



VACANCY
Project Coordinator (Consultant)

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

Location: Colombo
Contract period: 1 year
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 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.

Objectives

Conduct research to analyse government's rapid response to the pandemic & economic challenges from a human rights perspective.

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:

Coordinate research, documentation and a series of public discussion that support informed civic participation in policy, legal and governance related matters that arose during the pandemic. The project ends on December 2021.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Coordinate a civic watchdog with the participation of academics, activists and legal professionals to analyze the government's rapid response to the COVID epidemic;
- Develop regular discussion papers based on the discussion outcomes of the watchdog
- Support senior researchers to analyze and develop policy briefs / discussion papers on the rapid response to the pandemic and economic challenges from a political and civil human rights perspective
- Coordinate public discussions, multi stakeholder dialogues and training for citizen's groups to support civic participation in legal, policy and governance reforms and implementation processes.
- Conduct needs assessments and frame training programs and public discussions.
- Develop / Support the development of communication materials based on those assessments and discussions for dissemination through social media.
- Overall implementation of the project, ensuring the timely completion of project activities to achieve desired objectives.
- Prepare progress and monitoring reports as requested by donors. Provide required information for finance reports.

Required qualifications and skills

- Academic degree in Law, Social Sciences / Economy/ Sociology/ OR a relevant field.

- Research experience in fields of social sciences/ human rights/governance;
- At least two-years experience, preferably working with an NGO, in research and development with knowledge of legal and human rights issues, governance and civil society development;
- Field experience and knowledge on human rights,
- Experience in project coordination and in the implementation of donor funded projects
- Good verbal and writing skills in English and Sinhala/Tamil language. Ability to manage verbal and written communications in both local languages is an added advantage.
- Good reporting skills and experience in budget management.
- Be a team worker with the ability to work in a diverse environment
- analytical skills, and a capacity for creative and innovative work;
- 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