



The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) is the national institute which prepares expert reports and opinions on questions of food, feed and chemicals, as well as consumer health protection in Germany on the basis of internationally recognized scientific assessment criteria. It advises the German government as well as other institutions and interest groups in these areas. The BfR conducts its own research on topics closely related to its assessment tasks. It is a legally responsible institution within the portfolio of the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL).

At the BfR Department of Food Safety in the specialist group Effect-related Analytics and Toxicogenomics there is an opening for a

Master-/Diplomathesis

Preparation of guidelines for the farming of insects as feed for aquaculture

Location: Berlin | Closing date for application: 15.10.2024

The use of insects for feed purposes has been allowed in the European Union since 2017, but currently only for poultry, pig, and aquaculture farms. European Commission Regulation 142/2011, implementing Regulation (EC) No. 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down health rules concerning animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption, specifies which are the insect species authorized for inclusion within feed. These rules set by the Commission regulate the use of insects and derived ingredients within the Union, and must be followed by any operator wishing to import their products into the common market.

The "BioInsectonomy" project aims to promote cooperation between the EU and Colombia in the area of insect-based aquaculture feed production. The objectives of the project are to identify the parameters for economical production of insects and feeds derived from them and to enable efficient production. In addition, methods for self and official control of food and feed are to be made available to ensure the safety of feed and food. The project aims to consolidate a strategic alliance and coordination between three research institutes from Germany, Colombia and Norway and a German company to promote the circular economy and the realization of some of the UN SDGs or EU Green Deal goals.

One focus of the activities planned under the "BioInsectonomy" project is the drafting of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) covering from the selection and preparation of the organic sidestream material for insect growth to the final feeding of fish. These procedures are to be prepared in accordance with both Colombian and EU legislation. These guidelines will also include full description of test methods for identification of insect-containing material and selected fish species used for export from Colombia.

The student is expected to conduct a **compilatory thesis**, i.e., a theoretical paper, based primarily on analysis of existing literature. Practical laboratory work is possible as a supplement, but will not constitute the main activity.

Tasks:

- Reviewing of the existing literature and available information on the farming and the use of insects for aquaculture purposes
- Collection and analysis of the reviewed material
- Support into the drafting of best practices / SOPs

Requirements:

- Degree in biology/chemistry or other related field (e.g., biochemistry, toxicology, biotechnology, pharmacy) or economics (e.g. International Sustainability Management)
- Good knowledge of written and spoken English
- Flexible, dedicated and self-organized working style

Application procedure:

Do you feel addressed? Then please apply by e-mail only to Cristiano.Garino@bfr.bund.de until **15.10.2024**. Please send a short motivation letter, CV and certificates.

Additional information can be found on the homepage: www.bfr.bund.de/de/stellenanzeigen

The BfR welcomes applications from people of all nationalities. The BfR is an innovative scientific institute offering family-friendly working conditions for which it was awarded the “audit berufundfamilie®” (work and family) certificate. The BfR guarantees equal career opportunities for women and men, and is therefore particularly interested in receiving applications from women. In the case of equal suitability, severely disabled applicants will be given preferential consideration and are only required to have a minimum level of physical suitability.



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Bundesministerium
für Ernährung
und Landwirtschaft

