

**Job announcement ref. #01-23012**

The Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung (SGN) was founded in 1817 and is one of the most important research institutions around biological diversity. At its eleven sites throughout Germany, scientists from over 40 nations conduct cutting-edge research on an international scale. The company's headquarter is in the Main metropolis of Frankfurt in the heart of Germany. This is also where one of Senckenberg's best-known facilities, the Senckenberg Natural History Museum, is located.

The **Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung**, based in Frankfurt am Main, is seeking to fill the position of a

**Research Assistant (m/f/d)  
in the project  
Senckenberg Ocean Species Alliance (SOSA)**

**(Full-time / part-time options available)**

Marine invertebrates represent the majority of animal morphological diversity. Perhaps 90% of marine species remain undescribed. We believe that standardisation of taxonomic workflows can help to overcome the bottleneck for species discovery and description. Therefore, we are seeking a research assistant to conduct a desk study reviewing modern taxonomic literature on marine invertebrates and relevant imaging techniques. This project aims to test the development of standardised description templates for integrative taxonomic species descriptions.

The Senckenberg Ocean Species Alliance (SOSA) project combines marine biodiversity research, species conservation, and science communication within one project. This interdisciplinary project is composed of three pillars, the Discovery Unit, Red Listing Unit and the Engagement Unit, whose tasks are tightly interlinked.

The Discovery Unit will apply a new model for biodiversity work by providing taxonomic services to users inside and outside of Senckenberg.

**Your Tasks:**

- Taxonomic literature review
- development of standardised description templates
- methodological standardisation
- work closely with SOSA leadership and Discovery Unit

## Essential Skills:

- academic qualification (MSc or PhD) related to the study of marine invertebrates
- experience and training with at least one group of marine invertebrates, and understanding of their morphology
- knowledge of taxonomic rules and principles
- fluency in English, especially to understand technical scientific papers
- passion for orderly and complete documentation and detail

## Desirable Skills:

- some experience of morphological imaging techniques (e.g., SEM,  $\mu$ CT, cLSM)
- general knowledge of molecular methods related to taxonomy (e.g. DNA barcoding)

## What awaits you:

- An interesting and challenging task in a dynamic and stimulating team of researchers, technicians and communicators in the diverse SOSA project team
- The opportunity to be at the forefront of a new movement with scientists, conservationists and science communicators dedicated to explore, protect and inspire awe for ocean biodiversity
- Excellent benefits and work/life balance: Flexible working hours – dual career service - leave of absence due to family reasons – parent-child-office – annual special payment – company pension scheme – Senckenberg badge for free entry in museums in Frankfurt – leave of 30 days/year

<b>Place of employment:</b>	<b>Frankfurt am Main, Germany</b>
<b>Working hours:</b>	<b>Full-time (40 hours/week) / part-time options are available</b>
<b>Type of contract:</b>	<b>The contract should start ideally in July 2023 or as soon as possible thereafter. You will receive a 2-year fixed-term contract. A further contract may be offered until 31.12.2031 based on performance review.</b>
<b>Salary:</b>	<b>According to the German collective agreement TV-H (paygrade E 12-13) depending on your qualifications and previous experience.</b>

**Equity:** The Senckenberg Research Institutes support equal opportunities for all genders. We strongly encourage women to apply. Equally qualified applicants with a disability will be given preference. We are committed to fostering a diverse team in Senckenberg and will positively consider candidates from under-represented groups and all genders (m/f/d).

**Support for international staff:** Senckenberg is a globally connected institute. The working language within SOSA is English. Frankfurt is a vibrant, international, culturally diverse city and one of the world's travel hubs. We welcome candidates from all nations and will provide support for your relocation process.

## You would like to apply?

### Please submit:

- (1) A one-page cover letter that addresses your fit to the advertised position as described above
- (2) Your CV including names and contact details of three professional references
- (3) Your academic and /or vocational certificates
- (4) combine these documents into a single pdf file. Submit it via email, with the reference of this job offer (**ref. #01-23012**) in the subject line before **8 May 2023** by e-mail to: [recruiting@senckenberg.de](mailto:recruiting@senckenberg.de)

For more information, please see <http://sosa.senckenberg.de> or contact the SOSA Co-Chairs: Dr. Torben Riehl and Prof. Dr Julia Sigwart ([torben.riehl@senckenberg.de](mailto:torben.riehl@senckenberg.de), [julia.sigwart@senckenberg.de](mailto:julia.sigwart@senckenberg.de)).

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