

IGF – ESIA Research Consultant, Home-Based

(Location is flexible/international, see guidelines below)

The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) is an independent think tank that delivers the knowledge to act. Our mission is to promote human development and environmental sustainability. Our big-picture view allows us to address the root causes of some of the greatest challenges facing our planet today—ecological destruction, social exclusion, unfair laws and economic rules, a changing climate. With offices in Winnipeg, Geneva, Ottawa, Toronto and New York, our work affects lives in nearly 100 countries. We are currently looking for a Consultant to work in our IGF Program.

IISD serves as the Secretariat for the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF). The IGF is a member-driven organization aimed at providing national governments committed to leveraging mining for sustainable development the opportunity to work collectively to achieve their goals. It is devoted to optimizing the benefits of mining to achieve poverty reduction, inclusive growth, social development and environmental stewardship. The IGF serves as a unique global venue for dialogue between its 70-member country governments, mining companies, industry associations and civil society.

This position is a short-term consultancy

Responsibilities:

The successful candidate will be responsible for providing technical advice, under the supervision of the IGF Secretariat lead team and in close collaboration with a legal expert consultant, for the development of the fourth IGF Guidance for Governments on the theme: “Legal framework of environmental and social impact assessments (ESIA) and related plans in mining permitting and contracting processes.” This guidance document will focus on the legal and procedural aspects of environmental and social impact assessments (ESIAs) in the mining sector and related plans, namely, environmental and social management plans (ESMP) and closure and rehabilitation plans.

The main purpose of this IGF document is to provide member states with guidance on reviewing and improving their legal frameworks in order to establish better permitting processes for future mines that enhance the quality of the development processes as well as the results of ESIAs and related plans, and also their implementation and monitoring, as well as proposing regulatory tools and mechanisms to correct past failures in the permitting and contract negotiation processes for the remaining of the life cycle for mines already in operation.

Particularly, he or she will:

- Provide technical inputs, including feedback on practicality and implementability of legal mechanisms proposed in the guidance document;
- Conduct a literature review on relevant best practice guidance and standards on technical issues of ESIA in the mining sector and prepare an annotated bibliography with call-out;
- Conduct case studies on the process of proper preparation, review, and use of ESIAs outcomes at each stage of mining life cycle, that will inform the Guidance document development;
- Propose options or mechanisms on how to address emerging topics and cross-cutting issues in ESIA in the mining sector, including gender equality, climate change, and innovation;

- Draft the sections of the guidance document that focus on technical definition and aspects of ESIA and related plans (ESMP, mine closure plans);
- Integrate comments and suggestions on ESIA technical aspects from the IGF Secretariat and the IGF partners for this project for example, the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) and the Secrétariat internationale de la francophonie pour l'évaluation environnementale (SIFÉE).

The successful candidate will work closely with the IGF ESIA guidance legal expert and a legal expert consultant. The consultant will be supported in his or her efforts by the IGF ESIA guidance lead team.

Consultant's Skills:

- At least 10 years' experience in the field of Environment and Social Impact Assessment and Management in general, with at least 5 years in the mining sector in several countries and regions;
- A Good understanding of legal framework and permitting processes in mining sector, including ESIA international standards, guidelines and processes;
- Master's degree or equivalent academic qualification in a relevant discipline, e.g. environmental engineering, environmental economics, biology/ecology or natural resource environmental management;
- Excellent writing skills
- Language: Excellent verbal and writing English communication skill required (an English writing sample is requested upon application), understanding of French and/or Spanish will be an asset;
- Flexibility, focus and committing to providing quality deliverables in a timely fashion
- Ability to work work in multidisciplinary teams based in multiple locations;
- Ability to think innovatively.

Terms of Consultancy:

The consulting expert will provide 5 weeks' equivalent of work between the date of conclusion of the contract and August 16, 2019 with the possibility of contract extension depending on technical assistance and technical assistance requirements. Consultant's daily rate will depend on qualifications, experience and location.

Location: Home office. IISD will not be applying for residency and work permits for this position on behalf of the applicant.

Application deadline: March 8, 2019, 5 PM EST

Start date: As soon as the contract is effective

Application Procedure:

Submission via email to elpprojectmanagers@iisd.ca Mandatory submission of:

1. Cover letter (one page)
2. CV

Please attach your cover letter, resume in one file. Failure to include all items will result in rejection of the application.