

Job Title: Programme Associate, Forest Rights, Keonjhar

Location: Keonjhar

Type of Engagement: Contractual

Last Date of Application: 25th January, 2018

Vasundhara is a non-governmental, non-profit knowledge and advocacy group that works on issues of natural resource management and sustainable rural livelihoods. It has primarily focused on community forestry issues with a focus on research on institutional dimensions of community forestry. The organization advocates facilitation of policy changes for sustainable community-based forest management systems through policy advocacy, research and documentation, capacity building and networking. In the present context, Vasudhara's work is highly regarded at the state and national levels on the Forest Right Act, 2006, a landmark legislation that promises to address historical injustices faced by schedule tribes and other traditional forest dwellers living on forest land.

In this context, Vasundhara requires a person who can work with tribal and forest dwelling communities to help them understand their rights and prepare their claims under FRA with support of the local organizations, government officials, PRI members and facilitate the interface with the local administration to ensure that the claims are recognised. Apart from this the person would also be working on the other aspects of Forest Rights Act, especially grassroots work, coordination with different stakeholders of this process, documenting the key issues and learning, database management, reporting and capacity building on Forest Rights.

We are looking for a person with a Masters Degree in Anthropology/ Social Science / Social Work / Rural Development with at least 3 years of post-qualification experience/graduation with 7 years of post-qualification experience and at least 2 years work experience with tribal communities within or outside of Odisha. The candidate should be willing to stay at the district head quarter of Keonjhar with willingness to travel all the blocks in the district for at least 20 days in a month. Good Knowledge of English and Odia languages is necessary. Knowledge of Hindi and any Tribal Language of Odisha will be an added advantage. Basic Computer skills should include Word Processing, Spreadsheet, and Presentation Packages. Knowledge of SPSS or any other similar software would be an added advantage.

Vasundhara is an equal opportunity employer. Women and SC/ST candidates are especially encouraged to apply. Please apply to vasundharanr@vasundharaorissa.org. Last date for receiving completed applications is **25th January, 2018**. Applications should have < **Programme Associate, Forest Rights, Keonjhar, Vasundhara**> as the subject line with **Covering Letter & CV in one Word File** along with the past research work, if any and also name of two reference persons.

Job Title: Programme Associate, Forest Rights, Keonjhar

Duration: Initial contract for 6 months (Renewable based on performance and requirement)

Remuneration: Salary will be negotiable based on experience and qualification

Reporting: Team Leader, Forest Rights

Detailed Job Description

Scope of the Position:

- Contribution to Vasundhara's existing work on Forest Rights in Keunjhar under Forest Rights Act 2006 and amendment rules 2012
- Creating a knowledge-base around community forest rights, Individual Forest Rights through research, action and documentation
- Coordination with administration, partners, communities, other peoples' organizations and CSOs
- Documentation of learning from ground for sharing with other Civil Society Organizations, Institutions and groups with similar interest
- Capacity Building of Community Members / NGO-CSO Staff / Government Functionaries

Key Responsibilities

- Coordinate project activities with collaborators in Keunjhar in consultation with team
- Provide handholding support to the CSOs and other groups working on Forest Rights
- Contribution towards formulation of action plan and progress report of activities
- Carrying out training programs for collaborators on the thematic areas of Community Forest Rights and Individual Forest Rights
- Documentation on the issues, learning and case studies from the ground
- Drafting of quarterly and annual reports of the project in consultation with team
- Dialogue and discussion with administration and other govt. Officials on Vasundhara's intervention on community forest rights and individual forest rights
- Discussion and providing follow up support to partner organizations and other groups connected to our work in the district
- Updating the progress of the work to the team on regular basis
- Database management on Forest Rights in the district
- Preparing reports, notes, status paper etc. of various activities
- Regular coordination and support to district administration on Forest Rights related work

For more information about Vasundhara's work, please visit www.vasundharaorissa.org, www.fra.org.in