IWT Political Economy Consultant (Malawi, Peru and Uganda)

Job title: IWT Political Economy Consultant (local recruitment)
Place of work: Malawi (1 consultant), Peru (1 consultant) and Uganda (1 consultant)
Start date: As soon as possible
Contract type: Short-term technical assistance consultancy:
- Malawi (approx. 7 days) within a 3-month period (April-June 2021)
- Peru (approx. 11 days) within a 3-month period (April-June 2021)
- Uganda (approx. 7 days) within a 3-month period (April-June 2021)
Reporting to: Head of Public Governance, Basel Institute on Governance

About the Basel Institute on Governance

The Basel Institute on Governance is an international and independent not-for-profit organisation working worldwide with the public and private sector to counter corruption and other financial crimes and to improve the quality of governance. Registered as a Swiss foundation with headquarters in Basel, the Institute operates globally and maintains field operations around the world.

Research lies at the core of the Institute's mission to effectively combat corruption and improve public governance. The Public Governance team digs deep into questions of what drives corrupt behaviour in individuals and why anti-corruption laws are often ineffective. The team undertakes deep and detailed research in the field and contributes to current debates and new approaches to tackling public-sector corruption in countries around the world.

The Public Governance team contributes to the Basel Institute’s Green Corruption programme, which applies in-house expertise and experience on fighting corruption to address environmental crime. This includes follow-the-money investigations and corruption prevention measures. The programme covers corruption and financial crime related to the illegal trade in wildlife, forestry and timber products, fish and minerals.

Overview of position

The Public Governance team is looking for three IWT Political Economy Consultants that have a strong background in conducting political economy analysis and with expertise in the topic of the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) and/or environmental crime in their respective country. The consultant is to support an ongoing project on targeting natural resource corruption by conducting a political economy analysis of the broader context in which IWT criminal investigations and prosecutions take place in Malawi, Peru and Uganda. Given ongoing travel restrictions, we seek highly reliable individuals who are able to work independently.

The Consultant will work with the Head of Public Governance and her team, as well as with Green Corruption team members based in Basel, to undertake this assignment.
Key responsibilities

Data collection: desk-based research and conducting interviews:

- Identifying key stakeholders from civil society, media, academia, international development partners and the public sector that work on different aspects of promoting the fight against IWT in target countries
- Set up and conduct semi-structured interviews (in person if possible and alternatively online) on political economy factors that impact IWT investigations and prosecutions and prepare interview reports

Qualifications

- Master’s degree in law, political sciences, international relations, criminology or a related field
- Experience in conducting political economy analysis (including all aspects of the research cycle, from design and data collection to analysis and report writing)
- In-depth knowledge of the political settlement and socio-economic context of the respective country
- High level of understanding of national frameworks, actors and approaches that seek to curb IWT in the respective country
- Large personal network of key stakeholder groups, covering civil society, media, academia and the public sector, that work on different aspects of promoting the fight against IWT in the respective country

Skills required

- Demonstrated ability to work independently, remotely and across time zones while maintaining close contact with the team, communicating transparently and proactively, and reliably adhering to timelines
- Problem-solving attitude
- Cross-cultural communication

Application

Please send your written application (CV and list of publications, letter of motivation, reference letters or, at a minimum, the contact details of three professional references; all documents merged in one PDF file) by 1 April 2021 by email to: application@baselgovernance.org.

Equal opportunity employer

The Basel Institute is an equal opportunity employer. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, colour, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, non-disqualifying physical or mental disability, national origin, veteran status or any other basis covered by appropriate law. All employment is decided on the basis of qualifications, merit, and business need.