

Job Description

Position Title: Senior Economist

Organization: Institute of Political Economy (IPE) Sri Lanka
Location: Remote (Work from Home) – Sri Lanka-based
Contract Type: Annual (renewable based on performance and funding)
Remuneration: Rs 250 - 300,000 per month (negotiable)
Reports to: Co-founders, IPE
Application Deadline: 30 November 2026

About IPE Sri Lanka

IPE Sri Lanka (ipe-sl.org) is an independent policy research organization dedicated to advancing political economy analysis with a focus on equity and social justice. We produce evidence-based research to inform national policy debates on debt, development, climate impacts and inclusive growth.

Position Overview

IPE Sri Lanka seeks a committed Senior Economist to lead a high-impact research project on gender-sensitive solutions to Sri Lanka's sovereign debt crisis. The successful candidate will independently and collaboratively drive the research agenda, produce policy-relevant outputs, manage junior researchers, and provide targeted administrative support as required. This is a remote, flexible role suited to an economist who values mission-driven work.

Key Responsibilities

Research Leadership (Primary)

- Lead the design, methodology, and implementation of a research project examining sovereign debt restructuring through a gender-sensitive and sustainable development lens.
- Conduct original quantitative analysis on debt sustainability, fiscal space, and the differentiated impacts of austerity on women and marginalized communities.
- Lead qualitative analysis on gendered impacts and gendered underpinnings of IMF programs.
- Author or co-author policy briefs, working papers, and op-eds for national and international audiences.
- Present findings to policymakers and civil society audiences.

Team Management

- Supervise and mentor junior researchers including task delegation, writing assignments and professional development.
- Coordinate weekly check-ins with IPE leadership team & ensure timely delivery of research outputs.

Research & Administrative Support

- Support the organization with occasional literature reviews, data cleaning, and editing of other project outputs as needed.
- Support the IPE with scoping of funders focused on projects for debt, gender and climate.
- Assist with basic administrative tasks related to reporting to donors (e.g., timesheets, brief progress updates).

Communication & Dissemination

- Translate complex economic findings into accessible Sinhala or Tamil (in addition to English) for public engagement.
- Contribute to IPE's website content and social media outreach as relevant to the project.

Qualifications

Essential

- Master's degree in Economics or Development Economics with quantitative training (PhD preferred but not required).
- Minimum 5 years of relevant professional experience in economic research, policy analysis, or academia.
- Strong quantitative and statistical skills, analytical abilities, effective writing and professional communication
- Proven ability to lead a research project from design to publication.
- Strong understanding of sovereign debt, fiscal policy, and gender-responsive budgeting.
- Fluency in English and at least one other Sri Lankan native language (Sinhala or Tamil), including the ability to write and present in both.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively in a remote setting with minimal supervision.

Advantageous (not required)

- Proficiency in financial modelling, excel (pivot tables, financial modeling) and Stata (data management, regression analysis).
- Published work on debt, gender, or development in Sri Lanka.

Terms & Conditions

- Remuneration: Rs 250 - 300,000 per month - negotiable (subject to applicable withholdings).
- Contract: Annual, with possibility of renewal subject to performance and funding availability. Current funding secured for two years.
- Working hours: Flexible full-time equivalent (Minimum 40 hours/week, but self-managed).
- Equipment: Personal computer and reliable internet connection required (not provided by IPE).

How to Apply

Please send the following in English to **admin@ipe-sl.org** with subject line: Senior Economist Application – [Your Name]:

1. CV (max 3 pages)
2. A cover letter (max 2 pages) explaining your interest in the gender-debt nexus, macroeconomics and your relevant experience
3. A writing sample that demonstrates your ability to conduct and communicate economic analysis.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.