



**Faculty/Department:** Mathematics, Informatics, Natural Sciences/Biology  
**Seminar/Institute:** Institute of Marine Ecosystem and Fishery-Sciences

Pending approval of external funding Universität Hamburg invites applications for a Research Associate for the project “**CUSCO, Coastal Upwelling System in a Changing Ocean**” in accordance with Section 28 subsection 3 of the Hamburg higher education act (Hamburgisches Hochschulgesetz, HmbHG). The position commences on 15th October, 2018.

It is remunerated at the salary level TV-L 13 and calls for 67 % of standard work hours per week\*.

The fixed-term nature of this contract is based upon Section 2 of the academic fixed-term labor contract act (Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz, WissZeitVG). The term is fixed for a period of 3 years.

The University aims to increase the number of women in research and teaching and explicitly encourages women to apply. Equally qualified female applicants will receive preference in accordance with the Hamburg act on gender equality (Hamburgisches Gleichstellungsgesetz, HmbGleiG).

**Responsibilities:**

Duties include academic services in the project named above. Research associates can also pursue independent research and further academic qualifications.

**Specific Duties:**

The successful candidate will participate in a field cruise (December 2018/January 2019) and laboratory and mesocosm studies (starting in autumn 2019) in Peru performed in collaboration with other team members of the CUSCO project.

The research associate will be expected to conduct research on zooplankton and ichthyoplankton in the northern Humboldt system EBUS. The associate will have the opportunity to pursue further academic qualifications, in particular a doctoral dissertation.

CUSCO is a three-year, multi-disciplinary BMBF project that includes seven partner institutions from Germany and Peru. The program explores the role of changes in upwelling strength on the efficiency of food web coupling and carbon cycling (from phytoplankton to fish) in the northern Humboldt Current Upwelling System. All four major Eastern Boundary Upwelling Systems (EBUS) in the world generate similar amounts of primary production but the Humboldt System provides, on average, eight times more fish. The mechanisms supporting this higher trophic transfer efficiency (TTE) are poorly understood. To explore TTE, planned activities include field cruises, laboratory experiments, and an off-shore mesocosm study (all performed in Peru) and numerical simulations (individual-based, biogeochemical food web modelling).

\* Full-time positions currently comprise 39 hours per week.



This PhD position will explore the abundance and trophic position of zooplankton including gelatinous and semi-gelatinous species often considered trophic "dead ends". The length of the food chain between primary producers and harvested species will be assessed via trophic markers (e.g. stable isotopes, fatty acids) to resolve TTE. The results generated from this work will support the development of biophysical models depicting zooplankton-larval anchovy interaction and biogeochemical-based food web models.

**Requirements:**

A university degree in a relevant field. If applicable, please list further requirements here.

We are looking for an outstanding and highly motivated researcher with:

- A master's degree in Environmental Science, Biological Oceanography or related discipline,
- A background in marine plankton (zoo- and/or ichthyoplankton) ecology and taxonomy,
- Previous experience on field research cruises and/or laboratory/mesocosm experiments examining plankton and/or trophodynamic coupling is preferred,
- Previous experience with simulation modelling (individual-based or food webs) is also advantageous,
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English,
- The ability to work proactively in an inter- and transdisciplinary team,
- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills.

Severely disabled applicants will receive preference over equally qualified non-disabled applicants.

For further information, please contact Prof. Myron A. Peck ([myron.peck@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:myron.peck@uni-hamburg.de)) or Dr. Rolf Koppelman ([rolf.koppelman@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:rolf.koppelman@uni-hamburg.de)) or consult our website at <https://www.biologie.uni-hamburg.de/en/einrichtungen/imf.html>.

Applications should include a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and copies of degree certificate(s). A brief project proposal (maximum 1 page) is also requested.

The application deadline is 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2018

Please send applications to: Prof. Myron A. Peck ([myron.peck@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:myron.peck@uni-hamburg.de)).