

Policy & Research Associate / Consultant

Fixed term opportunity: January - April 2021 (with potential to extend)

Remote working; open to candidates based +/-5hrs GMT

UK-based band: £300 - £450 per day, dependent on relevant experience (day rates for candidates based internationally will be adjusted to reflect the local market)

About Open Ownership

Open Ownership drives greater corporate transparency across the world by making it easy to publish and access high quality, linked data about who owns companies. We focus on beneficial ownership transparency and are supporting nearly 40 countries across the world helping them implement or improve their beneficial ownership (BO) registries and data.

Our multidisciplinary team works closely with technical and policy implementers, advising them on all aspects of BO implementation. To support our technical assistance programmes, we have developed a broad range of implementation tools and products, including the [beneficial ownership data standard](#) and the [Open Ownership Principles](#).

Purpose of the contract

Open Ownership recently secured funding to deepen technical and policy support to governments implementing BO reforms and undertake quick turnaround pilot interventions to inform a longer term adaptive programme that will respond to evolving needs in-country. The key focus of the project is to support use of BO data to mitigate corruption risks in procurement and to realise the potential for BO data to support economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The opportunity is time bound and we are seeking a candidate who is able to start as soon as possible, ideally in mid January. The successful candidate will work closely with the Open Ownership team, and with international and local partners, drawing on the expertise in this community and on their own research to:

- Deliver a series of short policy, research and learning outputs that consolidate and communicate evidence gathered from the pilot interventions and, where it can inform future development of the project, Open Ownership's wider work to date.
- Support the team with delivery of project activities including workshops and trainings.

This fixed term appointment is full time but 70% FTE and over will be considered over three months.

KEY DELIVERABLES

1. Rapid case studies of country level impact

Expected outputs: 3-6 short case studies, each of approx. 2 pages in length

Throughout Open Ownership's work supporting BOT, partners look to us for information on how BO reform has been advanced in different contexts. Communicating the impact of Open Ownership's work assists us in grounding our support to implementers in deep experience in a range of real-world implementations.

The candidate will create a series of short case studies demonstrating the impact of Open Ownership's work to advance BO reform at country level. The candidate will work with the Open Ownership team to identify focus countries, conduct interviews with key team members and partners involved in the work and review relevant documents and evaluation materials, producing draft case studies for internal and external input and finalisation.

Potential countries for rapid case study include Armenia, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Mexico, Nigeria, South Africa and Ukraine.

2. Beneficial ownership and trusts: policy briefing & training materials

Expected outputs: Policy briefing (10-12 pages) & slidedeck

The question of how beneficial ownership (BO) of trusts should be treated within BO disclosure regimes is of importance to several governments and local partners that Open Ownership works with. The candidate will research and write a policy briefing (approx. 10-12 pages) to summarise existing research and policy recommendations on this issue, outline examples of current practice in a variety of countries, and identify key gaps in the research and unanswered questions where future research would better enable Open Ownership to support government implementers in working through these issues.

Access to specialist legal support on the issue of beneficial ownership of trusts can potentially be made available to support the candidate in undertaking this work; the role envisaged for the candidate in this task is to draft a report based on existing desk research and information from policy experts, that can be reviewed and supplemented with information from legal experts as required. The candidate will then distil the content of the report into a set of slides that can be used by Open Ownership Country Managers to discuss this issue with implementers.

3. Tracking new commitments to BOT under IMF COVID response funding

Expected outputs: Short comms pieces (e.g. blog & ~4 page briefing)

Open Ownership has identified almost 30 new commitments to BOT that have been made by countries in context of receiving financial support from the International Monetary Fund to deal with the coronavirus pandemic. We have raw data relating to these commitments, and the candidate will work with Open Ownership's team to:

- a) analyse and present these findings to the public, and
- b) identify a small number of countries to explore what progress has so far been made to implement these commitments, working with Country Managers to interview local partners and produce short case studies of progress

This output takes place alongside related work by Open Contracting Partnership and Transparency International, and the candidate will be expected to liaise with these partners and maximise synergies between the various pieces of work being undertaken.

4. Supporting Open Ownership Research & Policy Manager with delivery of outputs

Expected outputs: input to key OO publications including BO policy briefing series

Depending on the number of contracted days for which the candidate is available and the prior relevant experience of the successful candidate, we would like to allocate a small amount of resource to assisting the Policy and Research Manager with other ongoing research and policy tasks. During the Jan - April 2021 period, Open Ownership plans to produce research and policy outputs on the use of BO data in procurement, the evidence base for public access to BO registers and the use of BO data among private sector actors.

5. Supporting Open Ownership Country Managers with creation of training/engagement outputs

Expected outputs: input to design of workshops, training materials and country specific briefings

Depending on the number of contracted days for which the candidate is available and the prior relevant experience of the successful candidate, we would like to allocate a small amount of resource to assisting Open Ownership's Country Managers with the delivery of in-country project activities. This is set to include a series of training workshops for government officials and CSOs on BO and procurement, and briefings exploring issues of privacy and data protection in BO disclosure in the contexts of Indonesia, Mexico and South Africa.

CANDIDATE PROFILE

Essential experience & knowledge:

- Track record of contributing to delivery of high quality written outputs such as policy-oriented research or communications materials
- Familiarity with national and/or international policy in an area relating to beneficial ownership transparency, for example transparency & accountability, anti-corruption, money laundering, good governance etc.
- Experience working on international projects and an understanding of diverse political, cultural and geographic contexts
- At least 2 years work experience in roles relevant to the role profile (candidates appointed at the upper end of the pay band are likely to possess at least 4-5 years' relevant experience)

Desired experience & knowledge:

- Experience and/or aptitude to rapidly analyse complex information and present it clearly in writing to non-experts
- Experience conducting interviews for research, monitoring or learning purposes
- Experience liaising with international stakeholders in government and/or CSOs

Personal attributes:

- A self-starter who can manage competing priorities without close supervision
- A quick learner and able to swiftly assimilate new knowledge about complex issues

- Keen to work as part of a multidisciplinary team of experts
- Confident to ask for further guidance when something is unclear
- Has a passion for our mission to advance company ownership transparency around the world
- High attention to detail and highly organized.

Location

Open Ownership is a globally distributed team. We will consider applications from people based within +/- 5 hours of GMT. We want to hear all voices, and particularly encourage individuals of diverse and marginalised communities to apply.

Remuneration

This opportunity is being offered at a day rate of £300-450 per day (based on a UK-based appointment; day rates for candidates based internationally are adjusted to reflect the local market). Remuneration will be based on the quality and quantity of the successful candidate's relevant experience.

Please note that Open Ownership is a fiscally sponsored organisation and the contract will be executed in the name of our fiscal sponsor Global Impact, a US non-profit, on behalf of Open Ownership.

Application Process

To apply, please provide a C.V. summarising your relevant experience and a brief 1-page cover letter on why you are suitable for the role and what experience you would bring to the organisation.

Please send the above to recruitment@openownership.org by **midnight Sunday 10th January 2021**.

The selection process will consist of a panel interview during the second week of January.

#ENDS