SMART Plants for Tomorrow’s Needs
The Cluster of Excellence on Plant Sciences is a joint unit of Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, University of Cologne, Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research Cologne and Forschungszentrum Jülich. CEPLAS is developing innovative science-based strategies for sustainable plant production. Our aim is to mechanistically understand complex plant traits of agronomic relevance that impact on yield and adaptation to limited resources.

What we offer
CEPLAS creates an international, interdisciplinary research environment. We offer a comprehensive training program for early career researchers tailored to your respective career level. Program components are (scientific) training, mentoring, coaching and networking with industry.

We are looking for talented, highly motivated applicants with a PhD degree for the following projects (detailed information on www.ceplas.eu):

Within the field Bioinformatics and Data Science
Project 1: Comprehensive and efficient identification of genomic differences from whole-genome alignments
Qualifications needed: good algorithmic background, programming skills, basic knowledge in bioinformatics, Plus: experience with genomic data and/or plant genomics
Project leaders: Gunnar Klau, Korbinian Schneeberger

Project 2: GeneCOMPLETE
Qualifications needed: programming skills. Understanding of plants and background in machine learning are a plus.
Project leader: Björn Usadel

Within the field Plant Development and Metabolism
Project 3: Meristic regulatory networks controlling floral transition
Qualifications needed: Molecular biology, confocal imaging, computational capability
Project leader: George Coupland

Project 4: Control of shoot meristem development in barley
Qualifications needed: molecular plant biology, grass genetics, plant development, imaging
Project leaders: Maria von Korff-Schmising, Rüdiger Simon

Project 5: Physiological and metabolic consequences of diversification of leaf margin complexity
Qualifications needed: Plant Physiology skills particularly on gas exchange or hydraulics, Plant Molecular/Developmental Genetics (especially in Arabidopsis), NGS data analysis
Project leader: Miltos Tsiantis

Application process
The place of employment is defined by the respective research project. According to the applicant’s personal qualification and the institution, employment will be based on EG 13 TV-L / EG 13 TVöD-Bund. Qualified candidates should send their complete application (cover letter including a statement for which project(s) you apply, curriculum vitae, contact info of two references, certificates) by indicating the number 130 T19-3.1 until 06.01.2020 by e-mail (one single pdf-file <5MB) to office@ceplas.eu. In principle, the employments can also be part-time, if no compelling official reasons are opposed in an individual case.

All participating institutions are equal opportunity employers and strive for gender equality and diversity. Applications from individuals with backgrounds that are underrepresented in MINT disciplines are expressly welcome. Women with comparable qualifications will receive particular consideration. Applications from suitably qualified severely disabled persons or people of equivalent status according to Book IX of the German Social Legal Code (SGB – Soziales Gesetzbuch) are encouraged. Severely disabled applicants of equal merit and qualifications will be given priority.