

Research Intern

Community Energy in Remote and Displacement Settings

About Hudara

Hudara gGmbH is an independent and impartial organisation working in locations where people's lives are impacted by poverty, conflict and climate change. We believe that the foundation for a peaceful and just future is to build actions on equal partnerships. This includes respect for diverse ways of life and appreciation of manifold positive social and cultural expressions, practices and solutions globally.

Our Vision // We strive for a world in which people experience good mental wellbeing, live in peaceful communities and in balance with the natural environment.

Our Mission // We support communities in reaching a sustainable and peaceful way of functioning through mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), social cohesion (SC) and community-based adaptation (ACC) and mitigation to climate change (MCC).

About our work in Community Energy in Remote and Displacement Settings (CERDS)

Technological and institutional changes, depletion of fossil fuel resources, and climate change make it paramount that the way we use energy across the globe is going through a radical transformation. Our energy projects are funded through the European Horizon 2020 and Green Deal programmes, UNHCR as well as EWS Schönau, aiming at facilitating a just energy transition for all.

- The ENERGICA project involves three different demonstration sites: a rural context in northern Madagascar where the project is focused on developing productive uses of energy for improving the Water-Energy-Food-Nexus, an urban context in Kenya where the focus lies on environmentally-friendly mobility through renewable electricity, and a peri-urban context in Sierra Leone where the project aims to demonstrate positive environmental and socio-economic impacts of biomass-to-energy and water purification systems. [More about ENERGICA.](#)
- The MAESHA project is implemented on the island of Mayotte (Fr), located in the northern Mozambique Channel in the Indian Ocean. Mayotte faces the common challenges regarding energy transformations on islands and a high dependency on imported fossil fuels. Hudara is supporting the development of different kinds of community energy initiatives to facilitate the transformation of the energy system and support people in disadvantaged situations. [More about MAESHA.](#)
- The SUNNY project on sustainable energy in displacement settings involves refugee camps in South Sudan, Rwanda and Uganda where basic energy needs of refugees are not met. The lack of sustainable energy for cooking, for the use of cell phones and communication, for household lighting and for night-time lighting of communal areas across the camp severely impacts wellbeing, food security, safety and health. Jointly with refugee-led organisations in the camps, needs and priorities are being worked out and pathways to improve the circumstances are being co-designed with the concerned persons. (SUNNY; The project just started, and the project webpage is under development).

The research task

A range of organizations working in the field of development and humanitarian aid are implementing energy projects and follow - to varying degrees - a community-based approach. Community energy refers to community-led renewable energy delivery models, energy demand reduction or energy supply projects, whether wholly owned by communities or through a partnership with commercial or public sector partners.

The intern's task will be to conduct a systematic literature review of academic articles and project reports about the implementation of energy community actions on the African continent. The aim is to compare the definitions and guiding principles used as well as procedures applied while implementing this approach.

Further guiding principles and scenarios for replications should be developed.

We are looking for

- A person studying preferably in a masters program on renewable energy or similar fields, such as economics or environmental science.
- With an interest in social issues as well as humanitarian and development work.
- Excitement in research and first experiences with scientific articles and databases.
- Strong interpersonal skills and intercultural sensitivity.
- English language skills are a must, German language knowledge is an asset.
- Ability to work in a multicultural environment and a multidisciplinary team.
- Proficient in MS Office, Google Docs, basic skills in research methods to develop systematic reviews (or an interest to learn).

What we offer

- Status of the position: Intern.
- Duration: initially 3 months for 14 to 24 hours/week (part-time/full-time).
- Starting date: beginning of April 2025.
- Salary: unpaid internship.
- You will be part of a young and dynamic team.
- Hudara strives for a diverse team, people with a migration background are strongly encouraged to apply.

How to apply

Please send a CV and a motivational letter to hello@hudara.org with “Research Intern_CERDS_2025” in the subject line until 28th of February 2025 and tell us about you and why you want to join our team. You may find more information about us and our work at <https://hudara.org>. We are looking forward hearing from you!