ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS CENTRE (Hakijamii)
P. O. Box 11356-00100, Nairobi, Kenya. Email: esrc@hakijamii.com

JOB OPPORTUNITY

PROGRAM OFFICER - EDUCATION & LITIGATION - NAIROBI

Terms of Employment – Short Term Contract – 1 Year

OVERVIEW OF THE ORGANIZATION

Economic and Social Rights Centre (Hakijamii) is a national human rights organization that works with marginalized groups to claim their economic, social and cultural rights and improve their likelihoods. It is registered as NGO under the NGO Coordination Act. It is headed by an Executive Director and has its secretariat in Nairobi. The organization has strategic community partners in Nairobi, Kisumu, Kwale, Garissa, Kakamega, Mombasa and Isiolo.

Hakijamii has established strategic partnerships that include being a founding member of the Kenya Land Alliance, member of Shelter Forum, the Urban Housing Coalition and a founding member of the International Network on Economic and Social Rights.

Hakijamii envisions a society that is free of discrimination, exploitation and injustice and its mission is to strengthen the capacity of people’s organizations to effective and directly participate in advocating and realizing their economic, social and cultural rights in Kenya. Throughout its existence the organization has been guided by the goal of promoting social movements to engage in realizing and promoting human rights-centered practices and policies. Its strategic objectives are:

- Organize and strengthen the capacities of marginalized community groups for effective socio-economic rights advocacy.
- Advocate for development and implementation of pro - poor esc rights policies through resource allocation and utilization of relevant national & international instruments.
- Create an esc rights knowledge hub through publication and dissemination on digital and traditional platforms
- Deepen and diversify strategic partnerships at national and international level to scale-up esc rights advocacy.
- Strengthen organizational, efficiency, monitoring and innovative learning on esc rights

Hakijamii has been expanding its work to address the new opportunities and challenges presented in advocating and litigating socio-economic rights especially on the right to education. Hakijamii now seeks to recruit a Program Officer, Education and Litigation to advance the cause of social justice in Kenya.

**JOB PURPOSE**

This position’s function will be to engage in policy issues and provide opinion in relation to realization of right to education and other socio-economic rights. The successful candidate will be responsible for reviewing the current legislation, and policies by identifying the gaps and providing recommendation towards realization the progressive realization the right to education. The person shall, among other things help in developing simplified training materials on right to education to be used by community networks and identifying strategic cases for litigation.

**KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Engage in policy, advocacy and strategic litigation on ESC rights in Kenya.
- Undertake legal research on the relevant areas on economic and social rights that Hakijamii works on.
- Review new and existing litigation cases and spearhead them in court.
- Assist the Executive Director in carrying out her/his functions by providing legal advice on emerging issues on economic and social rights and making recommendations in relation to a range of possible actions.
- Form and maintain good working relationships with all key partners including community partners, donors and government.
- Identify, file and follow up on high impact cases on economic and social right as may from time to time be determined by the Organization.
- Conduct research on the Project’s priority areas and track developments relating to the right to education and public interest litigation on ESC rights nationally and internationally.
- Draft reports, policy briefs and advocacy tools for education practitioners, to promote human rights-based approach on education & other ESC rights.
- Engage with project partners, management and network with stakeholders (e.g., human rights lawyers, academics, civil society organizations, community networks, national and county government etc.)
- Contribute to the Project’s fundraising proposals and strategic planning
• Prepare write ups/report on general information on the right to education and public interest litigation on ESC rights to be uploaded into the organizational website which serves as a resource tool.
• Coordinate publication of quarterly newsletters.
• Conduct training workshops on the right to education and public interest litigation cases.
• Organize roundtables networking events and other activities to achieve the goal of the organization.
• Works together with Hakijamii management team for program development.
• Develops work plans and progress reports as required by Hakijamii, donors and other partners
• Identify and pursue fundraising opportunities, under the guidance of Hakijamii’s overall fundraising programme.
• Represent the organization to NGO partners, government officials, funding sources, other partners, beneficiaries, and at conferences and other outreach opportunities
• Ensure continuous monitoring and evaluation of activities, reviews and finalize program reports.
• To undertake all such other functions as may, from time to time, be directed by the Executive Director.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

• Have solid experience in international human rights, advocacy, social justice or related areas, with a good knowledge of economic, social and cultural rights especially education rights.
• Have a strong research background
• Have an understanding of the challenges faced in implementing economic, social rights and cultural able to demonstrate knowledge of how the law can address those challenges, including use of court procedures and other remedies;
• Have the capacity to establish and develop a litigation policy that can meet the aims of the organization;
• Demonstrate the capacity of analyzing complex legal problems rigorously and from all angles, showing practical judgment as well as academic ability;
• Have the vision to clearly articulate legal cases on economic, social and cultural rights in order to seek and secure long-term sustainable enforcement of these rights.
• Possess a broad understanding of contemporary issues and challenges in implementing economic, social and cultural right (ESC Rights).
• Demonstrate knowledge of how the law and policies can address economic and social rights issues.
• Understanding of human rights-based monitoring, campaigning and advocacy strategies.
• Ability to frame complex policies, human rights and legal strategies.
• Good interpersonal, public relation and networking skills.
• Have the necessary skills to liaise with funders on progress towards clearly defined outcomes;
• Excellent analytical and research skills with exemplary writing skills
• Be self-motivated and well-organized
• Ability to work both independently and as part of a team, to deliver under pressure and meet strict deadlines
• Flexible and easy-going, but hard working and deeply committed to human rights
• Willing to travel regularly.
• Excellent verbal and written communication (English and Kiswahili) and computer skills (Microsoft Office Programs).

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE

• Bachelor degree in Law.
• Be an advocate of the High Court of Kenya.
• Post Graduate Diploma from Kenya School of Law
• Knowledge in litigating on constitutional matters will be an added advantage.
• At least 2 years working experience in a not for profit organization

Closing date for receipt of applications is close of business on Friday, 25\textsuperscript{th} October 2019. Interested applicants must submit 1) a cover letter and (2) a current curriculum vitae addressed to The Executive Director, Economic & Social Rights Centre – Hakijamii, P.O Box 11356-00100 Nairobi-Kenya. All application should be sent via email to esrc@hakijamii.com. Kindly visit our website on www.hakijamii.com for more information about the job opportunity.

Please Note: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Hakijamii does not charge any fees for recruitment process and has NOT assigned any recruiting firm to act on its behalf.
Canvassing will lead to automatic disqualification.