

National Languages Equality Advancement Project (NLEAP)

Title: Local Capacity Development and Governance Specialist

Level of Effort: Full Time

Reporting: Project Director

Location: Colombo with travel to the field throughout Sri Lanka

Background:

The National Languages Equality Advancement Project (NLEAP) aims to reduce poverty and improve economic and social equality of Sinhala and Tamil speaking women and men throughout Sri Lanka by strengthening the implementation of the Sri Lankan Official Languages Policy (OLP) and enhancing acceptance by Sri Lankan women and men of cultural diversity in the country.

Working with the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) and civil society organizations, the project strengthens gender-sensitive bilingual communication skills of public servants; improves the capacity of key ministries to deliver public services in both official languages (Sinhala and Tamil) at national and provincial levels, especially in bilingual communities; increases awareness of language diversity and language rights; and increases the ability of citizens to communicate in the official languages.

NLEAP is funded by the Government of Canada and implemented by Alinea International. NLEAP is designed to respond to the GoSL's goal to protect and promote the language rights of all its citizens and support and strengthen the OLP implementation with the Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government and its affiliated institutions. These institutions include the Department of Official Languages (DOL), the Official Languages Commission (OLC), and the National Institute of Language Education and Training (NILET). NLEAP also supports selected universities through the University Grants Commission (UGC) and provides grants under the National Languages Fund (NLF) to support civil society organizations in the promotion of language rights and second language learning.

At Alinea International, we value equity, diversity and inclusivity in everything we do. We are an equal opportunity employer opposed to all forms of discrimination. We actively seek and encourage applications from people of diverse backgrounds recognizing that an inclusive workforce enriches our organization and achieves smarter, more innovative results. Alinea is committed to the protection of children and vulnerable adults. Due to the nature of our work, all candidates will be subject to due diligence checks and extensive background checks where appropriate.

The Position:

Based in Colombo, Sri Lanka, the Local Capacity Development and Governance Specialist will report directly to the Project Director. This position will require travel within Sri Lanka.

Specific responsibilities include:

1. Facilitate coordination and collaborative work among short-term technical experts in the delivery of technical assistance to improve the enforcement and promotion capacity of the Official Languages Commission, improve the capacity of civil society to monitor and promote the implementation of the policy, language societies and consultative forums.
2. Coordinate the implementation of activities, including training, involving the diversity and non-language communications manuals at the National Languages Division (NLD) and NILET.

3. Works closely with the Project Director and other specialists in the planning and implementation of the national local government capacity development activities.
4. Works closely with the Project Director and Project Deputy Director to support National Language Fund projects, including proposal evaluations and review of progress reports.
5. Provide technical expertise to maximize the results from training, mentoring, coaching and peer-to-peer activities.
6. Integrate governance principles into project implementation, including: the use and promotion of participatory and inclusive processes; the promotion of transparency, accountability, and oversight mechanisms; awareness raising of government and non-governmental actors regarding their respective roles in language policy implementation; and ensuring that access and provision of services are non-discriminatory.
7. Coordinate with other project advisors and specialists to integrate cross-cutting themes, (gender equality, environment, and governance) throughout the project.
8. Maintain up-to-date knowledge of current initiatives by national and international partners to identify synergies and benefit from lessons learned.
9. Maintain open communications with local stakeholders, project partners and staff
10. Provide inputs in the development of the Work Plans.
11. Provide contributions to results tracking and progress reports.
12. Any other related responsibilities required to meet expected project results.

Application Deadline: January 3, 2023

Knowledge and Skills Requirements

- Undergraduate degree in a relevant field such as Administration, Social Sciences, Development Studies, Law or related discipline
- Minimum of 2 years of working experience providing advisory services on capacity development or governance
- Minimum of 5 years experience in a development sector
- Working Experience with Local/International Development Agencies
- Experience working on diversity and inclusion issues

The Local Capacity Development and Governance Specialist must possess the following minimum language proficiency levels:

Language	Speaking	Reading	Writing
English	General professional proficiency	General professional proficiency	General professional proficiency
Sinhala or Tamil, preferably both	Advanced professional proficiency	Advanced professional proficiency	Advanced professional proficiency

Duration: Full-time staff position until project closing July 31, 2023

Application Procedure: Interested applicants should submit a cover letter describing their experience and capabilities to fulfill the described responsibilities and CV and by January 3, 2023 to info@nleap.lk with subject line “NLEAP Capacity Development and Governance Specialist”.