

# MISTRAL

## Multi-sectoral approaches to Innovative Skills Training for Renewable energy & social acceptance



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions grant agreement MISTRAL No 813837

### ESR1 Justice Perceptions in Intercultural Comparison

#### Candidate Information

<b>Position:</b>	Marie Skłodowska-Curie Researcher, Early Stage (MISTRAL, ESR1)
<b>Hosting Institution</b>	Institute for Future Energy and Material Flow Systems (IZES gGmbH)
<b>School/Department:</b>	Environmental Psychology
<b>Closing Date:</b>	26/02/19
<b>Salary:</b>	From €3870 a month (subject to taxation and country specific adjustment)

#### JOB PURPOSE:

As an Early Stage Researcher (ESR), to be an active member of a research project team assisting in the delivery of research and training activities of the MISTRAL Network, working on the specific topic of 'Social acceptance, path dependency and the low carbon transition' and required to work towards the expected results of this project (see Additional information below).

The Early Stage Researcher will undertake research in the framework of the project "MISTRAL: Multi-sectoral approaches to Innovative Skills Training for Renewable energy & social acceptance". The Early Stage Researcher will be funded for 36 months through the prestigious Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Innovative Training Network (ITN) programme; an initiative by the European Commission to train creative, entrepreneurial, innovative researchers, who are able to face current and future societal challenges, and will convert knowledge and ideas into products and services for the economic and social benefit of Europe.

MISTRAL is an interdisciplinary network which will work to understand the complex challenges in improving the acceptance of renewable energy infrastructure investment, and provide innovative solutions to break down barriers to the transition to a low carbon economy in Europe.

#### MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Carry out the research and training activities specified by a personal career development plan (PCDP).
2. Conduct research in interdisciplinary aspects of the social acceptance of renewable energy, as set out in the additional information below.
3. Undertake mandatory training programs and secondments as required at the facilities of other consortium members (see <http://www.qub.ac.uk/sites/MISTRAL/>).
4. Actively participate in training activities and submit reports in fulfilment of the project requirements.
5. Participate in outreach and dissemination activities promoting the MISTRAL Network project and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) programme including the use of social media, video-diaries, newsletters, etc.
6. Prepare regular progress reports on the performed research and training activities and present the research outcomes at meetings, project workshops, and to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
7. Work closely with academic and industrial collaborators and facilitate knowledge transfer between the MISTRAL consortium.
8. Carry out undergraduate supervision/demonstrating/teaching duties under supervisor direction and according to university regulations.
9. Study and follow the technical literature including academic papers, journals and textbooks to keep abreast with the state-of-the-art in the project topical area.
10. Record, analyse and write up results of research work and contribute to the production of research reports and publications.
11. Carry out routine administrative duties as requested, e.g. arranging research programme group meetings, contribute to research programme website, contributing to organisation of MISTRAL project training workshops and events.

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#### Planning and Organising:

1. Contribute to the drafting of the PCDP and provide regular updates of this plan.
2. Manage own time and meet agreed deadlines.
3. Plan own day-to-day activity within the framework of the agreed research and training programme.
4. Contribute to the planning of research and training activities, reports and publications.
5. Actively contribute to organisation of outreach activities events such as MISTRAL workshops.

#### Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Provide guidance as required to support staff and any students involved with research and training.

#### Internal and External Relationships:

1. Liaise with research colleagues and support staff on routine matters.
2. Make internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and form relationships for future collaboration.
3. Attend and contribute to relevant meetings and training events.
4. As an MSCA ITN Ambassador contribute to the project outreach programmes by establishing links with local community groups, industries etc.

#### ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or about to obtain a Masters (MSc) in psychology, environmental/ social psychology, sociology, social science, environmental studies with a focus on social science.
2. Relevant experience and expertise in qualitative and quantitative methods, experience in empirical work.
3. Sufficient breadth or depth of specialist knowledge in available techniques for investigation of social acceptance of renewable energy in an inter-disciplinary context.
4. Willingness to contribute to the School and project outreach activities.
5. Strong analytical and problem solving skills.
6. Ability to logically conceptualise and summarise the research findings.
7. Ability to work proactively and independently.
8. Ability to participate in knowledge transfer and demonstration.
9. Excellent verbal and writing communication skills.
10. Ability to interact with colleagues and staff.
11. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
12. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
13. Ability to organise resources, manage time and meet deadlines.
14. Be willing and able to perform secondments or participate in training programs at the facilities of other European consortium members (see <http://www.qub.ac.uk/sites/MISTRAL/>)
15. Be in the first 4 years (full-time equivalent) of their research careers and not yet have been awarded a doctorate. This 4 year period is measured from the date of obtaining the degree which would formally entitle to embark on a doctorate.
16. Must not have resided or carried out their main activity in Germany for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to their selection for this post.
17. Willingness to occasionally work outside core hours, for example during data collection.
18. Be eligible and qualified for enrolment in the PhD programme at IZES.

#### DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Masters Qualification in an energy or infrastructure related topic.

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### ESR1 *Justice Perceptions in Intercultural Comparison*

2. Specialisation in energy policy or related field.
3. Employment or other practical experience of policy, development or other aspect of renewable energy.
4. Placements or work experience in an academic/commercial research environment relevant to consumer research.
5. Practical experience of applying specialist skills and techniques required for the project.
6. Willingness to assist in undergraduate supervision and teaching.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

MISTRAL (*Multi-sectoral approaches to Innovative Skills Training for Renewable energy & social acceptance*) is a four year European Training Network funded by Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Innovative Training Network (ITN). The MISTRAL Network is made up of 7 beneficiaries from the UK, Ireland, Germany, Portugal, and Switzerland. 15 Early stage researchers will be employed to conduct research on the changing attitudes towards renewable energy generation investment, and how these attitudes can influence the life cycle of wind energy installations.

MISTRAL will also draw on the knowledge and resources of 15 academic and non-academic partners in the UK, Ireland, Germany, France, Denmark, Portugal, and Switzerland. These partners will host ESRs for secondments, provide training, and promote and support the work of MISTRAL.

### ESR1 Project Title: *Justice perceptions in intercultural comparison*

This project will belong to the work stream of Work Package 3: Community dimensions to social acceptance

**Objectives:** Recent research has shown that the perception of justice criteria regarding the planning and decision-making procedures, the distribution of costs and benefits, and the interpersonal relationships is of particular importance looking at the question of social acceptance. This counts for all energy infrastructure but especially for the deployment of wind energy. The planned study will examine how justice perceptions are influenced by different project parameters and how they are affected by cultural norms on local and national level. The methodological approach combines qualitative focus groups and interviews with standardized justice scales in a questionnaire poll. The expected results are of relevance both for the scientific perspective and for the generation of practical suitable recommendations.

**Expected Results:** The study will deliver on the scientific dimension a) evidence about the influence of justice dimensions on social acceptance, b) evidence about intercultural differences. On the practical side, results will be a) Best practice guide/recommendations for project developers addressing justice issues (shaping the procedure) and b) Best practice guide/recommendations for ministries addressing justice issues (shaping the framing conditions).

**Planned secondment(s):** The candidate will be expected to take advantage of two 3-month secondment opportunities during their research, with details to be agreed between the successful candidate, supervisors and project partners, in order to develop skills related to social local governance of wind energy, including zoning procedures and public involvement.

**Supervision:** Prof. Petra Schweizer-Ries (IZES), Jan Hildebrand (IZES), Prof. Geraint Ellis (QUB).

**Inter-disciplinary features:** Env. Psychology/ Env. Planning.