



The Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development e.V. (IOER) in Dresden advertises the following position as a fixed-term work contract for three years (according to the German law on fixed-term contracts in science – WissZeitVG):

**Post-Doc Position (f/m/d)**  
**Governance of spatial sustainability transformation**

TV-L E 13

Full time 40 hours per week

Start: at the earliest possible date

The Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development (IOER) in Dresden is a non-university research center, and a member of the Leibniz Association. We investigate the characteristics, dynamics and governance of spatial sustainability transformations and their acceleration in the context of the global human-ecological crisis. The advertised position is allocated to the research area “Sustainability Transitions in Cities and Regions”.

### **Background**

A deep and just transformation to sustainable ways of living and working that respect the biophysical boundaries of our planet is the key challenge for humanity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. While different scientific schools have investigated the characteristics, dynamics and governance of socio-technical, social-ecological and socio-institutional transformations, their spatial implications remain underexplored both theoretically and empirically. Addressing this research gap requires an inter- and transdisciplinary perspective and co-productive research designs in order to better understand how transformative change in cities and regions worldwide can be initiated and navigated towards sustainability.

### **Task description**

- Collaboration in strengthening and profiling the IOER research area on “Sustainability Transitions in Cities and Regions” with a focus on conceptual and empirical contributions regarding the governance of transformation dynamics and their spatial implications
- Articulating interdisciplinary linkages across the IOER research areas by connecting spatial transformation research to other relevant strands (e.g. spatial data science, planning and participation, nature-based solutions, post-growth, economy for the common good, regional innovation)
- Preparation of research project proposals at national, European and international level (e.g. DFG, Horizon Europe, Belmont Forum)
- Elaboration of journal and conference papers in collaboration with the IOER research team and international partners
- Development and test of methodological innovations in knowledge co-production and co-design through transdisciplinary and transformative research settings (e.g. transition experiments, real world laboratories, living labs, citizen science)
- Collaboration with IOER non-academic partners (i.e. public administration and policy, civil society, business, cultural institutions), especially building on and intensifying the trustful co-operation with local partners like the City of Dresden



- Support in communicating and disseminating research outputs and outcomes to diverse audiences inside and outside the academic sector
- Collaboration in conceptualizing and implementing high level events of the IOER (e.g. the IOER annual conference 2021 'Space & Transformation')
- Collaborating with the Technische Universität Dresden in the frame of projects, publications, events and the regional excellence initiative "Dresden Concept"
- Education of next generation researchers through innovative analogue and digital teaching formats in the context of the Dresden Leibniz Graduate School operated by the IOER and the Technische Universität Dresden, or other graduate programs.

### Expected skills and competencies

- Excellent university degree (Master, Diploma) in any pertinent field
- Excellent dissertation (Ph.D.) in social sciences and/or urban/regional/spatial studies, sustainability sciences or transition studies, including any pertinent intersections with other fields
- Strong research interest and experience in sustainability transition studies, in particular drawing on socio-technical and/or social-ecological systems and/or socio-institutional approaches
- Significant international publication record in the field, as documented by own publications
- Solid skills regarding diverse methods of empirical social research; experience in doing transdisciplinary or transformative research would be an asset
- Ability to attract competitive research grants, to manage research projects and to coordinate and guide research teams at IOER and within international research consortia
- Sound team working and collaborative leadership skills
- Ability to work independently and to self-organize
- Proven organization, communication and moderation skills inside and outside the academic sector (e.g. public sector, private sector, third sector, civil society)
- English language proficiency (CEFR level C1 or higher) – German language proficiency would be an asset

### Employment at IOER

The selected candidate will be interacting in a highly interdisciplinary environment. S/he will be fully integrated into the research area "Sustainability Transitions in Cities and Regions" and work in close coordination with the head and senior researchers of the research area, as well as the director of IOER. Further scientific qualification during the employment period is strongly encouraged. We actively support Post-Doc researchers through tailored skill and career development measures, including continuous mentoring, as well as training opportunities e.g. regarding scientific methods and publishing.

### What we offer:

- Collaboration in a highly qualified interdisciplinary team at a leading research institute of the Leibniz Association
- Flat hierarchies and a creative and motivating working environment
- Vivid social culture, openness and trusted cooperation
- Family support and flexible working schedules
- Equal opportunities (Total-E-Quality certified)
- Career planning and training opportunities
- Sustainability-management
- Jobticket for public transport



The place of work is Dresden.

We particularly encourage applications of women. Applications of disabled persons with a comparable qualification will be considered by priority.

Please submit your complete application documents (motivation letter, CV, diplomas, job references, references and important qualifications for further training) by using the keyword “**Transformation**” by January 17th, 2021 to [jobs@ioer.de](mailto:jobs@ioer.de) or by regular mail:

Leibniz-Institut für ökologische Raumentwicklung e.V.  
Personalbüro (keyword: **Transformation**)  
Weberplatz 1, 01217 Dresden, Germany

Please note that we will not be able to return your application dossier.