



INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW & HUMAN RIGHTS

Supporting Environmental Governance Legislation in Iraq

**Open Position: International Legal Advisor
Baghdad, Iraq**

Organization Overview

The Institute for International Law and Human Rights (IILHR) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity registered in Iraq, Brussels and Washington, D.C. IILHR helps states develop the capacity to strengthen the rule of law and build respect for human rights. With a staff of diplomats, parliamentarians, human rights activists and attorneys, IILHR has a strong track record of implementing successful programs that help national partners strengthen support for human rights and the rule of law in Iraq. Established in 2007, IILHR was purpose built to provide legislative support for Iraqi Constitutional, legislative and judicial development. IILHR is committed to the development and implementation of rights-based laws and policies providing practical, collaborative, and responsive assistance with drafting effective legislation, ensuring judicial transparency and accountability, and fostering grassroots democratic engagement.

Project Background

According to the United Nations, Iraq is the fifth most vulnerable country in the world to the impacts of climate change. Repeated sandstorms, rising mean temperatures, and declining precipitation all contribute to food and water insecurity, the internal displacement of tens of thousands of Iraqis, and increasing conflict in the region. Women, children, minorities, and other vulnerable groups are at particular risk from the consequences of environmental degradation. Despite the government's Constitutional obligation to protect and preserve the environment, Iraq currently lacks the legislative framework to support good environmental governance. IILHR will work with local partners to develop and pass a strong package of laws that ensure the implementation and enforcement of sustainable policies for environmental governance in Iraq.

Position Overview

IILHR is seeking a dedicated and motivated professional to join our team as the International Legal Advisor. The successful candidate will lead the implementation of our "Supporting Environmental Governance Legislation" program in Iraq. This is an international staff position.

Key Responsibilities

Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oversee day-to-day operations of the project in Iraq, including staff management and Baghdad office administration• Ensure program is delivered effectively, achieving all objectives• Convene meetings and roundtables with legislators, government officials, civil society and other stakeholders to discuss draft legislation and build consensus on policy priorities• Organize and facilitate events, including training sessions in advocacy and environmental governance for youth groups and other grassroots organizations
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage subgrantee activities and implementation • Manage short term consultants
Legislative Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review draft legislation and make recommendations to improve its effectiveness and adherence to international law and best practices • Research and draft comparative memorandum • Develop curriculum and implement training sessions on legislative drafting and environmental governance
Stakeholder Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster positive relationships with program partners, participants, and consultants • Liaise with Iraqi legislators, government officials, civil society organizations, youth, and other stakeholders
Monitoring and Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular internal reporting and communication on project • Maintain project metrics and assessment tools • Meet all donor reporting requirements • Regularly assess project effectiveness and make data-driven improvements

**This does not reflect all responsibilities of the position*

This is a full-time position based in Baghdad, with travel to other parts of Iraq as needed. The term of employment is up to 18 months (depending on start date), renewable thereafter subject to availability of funding and performance review by the Executive Director. IILHR will cover the costs of security in Iraq, as well as meals and accommodation at a secure compound in Baghdad's International Zone. The position is eligible for benefits and a generous vacation and R&R package.

Qualifications

- Excellent working knowledge of environmental law and global environmental issues
- Proven experience in legislative drafting and legal analysis
- Proficiency in designing and facilitating training sessions in legislative development and policy advocacy
- Ability to manage projects to completion in dynamic environments and prior experience managing multi-cultural teams
- Familiarity with Iraqi politics and law; prior experience living and working in Iraq preferred
- Strong communication and writing skills
- Fluency in English required; fluency in Arabic preferred
- Undergraduate degree required; law degree preferred
- Five or more years of professional experience in the fields of legislative drafting and development; working with government, legislative and judicial officials; providing legal analysis, international assistance; and supporting civil society organizations.

Period of Performance

Start Date: Available as of 1 December 2024; must begin by 31 January 2025

End Date: June 2026 (renewal contingent on further funding)

Applications

To apply, please send the following to application@lawandhumanrights.org before **27 October 2024**:

1. Cover letter (please make sure to note your desired start date)
2. CV/Resume
3. Writing sample (should be recent, unpublished and 3 pages maximum)
4. List of three professional references with contact information

Interviews will be held on a rolling basis. Incomplete applications will not be considered.