



Project Lead – Urban Air Quality

Reports to: Managing Director - India

Location: Delhi or Chennai, India

Deadline to Apply: Immediate - applications to be reviewed on an ongoing basis

Okapi is an India-based social impact strategy group focused on institutional design for complex goals in changing times. We work with clients in government, industry, and development finance to map and evaluate ecosystem opportunities for social and environmental change; create blueprints for catalysing change; and design pilot projects with an eye to scale. Our current work is clustered around four themes: Renewable Energy Systems; Pollution Mitigation; Resilient and Inclusive Economies; and Urban Transformations. We are always open for new challenges and continue to expand into new areas where our work on building the foundations for robust public-private-community collaboration to tackle key risks and opportunities can be useful.

The company is incubated by the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM) and has offices in Chennai and Delhi.

Job Description

Okapi is seeking a Project Lead – Urban Air Quality to lead a project focused on the development of a community air quality monitoring network and analytical platform for emerging urban areas in India.

The objective of the project is to motivate and support targeted policy and private action to accelerate the transition to cleaner, more efficient, lower-emission energy sources and uses as India urbanizes, with a focus on urban areas with increasing pollution challenges yet limited monitoring capacity. The monitoring network and analytical platform represents an information intervention that will a) drive increased demand for clean air by raising public awareness of air pollution and its sources; and b) facilitate effective, cost-efficient solutions by providing local, state, and national actors with an ongoing source of credible, actionable information with which to prioritize their investments. The project is currently nearing the end of the initial scoping and design phase and is transitioning to the recruitment of a coalition of organisations that would fund and implement the project in the first pilot city.

The Project Lead would be responsible for oversight of all workstreams under the urban air quality project. He or she would be expected to manage a team including research associates and expert consultants to deliver concrete, actionable operational plans. The role would also include significant external stakeholder engagement, as the project is at a stage that will involve formation of a coalition of investor/funders as well as city-level partners in pilot cities.

We value past experience with management of complex, multi-donor or multi-client projects, a demonstrated record of ability to adjust quickly to evolving project requirements, and an entrepreneurial, adaptive mindset. Ability to think at a system level, to rapidly and accurately synthesize information from a wide range of sources, and to manage teams in a fluid environment is critical. **While a scientific or engineering background is not required for**

the position, it is essential that the candidate be comfortable engaging with scientific and technical experts on a range of topics related to air quality measurement and modeling and presenting the related project objectives and activities with clarity and precision.

The position would begin as a part-time assignment in the month of March 2017, becoming a full-time position in April 2017 for a period of 4 months, extendable based on achievement of critical project milestones.

Responsibilities:

The Project Lead, Urban Air Quality is responsible for the following:

- Supervision of all project team members and external consultants, including development of detailed project plans and progress tracking mechanisms to deliver high-quality work within budget and timelines for the project
- Weekly preparation and presentation of client project updates
- Secondary research and analysis on topics related to air quality measurement and modelling, to supplement support of external experts when required
- Coordination among a range of external partner organisations that may include corporations, philanthropic organisations, NGOs, and universities, among others
- Representation of Okapi and the urban air quality initiative in various public forums and in bilateral meetings with coalition members, which may require frequent domestic travel
- Preparation of project proposals, presentations, and other informational materials as and when required

Experience and Qualifications

- An advanced degree in Public Policy, Urban Planning, Environmental Management or related fields.
- Minimum 10 years of relevant work experience, including exposure to topics relevant to urban environmental challenges in India
- Excellent management and organisational skills, with both internal team members as well as partner organisations.
- Ability to exercise judgment and discretion in the face of competing and complex information
- Flexible, self-motivating, able to manage multiple tasks efficiently
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English required. Fluency in Indian languages is a strong advantage.
- Experience in a fast-paced entrepreneurial setting, including development of business plans and projections, is a strong advantage.

Salary: Competitive by industry standards.

For more information about Okapi: www.okapia.co

Interested candidates, please email your CV and a cover letter outlining how you fit this role to info@okapia.co. Shortlisted applicants will be asked to complete a case study exercise before advancing for further consideration.