



**Position Title:** Climate Change Specialist  
**Status:** Consultant  
**Location:** Global  
**Classification:** Consultants roster  
**Date:** June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

### **About Landesa**

Grounded in the knowledge that having legal rights to land is a foundation for prosperity and opportunity, Landesa partners with governments and local organizations to ensure that those experiencing the most extreme forms of poverty have secure rights over the land they steward. Founded as the Rural Development Institute in 1967, Landesa has helped more than 100 million families living in poverty gain legal control over their land. With secure land rights, these families can eat better, earn more, educate their children, practice conservation, and achieve dignity for generations. For additional information, visit the Landesa website at [www.landesa.org](http://www.landesa.org).

Landesa supplements its regular staff with the expertise of skilled international consultants. We maintain and periodically review an active roster of consultants in support of our program needs. This vacancy is posted for anticipated consulting positions: we encourage consultants with specialized skills in legal, policy, and monitoring and evaluation issues related to land access and tenure security to submit their qualifications to be considered for inclusion in our roster.

When Landesa has specific consultant opportunities, they will be posted below on our website or our staff will reach out to the consultants included in the roster to verify their interest.

### **Availability**

The Climate Change Expert's scope of work and level of effort will be determined in accordance with specific opportunities as they arise.

### **Consultancy Summary**

The Climate Change Specialist joins contributes to advance Landesa's Africa and Asia programs' climate mitigation and adaptation efforts on the ground. Landesa prioritizes climate action strategies that center smallholder rights and sustainable rural livelihoods as essential to effective, long-term climate mitigation and adaptation. Climate Change Specialist will support Landesa's ongoing projects that have an emphasis on advancing sustainable forest management, land use planning, and securing sustainable livelihoods for communities living within or adjacent to forests. This individual should be able to address questions such as: How are land and resource tenure regimes likely to change in a world where climate conditions are also changing? What flexible and politically acceptable approaches to tenure and rights exist? How might these approaches differ for individual versus collective tenure regimes? What incentive structures and pragmatic approaches can be designed to support sustainable livelihoods and climate mitigation targets at the same time? Working closely with Landesa Africa and Asia program colleagues, the Specialist develops climate change capacity of Landesa staff, and manages relevant assignments and tasks.

**Essential Job Functions:**

- Perform research, analysis, and synthesis of topics and issues related to Landesa's work in regions as assigned.
- Undertake and occasionally supervise fieldwork (rapid rural appraisal, key informant interviews, environmental assessments, public meetings, workshops, surveys) to gather information.
- Make policy, program and project recommendations that are useful and realistic, given country realities and resources.
- Contribute to plans for implementing recommendations, including ensuring that gender equity and social inclusion considerations are addressed.
- Assess progress and results, identify problem areas, and take corrective steps to achieve program and project objectives.
- Orally present policy recommendations to government officials and other partners, answer questions and defend recommendations.
- Collaborate with foreign government officials, other counterpart country nationals, and international aid agencies, and corporations in the work.
- Prepare and deliver public education and awareness presentations consistent with Landesa's educational strategic objectives.

**Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

- A deep commitment to the mission of a better, safer future for the world's poorest people through secure access to land.
- Strong problem-solving skills.
- Strong oral presentation skills and an ability to think on one's feet when defending policy recommendations.
- Familiarity with concepts that can be applied to rural development.
- Ability to develop concrete work plans and manage elements so that work is performed according to agreed budgets and plans.
- Ability to manage documents and correspondence, track, and report on project labor, and carry out other administrative tasks efficiently, routinely, and in conformance to Landesa standards and procedures.
- Ability to work collaboratively with a range of people at all levels, including those from host country governmental and non-governmental organizations, and other counterparts, clients, and funders.
- Ability to demonstrate cross-cultural sensitivity, tact, and poise.
- Ability to lead and work collaboratively as a member of teams, regardless of role within the team, through consensus building, communication, and leadership.
- Exceptional ability to communicate in writing and orally in English.
- French, Spanish and/or Portuguese skills preferred; other language skills also welcome, such as Kiswahili and Hindi.
- Ability to make and use distinctions as to types, frequency, tenor, and levels of communication, depending upon the circumstances and audience.
- Legal right to work in the country of assignment.

## **Required Education/Experience**

- JD or MA/MS in Environmental Policy/Science/Management/Law, Forestry, Resource Economics, International Public Policy (with a concentration in forestry or environmental policy), or a related field
- At least 5 years of experience working with Indigenous Peoples and local communities on land tenure efforts or natural resource management to advance climate mitigation and adaptation; experience in Asia or Sub-Saharan Africa preferred but not required.
- Education or professional experience in forestry and forest livelihoods (required).
- Familiarity with land tenure issues and solutions as related to forestry and forest livelihoods (required).
- Experience in women's land rights and application of gender equity and social inclusion in all aspects of project design and implementation (preferred).
- Preferred: experience working on law and policy at the intersection of climate change and land tenure with the ability to speak to concerns at the local, national, and international levels (preferred).
- Preferred: familiarity with the enabling environments required for effective and just programs and policies managing payments for ecosystem services or climate finance schemes (preferred).
- Priority will be given to professionals with strong communications skills and a demonstrated ability to work independently and take on a variety of assignments with a quick learning curve.
- Experience working in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, Francophone Africa, and/or South and Southeast Asia.
- Field experience in the Global South, and work experience with multilateral or bi-lateral international entities.

## **Physical and Environmental Conditions**

Work is primarily performed indoors with some potential for exposure to safety and health hazards related to electronics work. This position does not require unusual demands for physical effort. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate. Work environment involves everyday risks or discomforts that require normal safety precautions typical of places such as offices, meeting or training rooms, residences, or commercial vehicles, e.g., use of safe workplace practices with office equipment, and/or avoidance of trips and falls, and observance of fire regulations and traffic signals.

## **Work Environment and Working Conditions for Travelers to Developing Countries**

While performing the duties of this job, the employee may be exposed to working conditions and hazards which are prevalent for the location and/or country of assignment. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate. Work is primarily performed indoors with some potential for exposure to safety and health hazards related to electronics work. The employee may be required to travel overseas and domestically. When traveling in a developing country, the employee may be exposed to: Physical Hazards (illnesses, noise, extreme temperatures, wet or humid climates, etc.) Road Hazards (unfinished/dirt roads, potholes, traffic-related accidents, etc.), and Atmospheric Conditions (odors, dust, fumes, smog, etc.).

**Additional Comments**

The above job description is not intended as, nor should it be construed as exhaustive of all responsibilities, skills, efforts, or working conditions associated with this job. Reasonable accommodation may be provided in appropriate circumstances to enable qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of this job.

**To Apply**

Qualified candidates should download a pdf form and fill in the requested information. Once the form is complete, candidates should email the form and CV to [consultants@landesa.org](mailto:consultants@landesa.org). Please, make sure to mention the Consultancy vacancy in the subject bar.

**Only candidates who send their CV and the completed form will be considered.**

**Please download the PDF form here:** <https://www.landesa.org/pdf/form/FormConsultantsv4.pdf>

*Equal employment opportunity has been, and will continue to be, a fundamental principle at Landes. Landes is committed to a work environment in which relationships are characterized by dignity, courtesy, and respect. We are committed to nondiscrimination in all of our business operations and embrace diversity as a key strategic philosophy and strength of how we do our global work. Landes actively seeks diverse candidates for employment.*