

CSTM is the centre for studies in technology and sustainable development at the University of Twente, School of Management and Governance. It specialises in governance, emphasising sustainable development, environmental quality, and technological innovation - from both developed and developing country perspectives. CSTM has two full-time Chairs: "Policy Studies and Environmental Policy" and "Technology and Sustainable Development in a North-South Perspective". CSTM is looking for a

Post-doc: Smart Energy Systems

The challenge

An integrated project on Distributed Electricity Generation in combination with Electricity Storage (DGES) is looking for a post-doc with a socio-economic background to work on an exciting new project. DGES holds significant promise for climate change mitigation through its potential for improving efficiency of electricity production and consumption through continuous remote optimization of all electricity production, storage and consumption units in the system. In contrast to a conventional electricity system, DGES is 'smart' and operates both ways, using feedback from appliances to improve balance and energy efficiency. In combination with renewable electricity production (wind, solar and biomass) DEGS holds the promise of a really sustainable electricity system for the future. But there are still many questions with respect to the functioning of DGES. For example, on the technological side, dependable ICT hardware and software needs to be developed, tested and applied to streamline the production and demand of the electricity networks. The challenging issues on the non-technical socio-economic side include regulatory regimes, business models, user psychology and privacy, governance and social dynamics.

The promises and challenges of DGES are currently being explored in a multidisciplinary setting at the University of Twente in coordination with industrial and academic partners. Part of this research is the joint technical and non-technical Route 14 project on Smart Energy Systems.

In collaboration with a technology affiliated post doc and senior members of several research institutes of the University of Twente, the successful candidate will be engaged in realising the project goals:

- Establishing a multidisciplinary research agenda on smart energy systems and energy storage at the University of Twente in collaboration with the university research institutes
- Preparation of (inter)nationally funded research projects, including EU FP7 calls.
- Developing structural collaboration with (energy) industry, governments and other relevant organisations to initiate pilots and field labs.
- Linking with international networks on the theme, e.g. EIT theme Smart Energy and Esea (European Sustainable Energy Innovation Alliance).
- Maintaining outputs of high quality publications in international journals.

Your profile

For the non-technical part of the project we are looking to recruit a full-time post-doctoral candidate for a period of two years with a degree in one of the social sciences, economics, law or science technology studies and who is interested in questions related to technology in society. The successful candidate will have a good track record of academic publications and will demonstrate a motivation to work in a multi-disciplinary team in an academic environment.

Our offer

We offer an exciting and challenging position in an inspiring multidisciplinary environment. As a postdoctoral researcher you will be appointed in a full-time position (38 hours/week) for a period of two years. The salary will amount to a maximum of € 4.374 gross per month (in accordance with the Collective Labour Agreement for Dutch Universities). Furthermore, the University of Twente offers additional attractive employment conditions.

Information and application

For more information on this position, please contact Dr Maarten Arentsen :

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To apply for this position, please fill in the application form including your resume and list of publication, through the link below, before 22 April 2011.