Environmental sciences or a related field
- Basic knowledge in statistics and/or climate modelling
- Basic programming skills in python, R or equivalent
- Very good skills in English (oral and written) are necessary, knowledge of German, French or Spanish is a plus.

We offer:

- The opportunity to be part of an agile organisation that develops, tests and scales up innovative solutions to the most pressing problems of our times and explores new modes of collaboration between science, policy, and practice.

- Working in an intercultural, international, multidisciplinary, and highly stimulating environment.
- Integration in the Graduate School Climate Sciences (GSCS) of the Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research (OCCR)
- Employment terms of the University of Bern, Switzerland
- Flexible working hours and space for innovative approaches and creative thinking

For more information about this position, please write to Prof. Edouard Davin at hr@wyssacademy.org.

We look forward to receiving your application via the online portal no later than 25 May 2025.

Applications must be written in English and include the following elements: Curriculum vitae with contact details of two professional referees and a cover letter (maximum 2 pages) explaining your personal motivation to join the Wyss Academy for Nature at the University of Bern and for this position, clearly outlining your research interests relevant to the advertised PhD topic.

The Wyss Academy for Nature values diversity and equal opportunity. We welcome all applications from qualified individuals who meet the required criteria. Dossiers submitted through employment agencies will not be considered.