

## Postdoctoral or Research Assistant contract in Energy Research and Social Sciences

### **“Interdependencies between occupants of buildings and technicians in charge of the maintenance around the optimization and the flexibility of energy equipment”**

Grenoble Alps University, France

The Grenoble Alps University offers a one-year research contract for Postdoc in Sociology or Sustainable Studies within the scope of its *Cross-Disciplinary Program [Eco-SESA](#)* “*Eco-district: Safe, Efficient, Sustainable and Accessible Energies*”.

Endowed with 8 M€ - 1.7 M€ funded by the “Investing for the Future” governmental program - the [IDEX](#) cross-disciplinary program Eco-SESA assumes that the stochastic production from the renewable energy sources in urban areas challenges the historical - centralized and unidirectional - operation mode of the grids and the relationship of individuals and communities to energy. Based on observations at the building and district scales, the project Eco-SESA aims to produce knowledge, concepts, tools and methods to re-think planning, design, management and governance of energy systems in cities as well as the design of their components.

Grenoble is the [second French research and innovation site](#) after Paris and comes out as [the best place in France](#) to study.

The research project will focus on the interactions between the occupants and the technicians operating and maintaining buildings about energy efficiency. The project will examine the following questions: has the attitude of the technicians toward occupants (support, availability, understanding of the demand) an influence on the practices of the latter or their acceptance of the constraints of the energy system? What interpersonal skills and technical skills the technicians should develop in relation with occupants in order to obtain energy saving behaviors? How should technical building services should be organized to provide the expected level of service, condition for a motivation of the occupants?

The research approach will rely mainly on organization studies, sciences and technology studies, and economic sociology. Innovative methods are welcomed.

#### **Method:**

- Review of the scientific literature on interdependencies and the modalities of coordination between technicians and occupants, in the collective housing, industrial plants and commercial buildings.
- Sociological survey, interviews and observation of technicians and occupants of building tertiary to understand their constraints and their rationality, as well as their interdependencies in energy efficiency or flexibility.
- Sociological study on the professional group of operators of tertiary building (recruitment, trajectory, training, management, outsourcing relationship)

**Contract date:** beginning in September 2017 or February 2018, for 9-12 month

**Qualifications: the applicant must**

- hold a PhD within social science, or must have submitted his/her doctoral thesis for assessment prior to the start of the contract
- have experience with national or international publication activity
- be experimented or interested to work in an cross-disciplinary project
- be proficient in both written and oral English

**Salary** according to the French regulations for post-doctoral position

**Your application must include:**

- CV including a list of publications
- A brief account of the applicant's research interests and motivation for applying for the position
- Official confirmation that the doctoral thesis has been submitted (if it is the case)
- Scientific publications

**Application procedures:**

- **by email at:** [Thomas.Reverdy@grenoble-inp.fr](mailto:Thomas.Reverdy@grenoble-inp.fr) and [apply.eco-sesa@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](mailto:apply.eco-sesa@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr)
- **by form:** <https://ecosesa.univ-grenoble-alpes.fr/job-offers/application-form-711620.htm>

**Both application procedures, email and form, are mandatory.**

**Each application procedure must include a single attached file (.zip, .rar, .pdf)**

**The closing date** is June 1, 2017

Interviews will be organized in **June 2017**.

**For more information:** Thomas Reverdy