

JOB DESCRIPTION

Political Science Consultant -
Land Project

About Us

The Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) is a national education institution committed to the equitable, sustainable and efficient transformation of Indian settlements.

IIHS aims to establish an independently funded and managed national university for research and innovation focused on the challenges and opportunities of India's urban transition. The proposed IIHS University will host an integrated programme of quality campus-based education and research, training and lifelong learning for working professionals, distance and blended learning, as well as a whole array of practice and advisory services. The university will have a strong interdisciplinary orientation bringing together theory and praxis that is grounded in the South Asian context and also engages with and draws from knowledge across the globe.

For more information, please see <http://www.iihs.co.in>

Job Description

The Consultant – Political Science will be a part of an IIHS Project Team working on land records management and associated e-governance support initiatives. S/he will work on the political economy aspects around land governance and administration, including institutional policy questions on the specifics of land ownership, use, reforms, titling, informality, varied tenure systems, the policy framework and other related legal-policy issues. It would include study of sociological dimensions of land and property holdings and land market transactions, including access to land across caste, class and gender dimensions, and how these dimensions may be playing out in urban and peri-urban areas. This will involve carrying out a detailed interpretative analysis of the social, political, legal, institutional and on-the-ground situation in the context of national and state level initiatives, along with publishing research papers related to these.

The position is based in our Delhi office and involves significant travel and field-work in select locations.

IIHS is recruiting one candidate for the position of Political Science Consultant.

Activities and Tasks

The Political Science Consultant will be required to:

- Be a part of the team working on land governance and management initiatives and analyse ongoing initiatives in select sites, various states and at the national levels;
- Carry out studies on the social and political-economy aspects in governance and management of land including in urban, peri-urban and rural areas, in the context of de facto and de jure processes, integrated land information management system, and the overall governance of land, including a historical perspective;
- Translate the learnings from research and practice experiences into knowledge through publication of journal articles, working papers, case studies etc.;
- Provide support in content development and assist in course delivery for training and capacity building initiatives related to land management, by using sectoral expertise along with various pedagogical approaches;

- Engage in reviewing and developing improved systems of land governance and management, including an assessment framework, efficient systems of documentation and information, equitable development of land infrastructure, and outcomes for different stakeholder groups;
- Engage with government officials, market agents and other relevant stakeholders in study states and locations on the above aspects;
- Assist in documentation and preparation of reports and outputs based on analyses of political and economic aspects of land law administration as needed;
- Assist in project implementation tasks, including helping set up and manage site offices/teams; carrying out and managing field-work; delivering high-quality value-for-money outputs; managing clients; ensuring cost-effectiveness of assignments; and assisting in reviewing and evaluating project performance;
- Participate in other activities of IIHS, including academics and teaching as required in relevant IIHS programmes/ courses, research and other operations.

Structure and Reporting

The Political Science Consultant – Land Project will report to the Head, Legal and Regulation at IIHS who is the Team Leader of the project.

Person Specification

We are looking for a bright and enthusiastic political economy specialist with a minimum of five-six years of work experience. The candidate should have at least a Master's in a relevant social science discipline and prior experience of working in projects involving the analysis of policy framework around land governance and urban governance in India. Candidates with Ph.Ds. are also encouraged to apply. The candidate shall have good analytical skills and a proficiency in using MS Office applications. The position requires excellent spoken and written English. In addition, spoken and reading skills in Hindi are desirable. The ability to write reports and project management skills will be necessary. S/he will be enthusiastic, willing to take on tough challenges, enjoy travel, have good inter-personal communication skills, and be comfortable with working in highly inter-disciplinary teams.

This offer is on an exclusive basis, which implies that other professional assignments (whether compensated or not) that bear a potential conflict of interest with IIHS cannot be undertaken.

The search will remain open until the position is filled.

Location

The position is based in Delhi, with frequent travelling to select locations.

Review and Assessment

The role and performance of the incumbent shall be subject to normal review and assessment systems at IIHS.

Diversity Policy

IIHS is an equal opportunity employer that encourages women, people with disabilities and those from economically and socially excluded communities with the requisite skills and qualifications to apply for positions.

Contact

Please email an updated resume, along with a cover letter addressing how you meet the above requirements, to hr@iihs.co.in (*Subject: Political Science Consultant - Land Project*).



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