



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT [FEP-ENER-FINANCE.03.2019]

Position for a researcher in the “Future Energy” Research Programme for a project on ‘Financing the Global Energy Transition’

Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM), a leading research institute and think tank, focused on fostering a better understanding of sustainable development and providing timely and objective analysis on a wide range of environmental, energy and global economic issues, aims at recruiting a motivated and talented researcher. The Future Energy Program (FEP) research group is searching for a candidate with background in business, economics or engineering, holding ideally a relevant experience in energy markets and business models.

Description

The research activities will be related to the project ‘Financing the Global Energy Transition’.

The world has embarked into a global energy transformation, driven by decarbonization policies and by quick developments in low-carbon technologies. The Paris Agreement marked an historical step forward in global efforts to respond to the challenge of global warming. For the first time, developed and developing countries have committed themselves to act to limit the increase in the average global temperature to well below 2°C compared to pre-industrial levels. This reinforces the decarbonization measures already in place in several parts of the world, primarily in Europe. Meanwhile, technological advances have increased the competitiveness of solar and wind energy technologies, batteries and electric cars. The convergence of these two elements has already begun to reshape the global energy system, and has made clear that a global energy transition is both technically feasible and economically beneficial. However, the global energy transition will require substantial additional investment in low-carbon technologies compared to current and planned policies. According to the International Renewable Energy Agency, in order to achieve the Paris Agreement’s targets, between 2015 and 2050 cumulative investment in the energy system will need to increase from USD 93 trillion under a business-as-usual scenario to USD 120 trillion. That is: additional investment of USD 27 trillion over the period will be needed. The energy investment mix will also need to change, notably from fossil fuels to investments into renewable energy, energy efficiency, power grid, energy storage and clean transport. The global energy transition might then push established players – such as utilities and oil&gas companies – to adopt new investment strategies, and it might also lead to the emergence of new investments tools and sustainable finance mechanisms, spanning from new metrics for financial climate-related disclosure to green bonds. As a result, markets and industries might thus be transformed to match the operating characteristics and investment risk profile of the new low-carbon world.

With this research project, FEP seeks to shed light into this topical area, being it vitally important to unleash the global energy transition. In particular, the research activities will focus on the following critical issues:

- What are the possible low-carbon investment pathways to achieve the Paris Agreement’s targets?

- What is the role of carbon pricing in providing to market players the necessary signals to invest in low-carbon solutions?
- What is the potential future outlook for sustainable finance?
- How can access to sustainable energy solutions be financed in developing countries?
- How can national promotional banks and international financing institutions contribute to low-carbon investments, notably leveraging the private sector in most risky assets and geographical areas?
- How will the business models and investments strategies of established players such as electricity utilities and oil&gas companies need to change to respond to this new environment?

The selected applicant will be based in our beautiful location in Milan, and will be part of a truly multidisciplinary workplace, dealing with projects on different subjects. (S)he will interact with researchers and institutions from different nationalities and have the opportunity to present scientific papers at international conferences and workshops.

Requirements

- Good understanding of the global energy challenges and the paths for a more decarbonized and sustainable development;
- Good understanding of finance, and possibly also of sustainable finance;
- Have a clear, cross-sectorial picture of the future energy and financial landscapes;
- Previous work experience in finance, energy, consultancy or business-oriented research is a plus;
- Academic background: economics, finance or business school; Minimum: master level;
- Strong motivation for interdisciplinary energy studies is needed;
- Creative mind, good writing and communication skills;
- Written and spoken proficiency in English is mandatory (all our reports and workshops/conferences are in English).

How to apply

Interested applicants should submit their application including motivation letter and a detailed curriculum vitae. Applicants can submit their application [here](#). CV without a motivation letter will not be considered. Please mention ref: FEP-ENER-FINANCE.03.2019 in the application.

Deadline for applications

FEEM will begin considering candidates immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Please submit your application at your earliest convenience and mention ref: FEP-ENER-FINANCE.03.2019.

The job assignment is expected to begin in as soon as possible.