



VACANCY
Consultant Researcher

Creating spaces for civic participation in the times of a pandemic / social crisis

Location: Colombo

Contract period: 1 year (starting from January 2021)

Reports to: Executive Director

Background

The Law and Society Trust (LST) is a legal research and advocacy organisation founded in 1982 to promote legal reforms to support access to justice, the justiciability of rights, and public accountability. LST is launching a new project under the South Asia Small Grants Program of the Asia Foundation. Under this new project The LST will support informed public participation to vision the short- medium- and long-term challenges facing the country through documentation, sharing of information, messaging, stimulating discussion through workshops, trainings and dialogues.

Project objectives:

1. Increase public sector accountability and transparency;
2. Strengthen the rule of law;
3. Promote civil society participation and media in these efforts and to counter divisive messaging and fake news;
4. Strengthen democratic institutions and practices by documenting government actions that impact civic rights and brainstorming policy alternatives:

Scope of the consultancy:

Law and Society Trust is looking for a consultant researcher to conduct research and prepare regular think pieces/ analysis and discussion papers on the choices made the government to protect from the pandemic and secure the economy from the perspective of principles of constitutionalism and commitments made through the Directive principles of Social policy

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Analyze government responses to the health and economic crises with a human rights-based perspective and develop regular think pieces/ analysis and discussion papers (at least 20 short articles per year)
- Identify and develop a longer-term research agenda on above themes
- Work with communication / social media team to develop easy to use media products based on above papers to influence public discourses through social and mainstream media

Requirements:

- Academic degree or higher in Law, Social Sciences / Economy/ Sociology/ or a relevant field
- Strong legal and social research background on issues related to human rights (civil and political and economic, social and cultural rights)
- Good verbal and written command of English and Sinhala/Tamil language. Ability to manage both local languages is an added advantage.
- Skills and experiences in communication and media (social and mainstream) will be an added advantage.
- Comply with ethical standards and LST's Code of Conduct

Applications close on 18th December 2020

Send resume and a cover letter to: admin@lstlanka.org

