



Research fellow – Implementing the Paris Agreement: From domestic policy processes to international governance

The Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) is a non-profit policy research institute based in Paris. Its objective is to determine and share the keys for analysing and understanding strategic issues linked to sustainable development from a global perspective. IDDRI helps stakeholders in deliberating on global governance of the major issues of common interest: action to mitigate climate change, to protect biodiversity, to enhance food security and to manage urbanisation. IDDRI also takes part in efforts to reframe development pathways.

A special effort has been made to develop a partnership network with emerging countries to better understand and share various perspectives on sustainable development issues and governance. For more effective action, IDDRI operates with a network of partners from the private sector, academia, civil society and the public sector, not only in France and Europe but also internationally.

As an independent institute, IDDRI mobilises resources and expertise to disseminate the most relevant scientific ideas and research ahead of negotiations and decision-making processes.

It applies a cross-cutting approach to its work, which focuses on four thematic areas: Climate, Biodiversity, Ocean and Global Governance.

The Climate Program

The Climate Program is one of IDDRI's core pillars. It focuses on three governance levels: international climate governance (UNFCCC among others), European and national levels focusing on the climate and energy policies, taking a specific look at the transformation of key sectors. In terms of themes, the Program works across the IDDRI's strategic priorities. The Program focuses (i) on the conditions for the adoption of robust public policies, including through international governance, the political economy of policymaking, and the evaluation and selection of policy instruments; (ii) on the development of long-term transformation trajectories (for example, deep decarbonisation pathways), as a tool to support policymaking, public debate and a common understanding of the required changes.

Objectives and Mission

The Paris Agreement adopted at COP21 was widely recognized as a success as it represented a breakthrough in international climate governance. But as such it is not complete and fully operational: in order to meet expectations, complete its success and deliver on its promises, the Paris Agreement needs to be carefully implemented, which require critical governance elements to be designed in coming years. These elements featured in the Paris 'rulebook' need to be decided by the end of 2018. In parallel, 162 countries have submitted their climate plans, or 'nationally determined contribution'

(NDC). A dialogue, taking place in 2018, plans to assess progress in their implementation and provide opportunity for their revision. However, this requires sufficient understanding of domestic legislative and regulatory processes, the barriers faced and opportunities perceived, and the required international cooperation to support their implementation. The objective of this position is to contribute to the preparation of the 2018 dialogue and “rulebook” while following domestic governance and implementation processes of NDCs.

Job description

Under the supervision of the Program director, the researcher will:

- Join a dynamic team of researchers;
- Contribute to the definition of the research program and strategy for change;
- Develop a research activity, publishing and promoting policy-relevant and scientific publications;
- Develop and maintain relevant networks and partnerships of researchers and with other stakeholders;
- Represent IDDRI in relevant stakeholder meetings, conferences, as well as with the media;
- Participate in fundraising for research activities and project management.

More specifically in the framework of the project, he or she will:

- Follow and contribute to the process of the technical implementation of the Paris Agreement, in particular the preparations of the Paris rulebook, the 2018 facilitative dialogue, as well as other relevant international climate policy processes;
- Contribute in tracking and understanding of policy implementation as well as institutional processes at the national level;
- Conduct desk and field research on the implementation processes of NDCs and relevant climate policies more broadly in major emitting and strategically important countries, mobilising for example the disciplines of political science, political economy and international relations;
- Link domestic implementation of NDCs and institutional processes to the international governance of climate change;
- Ensure the effective promotion of the results of policy research under this program of activities in the framework of IDDRI’s impact strategy, including through the organisation of events, stakeholder dialogues, and participation and representation of IDDRI in relevant networks of stakeholders from policy making, research, business, civil society and media.

Required Qualifications and Contract

Required qualifications

- Master level in political sciences, international relations, with a solid founding also in political economy;
- 3 to 5 years of experience in international climate policy, including UNFCCC negotiations, in public or international organisation or in a think tank;

- Experience of domestic climate policy processes, with a preference for an understanding of policy making in different national contexts, including the European Union.

Required characteristics:

- Capacity for autonomy and initiative
- Intellectual curiosity and academic rigor
- Political mindset
- Excellent knowledge of international climate policy processes
- Capacity to understand and analyze domestic climate policy processes
- A network of stakeholders across policy, research, business and civil society
- Excellent writing and communication skills, both in French and English
- Capacity and interest to intervene in public debates
- Ability to brief the media on geopolitics of climate change
- Project management skills

Contract details:

A fixed term contract from 18 months (CDD in French), with a potential for extension depending on funds and program development;

Remuneration according to qualification and experience, based on IDDRI's salary policy;

Position based in Paris.

Candidature should consist of a CV, motivation letter and 3 references to be sent to

David LEVAÏ (david.levai@iddri.org) and Lisa DACOSTA (lisa.dacosta@iddri.org)

by 31 May 2017

Please note that only preselected candidates will be contacted for the interview process.

IDDRI adheres to and supports norms of equal opportunity for employment.