

Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute: Senior Researcher & Research Manager

Opportunity closing date: Wednesday, July 30th, 2014

The Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute (SPII) is an independent, nonprofit think tank, committed to the eradication of poverty and inequality in South Africa and the sub-region.

SPII seeks to appoint a Senior Researcher, based in Newtown, Johannesburg.

This position will lead SPII's work on developing monitoring and evaluation tools for measuring the progressive realisation of socio-economic rights contained in the Constitution, and will provide additional research management support. The position calls for rigorous research, intellectual analysis, strong project management skills, and a passion for advocacy on issues of social and economic justice.

This is a one-year fixed-term contract position renewable depending on funding.

Responsibilities:

- Lead and manage socio-economic rights monitoring tool project in consultation with partner organisations. This includes right-specific policy and budget analysis and the development and ongoing population of statistical indicators that track progressive realisation over time. This will entail desktop research; qualitative research; scoping of available survey data sets; and writing reports when requested to do so by the Director of SPII;
- Conduct in-depth, independent research on national and international policy developments on socio-economic rights, as well as poverty and inequality combating policies;
- Develop professional research reports on project work, content for SPII publications and publications for international journals. Provide active advocacy support for the dissemination of the reports and their contents to ensure optimal reach of findings and recommendations;
- Stakeholder management, relationship building and partner development, including in civil society fora and coalitions;
- Manage project team and activities to ensure that all grant objectives are met;
- Monitor and evaluate the performance of project activities, identify successes and failures and make recommendations for project activity adjustments accordingly;
- Write and edit project proposals and reports, as well as other outputs as required by the donors and the Director from time to time;
- Manage project finances, including budget monitoring and projections with the support of the financial manager;

- As and when required, negotiate and draft contracts and MOUs for consultants and other partners in consultation with the Director, and ensure the objectives and terms of agreement are met;
- Provide research management for additional SPII research projects in agreement with the Director;
- Contribute to the development of SPII strategic objectives as required from time to time and develop funding proposals and reports as requested by management;
- Engage in networking and profile-raising of SPII and SPII's work by participating in conferences and other stakeholder meetings.

Requirements:

- Master's degree in Development, Social Science, Law, Public Policy or equivalent;
- Minimum of five years research and project management experience including leading a team and providing training and mentoring;
- Familiarity with working in or with the nonprofit sector including experience working within civil society networks;
- Knowledge and experience of advocacy around socio-economic rights;
- Experience in policy analysis;
- Budget analysis skills and knowledge of relevant statistical software an advantage;
- Proven ability in report-writing and conducting independent research;
- Proven publications record;
- Self-motivated, with strong inter-personal skills and management capacity;
- Fluency in oral and written communication in English. Fluency in at least one other South African language is desirable;
- Able to travel;
- A valid driver's licence would be an advantage;
- Commitment to the values of SPII and passion for social justice and the realisation of socio-economic rights.

Starting date: 1 October 2014 although an earlier start date would be welcomed.

Salary: R320 000 - R350 000 total cost to company, dependant on qualifications and experience in the sector.

To **apply**, submit a short CV that includes relevant information on qualifications and experience and contactable references, three selected examples of published research writing, and a one page letter of motivation to Fortunate@spii.org.za on or before **30 July 2014**.

Preference will be given to South African applicants.

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for an interview and will be requested to make a presentation as part of their interview process.

For more information on SPII, see: www.spii.org.za.

