



Senior Expert: Sustainable energy systems

Start date: 15 September 2023

Duration: 24 months (with a view to extending)

Deadline for application: 15 June 2023

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 140 staff from all over Europe and beyond, covering a broad variety of professional disciplines and expertise.

The position of a Senior Expert 'Sustainable Energy Systems' supports local and regional governments throughout Europe in assessing, facilitating and implementing just urban and regional transformation processes with a focus on sustainable energy systems and built infrastructures. Emphasis will be given to energy grids, energy efficiency and renewable energy in general and electricity and thermal networks in particular. He/she will do this both in the framework of larger projects and consultancy services offered by ICLEI.

Working with us, you will have **opportunities** to:

- Work with leading urban researchers, politicians and practitioners on European innovation projects, to provide solutions for today's urban and regional (energy) challenges;
- Help design and implement policies and solutions for climate neutrality;
- Contribute to European and international processes that influence urban and regional policies, the EU Green Deal, the Covenant of Mayors, the Coal-Regions in Transition Initiative, etc;
- Be part of an internationally-recognised organisation that inspires, supports and critically evaluates new trends in (co-)creating just urban and regional transition processes;
- Grow professionally in a flexible, family-friendly work environment with opportunities for personal development, European travel, and professional cultural exchange.

We are looking for a new colleague to join our **Climate Neutral Cities Task Group** with the following **experience, skills and character**:

- Solid understanding of and practical experience with the planning, implementation and transformation of energy and carbon-intensive infrastructure, particularly energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies, sector coupling, repurposing, smart grids, industrial symbiosis etc.;
- At least 4-6 years of professional experience, ideally including lead or coordination functions, in a project-based and/or service-based environment, ideally for and with local governments or other urban actors;
- Very good and clear oral and written communication;
- experienced in developing and implementing training and capacity development activities (particularly for local governments and their stakeholders);

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- Confident interacting and collaborating with a wide range of partners across disciplines and sectors;
- Proficient in English and at least one other European language, spoken and written; more and in particular Eastern European languages are an asset;
- Curious, creative, collaborative, whilst able to coordinate and offer orientation in a dynamic, sometimes fast-paced, international environment;
- Experience eg. related to the use of EU funding instruments (Just Transition Mechanism, Structural Funds, ELENA, JASPERS etc.), the development of Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans, Territorial Just Transition Plans, Smart Specialization Strategies or similar will be an asset.

Your position will include the following **main tasks**:

- Preparation, management and implementation of projects in European and – if necessary - non-European countries, in particular related to 'interoperability' and the transformation of carbon-intensive infrastructure systems (incl. technological and green infrastructures) and energy services in the urban and rural built environment, under supervision of the line-manager;
- Analysis of the energy and environmental footprint as well as social co-benefits of energy infrastructure (e.g. for a district, an energy community or a region etc.);
- Targeted advice on sustainable energy infrastructures – including planning, project development, related standards, business models, financing schemes and stakeholder engagement - in correspondence with urban and regional planning, integrated energy system (sector coupling) following climate neutrality and just transition aspirations;
- Policy positions for sustainable energy policies, in particular related to coal and carbon-intensive regions in transition;
- Further development, promotion and implementation of strategic planning frameworks and tools (such as the ICLEI Climate Neutrality framework or THERMOS etc.) supporting sustainable development and management with a view to a systemic regeneration of local resources (at different scales and sectors) and local climate change action (mitigation and adaptation);
- Development of guidelines and handbooks for the transferability and exploitation of infrastructure solutions related to energy efficiency and renewable energy, business and partnership models and standardization frameworks;
- Work package lead and supervision, including task coordination between partners and colleagues, time and capacity monitoring, communication with partners, reporting, etc.;
- Pro-active and regular communication with relevant organisations and institutions at all level, as well as governmental agencies and other stakeholders of carbon-intensive regions;
- Organisation and chairing/facilitation of virtual, hybrid and in-person meetings, including trainings, interactive workshops, stakeholder panels and international project meetings;
- Contributing to acquisition, including concept development and project design, writing, and budgeting.

We offer you the following conditions:

- Initial 24 months contract with high potential for extension;
- Gross salary according to the Expert position in ICLEI's salary grid (indicative: EUR 52.800 – 55.200 per annum);
- Place of work: Freiburg/Germany;
- 40h working week with flexible working time and the possibility to work up to 50% remote;
- 6 weeks of paid leave per annum;
- Working language is English;
- Occasional travel within Europe is foreseen.



Please note that applicants must – due to legal reasons – hold EU citizenship or a valid EU residence permit and a valid German work permit. Applications not meeting these conditions can unfortunately not be considered.

Deadline for application: 15 June 2023

Please apply in writing, including a CV and letter of motivation to:
jobs.europe@iclei.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 based on their qualifications and competencies.

