Job title: Senior Officer, Climate-neutral City Advisor

Start date: 01 August 2022 (or earlier)
Duration: 2 years
Location: Freiburg, Germany
Deadline for application: 22 June 2022

Do you want to contribute to making our cities better places to live?

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network working with more than 2500 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 125+ countries, we influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development. ICLEI's European Secretariat is based in Freiburg (Germany), with satellite offices in Brussels and Berlin. ICLEI Europe has more than 120 talented staff from all over Europe and beyond, covering a broad variety of professional disciplines and expertise.

Working with ICLEI is an opportunity to work alongside some of the leading policymakers, practitioners, politicians, and urban researchers in the field of sustainable urban development. ICLEI has been at the forefront of the sustainable, circular, and innovation procurement topic globally for 30 years. We support implementation, raising awareness, developing new approaches, capacity building and encouraging policy developments at the European and international level. In recent years, our work has expanded to cover the topic of circular economy.

We offer a friendly work environment, flexible working hours, international travel and training opportunities as well as a supportive approach to development. ICLEI is committed to providing an inclusive and supportive working environment and is a family friendly certified organisation with equal opportunities. We also strive to provide a good work-life balance.

ICLEI contributes to the EU Mission to create 100 Climate-neutral and Smart Cities by 2030 via the NetZeroCities project, which serves as the platform for support and service delivery to the 100 Mission Cities, as well as through other upcoming initiatives. As part of NetZeroCities, City Advisors are foreseen to act as a conduit between cities and the NetZeroCities (NZC) services and expertise within the project consortium and connect cities with the appropriate support for their needs via the One Stop Shop Platform and consortium expertise. They will join a team of 12 City Advisors working for different partner organizations of NetZeroCities and constitute an integral part to the success of the ambitious project NetZeroCities (NZC), supporting the implementation of the EU Mission 100 Climate Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030.

Working in this role, successful applicants will have opportunities to:

• Serving as a main liaison for city and local government representatives for ICLEI’s work on the Cities Mission and the NetZeroCities project;
• Provide the Mission Cities under the EU Cities Mission with various advisory services to support their work toward climate neutrality;
• Support cities to find systemic solutions that significantly increase the speed and scale of climate action to reach climate neutrality by 2030;
• Forge a strong relationship with the Mission Cities and work with them to develop expertise and capability in a co-design process for the creation of Climate City Contracts;
• Support cities through the Climate City Contract process, facilitating the development of their commitments, action plans and investment plans practically by applying the tools and services available through the Mission Platform;
• Supporting cities in measuring, evaluating and learning (MEL) from climate impact of their action implementation in line with qualitative and quantitative indicators developed or utilised by NetZeroCities and the Cities Mission;
• Link various actors from the city to the relevant consortium members and/or other cities that have relevant expertise or experience;
• Coordinate and support the implementation of the Learning Programme with Twin Cities, including peer learning between the Twin Cities, and their interactions with their mentor Pilot Cities with whom they are twinned;
• Act as a point of contact for cities’ inquiries and answer to their day-to-day questions.

Skills and qualifications:

• Advanced degree in one of the following areas: Sustainable Urban Planning and Development, Public Administration, Public Management and Policy, Environmental Management, Sustainability Science, Transformation Studies, Engineering, Finance or similar disciplines;
• Minimum of 5-10 years of post-graduation working experience in at least one of the following fields urban planning or governance, climate change mitigation and adaptation, climate finance, urban transition management or related areas with a characteristic of engaging multiple sectors and government institutions;
• Experience in one or more of the following areas is highly desirable: local climate action, local project development, systems thinking or system analysis, cross-sectoral innovation and multi-level approaches (policy, finance, technologies, stakeholder engagement, citizen engagement);
• Understanding and cross-cutting technical knowledge of climate mitigation, action planning, investment planning and sectoral knowledge of areas like buildings, transport, energy, green infrastructure, waste management and circular economy in cities;
• Excellent relationship management, networking, facilitation and speaking skills;
• Experience in working with city or regional governments and their inter-departmental processes in strategy or management roles;
• Experience in liaising with city officials at different levels, including senior staff and political leaders;
• Experience in facilitation and coaching techniques (in person and online);
• Experience in capacity development and peer learning activities (in-person and online);
• Enthusiasm for learning new skills from consortium partners and peers (i.e., other City Guides);
• Excellent oral and written communication skills in English required; and fluency in at least one other EU language(s);
• Good knowledge of European cultural diversity and experience in working with multi-cultural teams;
• Willingness and ability to travel for intensive working sessions with city teams;
• Strong intrinsic motivation to support cities in tackling recent challenges and curiosity to accompany them on their journey towards carbon-neutral by 2030.
Conditions:

We offer working in a highly motivated international team:

- Limited two-year contract (24 months) with high potential for extension;
- Contract of 80-100% with a gross salary according to the Senior Officer position in ICLEI's salary grid (indicative: EUR 52,600 – 55,200 per annum 100%);
- Working place: Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany;
- Working hours 40h working week with flexible/hybrid work times and 6 weeks of paid leave per annum;
- Working language: English;
- Readiness for frequent travelling within Europe;
- Applicants must – due to legal reasons – hold EU citizenship or valid EU residence permit and a valid German work permit. Applications not meeting these conditions can unfortunately not be considered.

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Please apply in writing, including a CV and letter of motivation to: jobs.europe@iclei.org

Be aware that applications are reviewed continuously upon arrival; therefore application as soon as possible is advisable.

For more information about ICLEI visit: www.iclei-europe.org

ICLEI Europe’s Equal Opportunity and Employment Policy

ICLEI Europe's hiring policy is geared to ensure that the organisation hires employees without regard to their race, colour, religion, national origin, citizenship, age, sex, marital status, socio-economic background or sexual orientation. ICLEI’s policy is that applicants for employment and career progression are considered solely on the basis of their qualifications and competencies.