

FOREST GOVERNANCE ASSOCIATE CONSULTANTS

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 26TH APRIL 2009

WHO WE ARE

theIDLgroup is an established international development consultancy providing policy research and programme advisory and management services. We provide clients with five main services:

- ① The design, review and evaluation of policies and strategies; country, sector and organisational programmes; and projects;
- ① Advisory services to governments and international development agencies, including commissioned policy analyses and research studies;
- ① Facilitation of organisational and institutional change processes;
- ① Delivery of specialised training and professional development programmes; and
- ① Project and programme management.

The majority of our work is through direct contracts with multilateral and bilateral development agencies. We also work with governments, other public sector agencies, international NGOs, academic institutions and private sector clients. We work world-wide, but focus on low- income countries in Africa, South Asia and East Asia.

OUR ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TEAM

Consultants in *theIDLgroup's* Environment and Natural Resource Portfolio aim to bring fresh thinking to the development challenges facing governments and their development partners, namely:

- ① How to unlock the potential of environmental wealth to bring about pro-poor sustainable growth - whether through the development of innovative financing mechanisms or initiatives to secure community access and ownership rights.

We believe that unlocking this potential is critical both to maintaining local and global ecosystem services and to furthering equitable growth objectives. We support both governments and development partners in the advancement and implementation of these new approaches; for example through new policy-focused roles for ministries of environment and natural resources; new approaches to cross boundary and regional environmental issues; or the design of innovative investment programmes.

- ① How to address major environmental challenges (national, regional or global) such as climate change, water insecurity, land degradation and desertification. We help ensure the threats to national and global security are fully understood and effective responses developed.

The UN's Millennium Ecosystem Assessment recently highlighted that over half of the world's ecosystem services are being degraded or unsustainably used. Environmental causes are at the heart of the security problems facing low income countries. Ensuring these causes are understood and addressed is a key to ensuring a secure, equitable and sustainable future.

Environmental and natural resource policies are central to both of these linked challenges, and members of the Environment and Natural Resources team are frequently engaged in policy dialogues and processes as facilitators, reviewers, and analysts. Strategic, 'big picture' thinking is a key requirement of the markets in which *theIDLgroup* operates.

theIDLgroup is multi-disciplinary, and the Environment and Natural Resource team draws on the in-house skills and experience of colleagues in policy analysis, economics, governance, social development, public sector reform, organisational change and public finance management. We are looking for consultants with particular expertise in forest governance to join our team as associates.

REQUIRED SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

You will already have an established reputation as a forest governance expert, with experience of delivering high quality consultancy assignments, development advice, or policy research for governments and aid agencies in this field. In particular, we are looking for individuals with regional experience in both West and Central Africa.

You will bring:

- ③ **Relevant technical and sector experience**, e.g. legal, tenure, and rights aspects of natural resource management; mechanisms to offset “resource curse” effects; collaborative resource management; experience of design/implementation/evaluation of chain of custody systems for timber-tracking; experience of FLEGT (and Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) processes in particular); familiarity with and experience of REDD initiatives would also be an advantage.
- ③ **Strong process skills**. Skills and track record in decision process support, facilitation of workshops, meetings and public debate, and the facilitation / change management of institutional (policy, legal, process, formal and informal rules) and organisational reform processes.
- ③ **Economic, policy, governance, and institutional skills**, ideally based on experience within the environment and natural resource sectors of:
 - The design, monitoring, review and evaluation of policies, programmes, and projects
 - Economic, policy, governance, social, public finance and fiscal analyses
 - Institutional and functional analyses of natural resource organisations.
 - The design of development assistance interventions ranging from projects and programmes to sector budget support mechanisms.
- ③ **French language skills are also desirable**, demonstrated ability to work, both verbally and written, in a variety of contexts.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

If you are interested in applying, please email a covering letter and CV, outlining your relevant skills and experience to recruitment@theIDLgroup.com

theIDLgroup is an equal opportunities employer and certified with the Investors In People standard. We will respect your confidentiality and abide by UK data protection laws.

Further information about *theIDLgroup* can be found at: www.theIDLgroup.com