Consultancy: Policy Analysis for IIED Europe

Consultancy and project details

| Reports to | Interim Director, IIED Europe; IIED Senior Fellow based in the Strategy and Learning Group (SLG) |
| Purpose of role | The purpose of this role is to scope the range of EU / European policy tracks IIED could cover. The deliverables will be to carry out research, consultation and analysis to help IIED decide what policy contexts and processes IIED Europe should prioritise and provide a detailed analysis of our options; key alliances we should prioritise linked to these options; and recommendations on where we should focus our work in future. This work should also open up a wider range of opportunities for IIED, which will be of direct relevance to our emerging strategic focus on doing more work in the global North. |
| Main activities | We envisage the following phases and project milestones:  
  • Sept/Oct: induction and scope main themes and contexts  
  • Nov/Dec: investigate alliances, engage with key actors.  
  • Jan/Feb: explore implications with IIED staff and stakeholders; generate final report. |
| Main contacts | Internal:  
  • IIED Europe: IIED Europe Management Board  
  • IIED: SLG Senior Fellow; IIED Strategy and Management Team; Chief Economist; Senior Associates; IIED Research Groups  

External: Irish Aid and Sida contacts; EU officials; SD research and advocacy organisations; developing country government representatives |
| Contract type | 6-month consultancy contract commencing September 2021 |
| Hours | 2-2.5 days per week, 7 hours per day (estimate 60-70 days in total) |
| Location | Flexible – ideally within the EU (office space available in Amsterdam, Netherlands) |
| Day rate | Dependent on skills and experience (capped). Day rate will be all-inclusive and for hours worked. |

Potential areas of focus

We expect this consultancy to identify a range of opportunities for IIED of which we are not currently aware. At present we anticipate the successful candidate might focus on the
following, though these are included for illustrative purposes rather than as a confirmed set of priorities:

- Identify key European Green Deal policy areas, processes and timetable for implementation
- Review the EU Adaptation Strategy and plan for implementation, and assess opportunities for IIED to engage
- Assess the implications of emerging European policy commitments for sustainable development in Global South countries
- Analyse the intersection of IIED research and relevant European policies
- Help to focus IIED’s work with key institutional partners (Irish Aid, Sida) on European policy and scope other potential development agencies
- Map key policy actors and networks, and establish communication and engagement with them
- Produce final report with recommendations on how IIED-Europe can develop further engagement and work on European policies, including a proposed timetable, plan and details of key actors

Context

IIED is a policy research organisation which focuses on a wide range of sustainable development issues, with a particular emphasis on the local level, based in London. We are strongly value-driven – our purpose is to contribute to making the world more just and more sustainable, working in collaboration with partners around the world. In addition, IIED has a strong body of work with the Least Developed Countries group, at global level and in-country.

The context for IIED’s work is changing rapidly and unpredictably. We are confronting a COVID-related global recession; reductions in levels of ODA and changes to the purposes for which aid is used; Britain’s exit from the EU; and at global level, uncertainty over the future status of multilateral institutions and processes. At the same time, ambitious, far-reaching initiatives such as the EU’s Green Deal signal intent to make substantial and rapid shifts in the ways that economies and societies function.

In late 2020, IIED established IIED Europe as a legally-independent foundation (Stichting) based in the Netherlands. The consultant will be contracted by IIED Europe and will help to establish the profile and research agenda for the new organisation, working closely with IIED staff based in the UK.

Given the growing divergence of interest between the UK and the EU, IIED will need to have eyes on both the European and British policy horizons. Spotting the issues that will be important at the environment/development interface in the medium term and carrying out research that informs policy choices and directions before they are imminent will improve IIED’s relevance. This consultancy will help us to review a broad range of focus options for IIED Europe, build our visibility and engagement with significant actors and networks, and make informed choices about future prioritisation.

In our role as knowledge partner to Irish Aid on climate change, IIED is increasingly being asked to provide technical support on emerging issues in the EU policy formulation space (e.g. the impact of carbon border adjustment taxes on LDCs; and opportunities to support pastoral livestock keepers from the EU biogenic methane strategy). IIED also receives institutional funding from the Swedish Government, and there is strong alignment between much of our work and the policy priorities of the Swedish International Development
Cooperation Agency (Sida). The consultant will help us to further consolidate IIED’s partnership with Irish Aid and Sida and perhaps also with other bilateral development agencies.

Our expectation is that results from this consultancy will provide the basis for a longer-term post, as IIED Europe develops an effective work programme and profile in relevant policy contexts. We will ensure a separate recruitment process in 2022 for the new position once the current phase of work is completed, and take measures to ensure there are no conflict of interest issues related to this consultancy.

Requirements

The successful candidate will have high-calibre technical and policy expertise to conduct European policy analysis relevant to future issues at the environment/development interface. They will have a track record of delivering comparable projects and relevant experience of at least 6 years, and education to post-graduate level. They will bring strong connections with relevant networks and policy fora. Fluency in English and at least one other European language is essential.

How to apply

Candidates should submit a CV and covering letter setting out how they meet the requirements above, and include their day rate in Euros to: tom.bigg@iied.org and cc catherine.baker@iied.org no later than midnight (GMT) on 16th July 2021.

Interviews will be held via Zoom on 26th, 27th and 29th July 2021.