

We're hiring

Research Positions

What happens when the social and environmental dimensions of renewable energy projects meet the realities of project development, finance and investment?

Project Consultant

Principal Project Scientist

1 post

Senior Project Scientist

1 post

LAST DATE TO APPLY

2 November 2026

LOCATION

New Delhi

Applications are invited for project appointment under the following project.

Appointment shall be on contractual basis with consolidated pay, renewable after 3 months subject to performance of the candidate in the project.

The project is aimed at examining how developers of utility-scale solar and wind projects in India engage with local communities, navigate socio-environmental tensions, and mobilize global capital to scale renewable energy deployment, through surveys and interviews across diverse local contexts. This study will complement ongoing research at IIT Delhi on community engagement and equity considerations in siting of RE

Title of the Project	Communities, Developers, and State: Exploring Governance, Risk, and Finance for Indias Net-Zero Transition (RM00125F)	
Funding Agency	Giving What We Can, USA	
Name of the Project Investigator	Prof. Kaveri lychettira [email: kaveri@iitd.ac.in]	
Dept./Center	School of Public Policy	
Duration of the Project	Upto: 31/12/2027	
Post(s)	Consolidated fellowship (INR)*	Qualifications
Project Consultant	106650-109850-113140-116530-120030- 123640-127350-131170-135100-139150/- + 30% HRA	Ph.D. with first class or equivalent at the preceding degree in economics, energy systems, innovation studies, public policy, political science, sociology, engineering, or a related discipline with minimum 6 years experience after PhD OR an outstanding OR Scientist/Engineer/Technologist/Practitioner with 1st class Post Graduate degree in economics, energy systems, innovation studies, public policy, political science, sociology, engineering, discipline and having a minimum of 10 years of experience in related areas. Required skillset: - Strong aptitude for independent research, including the ability to formulate and refine research questions, develop appropriate methodological approaches, manage research activities with limited

		supervision, and take a leading role in producing high-quality academic outputs. - Evidence of independent research through publications, working papers, research projects, or similar outputs is highly desirable. - Experience of mixed-methods research including survey design, interviews, data analysis, conjoint analysis, etc. - Experience within energy sector, project finance, energy technologies, and industry contacts would be particularly valuable desirable. The selected candidate would • Examine how environmental, social, permitting, and community-related factors affect the development, financing, and implementation of energy and infrastructure projects. • Contribute to the design and implementation of a survey of energy-sector developers to collect primary data on renewable energy firm's cost of capital, financing conditions, environmental and social risks, and community opposition. The survey will jointly investigate how these factors interact and influence project development and investment decisions. • Combine survey evidence with financial and project-level datasets to investigate relationships between cost of capital, project risk, environmental and social factors, and community acceptance. • Conduct literature reviews across energy finance, innovation studies, project development, environmental risk, and community acceptance, and contribute to academic papers, reports, and presentations. • Produce clear visualizations and communicate empirical findings to both academic and policy audiences.
Principal Project Scientist(1)	75600-77870-80210-82620-85100-87650-90280-92990-95780-98650-101610 + 30% HRA	Ph.D. with first class or equivalent in economics, energy systems, innovation studies, public policy, political science, sociology, engineering, or a related discipline.

		OR MTech with 1st class or MSc 1st class OR equivalent degree in economics, energy systems, innovation studies, public policy, political science, sociology, engineering, or a related discipline with 6 years of experience related areas from a reputed university. Required skillset: - Strong aptitude for independent research, including the ability to formulate and refine research questions, develop appropriate methodological approaches, manage research activities with limited supervision, and take a leading role in producing high-quality academic outputs. - Evidence of independent research through publications, working papers, research projects, or similar outputs is highly desirable. - Experience of mixed-methods research including survey design, interviews, data analysis, conjoint analysis, etc. - Experience within energy sector, project finance, energy technologies, and industry contacts would be particularly valuable desirable. The selected candidate would • Examine how environmental, social, permitting, and community-related factors affect the development, financing, and implementation of energy and infrastructure projects. • Contribute to the design and implementation of a survey of energy-sector developers to collect primary data on renewable energy firm's cost of capital, financing conditions, environmental and social risks, and community opposition. The survey will jointly investigate how these factors interact and influence project development and investment decisions. • Combine survey evidence with financial and project-level datasets to investigate relationships between cost of capital, project risk,
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		environmental and social factors, and community acceptance. • Conduct literature reviews across energy finance, innovation studies, project development, environmental risk, and community acceptance, and contribute to academic papers, reports, and presentations. • Produce clear visualizations and communicate empirical findings to both academic and policy audiences.
Senior Project Scientist (1)	60750-62570-64450-66380-68370-70420-72530-74710-76950-79260/- + 30% HRA	MTech/MS (or equivalent technical degree) with 1st class OR BTech/MSc/Post graduate with 1st class in relevant discipline with 3 years of experience in economics, energy systems, innovation studies, public policy, political science, sociology, engineering, or a related discipline from a reputed university. Required skillset: Required skillset: - Experience of mixed-methods research including survey design, interviews, data analysis, conjoint analysis, etc. - Strong quantitative and data-analysis skills are desirable. - Experience within energy sector, financial databases, project finance, energy technologies, industry contacts would be particularly valuable. Applicants interested in developing their research skills and potentially pursuing a PhD or research-oriented career are desirable. These positions will provide opportunities to contribute to academic publications and gain experience in interdisciplinary research at the intersection of energy, finance, policy, technology, and sustainability. The selected candidate would • Examine how environmental, social, permitting, and community-related factors affect the development, financing, and implementation of energy and infrastructure projects. • Contribute to the design and implementation of a survey of energy-sector

		developers to collect primary data on renewable energy firm's cost of capital, financing conditions, environmental and social risks, and community opposition. The survey will jointly investigate how these factors interact and influence project development and investment decisions. • Combine survey evidence with financial and project-level datasets to investigate relationships between cost of capital, project risk, environmental and social factors, and community acceptance. • Conduct literature reviews across energy finance, innovation studies, project development, environmental risk, and community acceptance, and contribute to academic papers, reports, and presentations. • Produce clear visualizations and communicate empirical findings to both academic and policy audiences.
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* Additional benefits in the form of travel grants for conferences, flexible work hours.

Contact Information: kaveri@iitd.ac.in

The candidates who are interested to apply for the above post should submit the following with **advertisement No.** on email to Prof. Kaveri Iychettira, School of Public Policy and Prof. Tarun Khanna, School of Public Policy at email id: kaveri@iitd.ac.in, tkhanna@iitd.ac.in with cc: ashwinim.cstaff@iitd.ac.in.

1. download Form No' IRD/REC-12 from the IRD Website (<http://ird.iitd.ac.in/rec>) and submit the duly filled form- with complete information regarding educational qualifications indicating percentage of marks/division, details of work experience etc by email IIT Delhi reserves the right to fix higher criteria for short listing of eligible candidates from those satisfying advertised qualification and requirement.
2. CV
3. Cover letter
4. Combine 1-3 above in a **SINGLE PDF** document

The interview will be conducted in-person. Only short-listed candidates will be informed for interview.