

## PhD scholarship in Energy Research and Social Sciences

Grenoble Alps University, France

### Energy interdependencies and cooperation within eco-neighborhood

Grenoble Alps University offers a three-year doctoral scholarship in social sciences PhD (Sociology, Urbanism, Planning, Political sciences, Sustainable transition 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.

Within the scope of “Interactions modelling between buildings and grids within a district” research front, this research will focus on energy neighbourhood synergies. In this hypothesis, some decision-makers of buildings that consume and generate energies will joint – even share part of - their own energy systems in order to decrease exogenous energy supply. Such configurations imply interdependencies between actors – owners, operators and occupants – of the different buildings: sociotechnical flexibility becomes a key matter that have to be managed at different scales.

The PhD candidate will have to identify institutional, organizational and spatial conditions of multi-actors energy systems at a district scale. Beyond technical solutions in terms of storage or flexibility, s.he will analyse socio-economic arrangements, coordination practices and dynamics of solidarity between the involved actors.

The PhD candidate will pursue his.her research in [PACTE laboratory](#) at the interface between urban studies, sociology of organisations and energy system design (in pairs with an electrical engineering PhD candidate). S.he will be located in the heart of an exceptional scientific environment: world class of Grenoble research institutes in energy research (GAEL, G2ELab, CEA-LITEN, INES, Neel, LNCMI, etc.), integration in its large cross-disciplinary program, international partnerships, actors’ survey in a pioneer city in matter of sustainable transition, host of the largest French social sciences laboratory within a dozen of social scientists and PhD candidates working on energy transition.

**Doctoral School:** Sciences de l’Homme, du Politique et du Territoire

**Salary** according to the French regulations for PhD

**Starting date for the scholarship:** September or October, 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Applicants have to meet the following main criteria:**

- Outstanding or excellent Master’s degree or equivalent qualification
- Being highly proficient in spoken and written English and French
- Capacity or interest to work in an inter-disciplinary research
- Good previous knowledge in Sociology or Urban planning

### **Application procedures:**

**- by email at:**

[Thomas.Reverdy@grenoble-inp.fr](mailto:Thomas.Reverdy@grenoble-inp.fr)

[gilles.debizet@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](mailto:gilles.debizet@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr)

[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)**

Applications may be submitted in English or in French including cover letter, post-graduate academic thesis and curriculum vitae with list of publications

**Application deadline:** June, 1<sup>st</sup> 2017

Pre-selected applicants will then be asked to write a short brief (5 pages max.) on thesis (reference, problematic, methodology). Some of them could be called the 7<sup>th</sup> of June from 3 to 7 pm for discussion on their curriculum or supplementary information relative to the research project.

**For more information:** Ass. Prof. Gilles Debizet and Thomas Reverdy