

Job Advertisement Ref.# 02-10007

Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung has an international reputation in all fields of Natural History research. It runs six research institutes and two museums in Germany and is also custodian of the UNESCO World Heritage Site at Messel.

The German Center for Marine Biodiversity Research is looking for outstanding scientists and students to join the new established junior research group “molecular taxonomy of marine organisms”. The aim of the research group is to test and develop molecular methods for the identification of the marine fauna of the North Sea, aiding efforts to monitor biodiversity patterns and changes. The research group is supported by the BMBF (Federal Ministry of Education and Research) and Land Niedersachsen.

Research Assistant (PhD) position II (50%)

The successful candidate will test and develop molecular methods for the identification of invertebrate and vertebrate larval stages using oligonucleotide probes for *in situ* hybridization using whole larvae of selected taxa. The aim of this project is focused on the development of a routine monitoring method of the analysed target species. Specimens will be acquired from sampling campaigns on the North Sea, followed by laboratory work, data management and data analysis.

We look for a highly motivated candidate holding a Diploma or Master's degree in a relevant subject with a sound background in molecular biology (marine biology preferable). Candidates should be fluent in written and spoken English. Excellent skills on a variety of molecular techniques, experiences with *in situ* hybridisation techniques, the ability to work independently and the willingness to conduct fieldwork are essential. It is desired that the successful applicant will earn a PhD degree in this position.

The position is half-time (50%). Salary and benefits are according to a public service position in Germany (Hessen) TVH E13Ü for three years. Senckenberg wishes to increase the share of women in areas where they are underrepresented, and strongly encourages women to apply. Senckenberg has an affirmative action policy for the disabled and especially encourages them to apply.

Applicants should send their CV, a letter of intent describing the candidate's motivation, qualification, skills, and experience relevant to this position, and contact information of two referees to recruiting@senckenberg.de indicating the positions reference number in the subject of the email. For full consideration, the application should be received no later than **February 28th, 2010**.

Mr
Prof. Dr. M. Türkay
Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung
Senckenberganlage 25
60325 Frankfurt/Main