



Local Governance Expert

Location	Salary band	Contract
Vienna	Mid-level	Fixed term 8 months, renewable
Language requirements	Hours	Reports to
German, English	Part time with option to increase hours	Programme Director, Climate

About the Role

Democratic Society (Demsoc) is Europe's leading international democracy organization, supporting our cities and citizens to ensure that radical climate transformation is a democratic not just a technocratic process. Through democratic design, organizational development and practical participation exercises, we are building long-term citizen participation in all the decisions, plans and projects that affect them. We have secured funding for work on local governance around climate change with city partners in Križevci, Maribor, Niš, Sarajevo, and Skopje for an initial eight-month period. We are now looking for a subject matter expert, with the ability to engage and influence at a senior level in local government and a commitment to climate change goals, to work on developing this project and more widely in our network of climate cities around Europe.

Demsoc works to develop new forms of democracy, support citizens to participate, and create democratic responses to the world's most pressing problems. It works as a networked organisation, supporting practical participation and active learning in democracy at local, national and European level.

This role is funded by the EIT Climate-KIC *Future Cities South East (FSCE)* project, so you will have particular responsibility for working with local partners reaching carbon neutrality by 2030 is delivered with the support and involvement of citizens. In this work, you will work alongside many other European cities and a diverse team of colleagues from Demsoc and some of Europe's most innovative organisations. Ideally, the subject matter expert will be based in Vienna to seize the opportunity of engaging with the ongoing Demsoc projects in Vienna.

Responsibilities

As a local governance expert

- Supporting design and governance thinking for Demsoc's work in the Future Cities South East project, working with the rest of the team ensuring the success of the events and the buy-in of governments

JOB DESCRIPTION

- Work more widely in our climate team on local governance issues
- Independent management of relationships, stakeholders and processes alongside the wider team
- Support the long-term mobilisation of citizens

As part of the climate programme team

- Supporting Demsoc's climate programme, and helping cities to reach carbon neutrality by 2030, with the full support and involvement of its residents

Essential Competencies

- Ability to work remotely
- Strong analytical and strategic skills
- Organisational skills and a delivery mindset
- Knowledge of citizen participation methods and ability to strengthen local governance, based around this knowledge
- Strong personal commitment to democracy and our core values of openness, equality and internationalism
- Excellent communication and influencing skills
- Good facilitation skills
- Ability to support more senior team members on business development
- Full fluency in German and professional working level knowledge of English.

Desirable Competencies

- Experience and understanding of climate change and related issues
- Experience and understanding of local networks, politics and democratic initiatives
- Knowledge of other languages used in places where Demsoc works

Equality, access and diversity

Demsoc is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes all suitably skilled persons regardless of their race, sex, disability, faith, sexual orientation, education or age. We are a multi-lingual and multi-cultural organisation, working internationally and actively working to ensure our team reflects the communities and places we serve. As a mission driven organisation, we seek people who are aligned with our core values of openness, democracy, and internationalism.

If you have further questions please contact [Nadja Nickel](#), Programme Director, Climate.

Please send your application to Nadja@demsoc.eu, we are looking at filling the position as soon as possible.