

Vacancy announcement

Research fellow, International Governance of Biodiversity

Background

At the interface between research and decision-making, the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) is an independent, not-for profit think-tank based at Sciences Po (Institute for Political Studies) in Paris. Its activity focuses on sustainable development issues that require international coordination, especially biodiversity and climate change (for more information on the institute and the programme, see www.iddri.org).

IDDRI has three objectives: informing policy decisions; identifying emerging issues; and providing a platform for dialogue between stakeholders, be they research institutes, public agencies, private sectors and NGOs.

Based in Paris, IDDRI currently has about 35 staff including an interdisciplinary team of 20 social scientists (economists, political scientists, lawyers, etc.).

Position advertised

In order to strengthen its biodiversity programme, IDDRI is seeking an outstanding candidate for the position of Research Fellow on the International governance of biodiversity. Working under direct supervision of the Biodiversity Programme Director, the incumbent will be in charge of feeding and capitalizing on the following aspects of international governance of biodiversity:

- The Convention on Biological Diversity and the 2010 Conference of the Parties (main and emerging issues);
- The Access and Benefit Sharing upcoming protocol;
- The development of an Intergovernmental science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES);
- The 2010 target and process for setting up new objectives;
- Global monitoring instruments, especially biodiversity indicators;
- International funding for biodiversity (donor and GEF-related issues, trust-funds...);

In collaboration with the Biodiversity Programme Director, the successful candidate will develop various kinds of activities on these topics:

- Undertake and publish research, within existing or new projects to be developed;
- Provide outreach to decision makers and other stakeholders by producing notes and policy-oriented syntheses;
- Organise, with the support of administration and communication staff, international/national workshops and conferences as needed;
- Represent IDDRI in national / international meetings, seminars and conferences;

- If need be, participate in the submission of proposals in this field of research (EU and others);
- Develop working relations with IDDRI's partners and other programmes as appropriate as well as strengthen its international network on these issues.

Requirements

With much leeway for adjustments, the position may be filled by a junior or senior person, but in any case the successful candidate will:

- Hold a PhD or masters in social sciences in a field related to biodiversity conservation;
- Have at least one year of experience (with no upper limit), preferably both in the field and at the international level;
- Ideally, open IDDRI to a new/complementary network of stakeholders, researchers, think tanks...
- Have demonstrated excellent writing and verbal skills;
- Be fluent in English. Fluency in French and/or other UN languages would be an important asset;
- Have the willingness to travel both nationally and internationally, sometimes extensively;
- Have the capacity to work independently as well as in team, in an international, multicultural environment.

Location and type of contract

The position is based at IDDRI in the heart of Paris (Saint Germain des Prés area).

A one-year contract will be offered initially, with possible extension. This position may be suitable for post-docs.

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience, according to IDDRI's rules and regulations.

How to apply?

Interested candidates should send their applications and CV along with the names of three referees by 31 January 2010 to: raphael.bille@iddri.org and lisa.dacosta@iddri.org

IDDRI is an equal opportunities employer.