



**The Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research is recruiting a**

**Research Associate (post-doc, m/f)**

**for the RECOTTE Project (*RECO*nversion des Territoires par la Transition Ecologique)**

- **Ref: 20-19**
- **Full time, 40 hours/week**
- **2 years fixed-term contract**
- **Work contract at LISER, department of Urban Development and Mobility**
- **Expected start date: as soon as possible**

LISER is looking for a highly motivated Research Associate to join the Interreg RECOTTE project (*RECO*nversion des Territoires par la Transition Ecologique).

#### **Project description**

The RECOTTE project deals - both in a scientific and an applied perspective - with ecological transition at the local cross-border level. The transition cannot take place without citizen involvement and institutional support to stimulate the changes necessary to adapt our lifestyles. Thus, it must be carried out gradually and be led and supported by a diversity of actors. But this crucial stage is exposed to many uncertainties. Although the EU has set guidelines for dealing with climate change following the example of the European Green Deal, although each Member State has defined its own National Energy and Climate Plan, divergences are appearing between territories in the application of these policies, which makes their articulation at local and cross-border level complex. In addition, the municipalities seem to be insufficiently organised and equipped to take the bend of the ecological transition and to respond to these challenges. The RECOTTE project thus aims to support local actors in their transition approaches, by bringing out potential cross-border synergies to respond jointly to the climate and energy challenges of the future, and by co-constructing lever projects with local actors in order to carry out joint actions.

The ambition of the RECOTTE project is threefold:

- To propose an innovative methodology to determine the priorities and initiatives to be carried out at local cross-border level in terms of ecological transition;
- To organise the resilience of the cross-border territorial system by giving priority to creativity and imagination in order to face the environmental, economic and social risks of the future and to respond to the challenges of ecological transition;



- To test this methodology on three Walloon, French and Luxembourg cross-border urban centres of the former industrial basin which present different configurations and intensities of cross-border cooperation: the cross-border conurbation of Alzette-Belval; Messancy/Aubange/Pétange; Arlon/Steinfort.

The metropolitan area of Luxembourg, located in the centre of the Grande Région, is characterised by strong interdependencies between border territories, where the economic attractiveness of Luxembourg exerts an intense polarisation on the neighbouring Belgian, French and German territories, particularly on the labour market. This context leads the resident populations to share a common destiny despite strong competition and persistent territorial inequalities. In addition, the unsustainability of this cross-border living area is one of its specific features (high CO2 emissions, long commuting distances, strong pressure on land, etc.). In this context, working towards ecological transition necessarily involves a response that is not only national but also cross-border, i.e. common and shared with neighbouring territories.

The team, consisting of researchers from the LISER and other Belgian, French and Luxembourg partners, will support the Research Associate and in the implementation of the various actions relating to the project.

### **Your role**

- Collecting information from local actors on ecological transition: (i) draw up a complete picture of the transition dynamics at the local level and of the actors involved in these transition processes, and (ii) conduct a series of interviews with actors directly or indirectly involved in ecological transition;
- Analyse interviews and identify emerging cross-border priorities within border territories in relation to ecological transition;
- Animate workshops and focus groups, and organise collaborative working sessions with a view to raising the awareness of different local publics about the challenges of ecological transition and to build collectively cross-border lever projects;
- Publish academic articles in international peer-reviewed journals;
- Participate in other study and research activities of the Urban Development and Mobility Department;
- Write a research project to obtain external funding.

### **Your profile**

- PhD in human geography, spatial planning, ecology or other social and environmental sciences if the qualifications obtained are in line with the expectations of the position;
- Publications and research works on issues related to ecological transition, cross-border cooperation, urban renewal and governance;
- Strong skills in qualitative survey techniques; knowledge of methods associated with Discourse Network Analysis (DNA) would be an asset;
- Experience in the organisation and animation of workshops and focus groups;
- Proficiency in French is essential for writing reports and textual analysis. A good understanding of Luxembourgish is an asset;
- Fluency in English, both spoken and written, is imperative for professional integration within the Institute;



## We offer

- A dynamic, stimulating, and interdisciplinary work environment;
- Internationally competitive remuneration.

## About LISER

LISER is a publicly funded research institute located in Luxembourg and dedicated to applied empirical research in economic, social and spatial sciences. Multi- and interdisciplinarity is a key element for stimulating scientific innovation. The Institute attracts top researchers from all over the world and high-level student training is a vibrant part of the Institute's activities. The Institute's staff consists of about 180 employees (including a survey and data center), about 100 staff being researchers, mainly from the fields of economics, sociology, and geography. The working languages at the institute are French and English. (see [www.liser.lu](http://www.liser.lu))

The Institute is located on the new Belval campus in the south of Luxembourg, which hosts the University of Luxembourg and a substantial part of the country's publicly funded research facilities, i.e. LISER, the Luxembourg Income Study (LIS) cross-national data center, the Luxembourg institutes of Health (LIH) and of Science and Technology (LIST). The University has outstanding high performance computing facilities available for use by associated researchers in the Luxembourg Institutes.

## About the Community

The institute is located on the Belval campus in the south of Luxembourg which hosts the [University of Luxembourg](http://www.univ.lu) and a substantial part of the country's publicly funded research institutes, i.e. LISER, the Luxembourg Income Study ([LIS](http://www.lis.lu)), a cross-national data center, the Luxembourg institutes of Health ([LIH](http://www.lih.lu)) and of Science and Technology ([LIST](http://www.list.lu)).

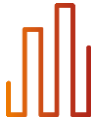
Luxembourg with its > 600,000 inhabitants is one of the wealthiest countries in the world and provides a stimulating mixture of modern culture and tradition. Contemporary urbanity of its capital lies in close vicinity to a rich nature. In addition to excellent health, education (public, private and high level international schools) and recreational services, the community affords a rich variety of cultural activities typical of a major university environment, including museums, music, art and theatre. The official languages are French, German and Luxembourgish.

Information for foreign researchers interested in Luxembourg research is accessible via the national EURAXESS platform <http://www.euraxess.lu/>

## Application Process

Please submit your complete application via <https://jobs.liser.lu/jobs> before **November 27<sup>th</sup> 2020** :

- Curriculum Vitae;
- Letter of motivation;
- A note suggesting research issues for academic papers related to the project's theme;
- Copy of the highest diploma;
- 1 or 2 scientific works (reports, articles) demonstrating editorial quality;
- 2 letters of recommendation to be sent directly to [recruitment@liser.lu](mailto:recruitment@liser.lu).



**Closing date for applications: November 27<sup>th</sup> 2020**

For **project related information**, please contact Dr Frédéric Durand (no applications) – [frederic.durand@liser.lu](mailto:frederic.durand@liser.lu)

For **administrative matters**, please contact [recruitment@liser.lu](mailto:recruitment@liser.lu)

***LISER is an Equal Opportunity Employer***