Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS) is a leading think-tank working on economic and public policy issues. From its modest beginnings in 1983, CUTS has grown significantly as a local and global research and advocacy group in addressing the challenges to enhance consumer welfare. From a small voluntary consumer non-governmental organisation (NGO) working locally in Rajasthan, a state in North West India, to make consumers aware of their rights and seek resolution of their grievances, CUTS has over time progressed to policy research and network-based advocacy on various public policy issues at state, national, regional and international levels.

Its work spans a multi-pronged agenda targeted to the realisation of CUTS' Vision of 'Consumer sovereignty' and its Mission of 'consumer sovereignty in the framework of social justice, economic equality and environmental balance, within and across borders.'

CUTS work now revolves around three verticals: Rules-based Trade, Effective Regulation and Good Governance. This graduation happened organically because of the demands made on CUTS to work on policy issues, which would enhance consumer welfare, with the realisation that consumers need to be protected upfront and not only ex post.

Please refer link for more information https://cuts-international.org/

JOB CODE: CUTS82SRA/RA

VACANCY: Senior Research Associate/Research Associate (Technology Policy, Privacy, Data Protection and Security, Artificial Intelligence)

JOB PROFILE

We seek an experienced Senior Research Associate (SRA) to be a part of a dynamic research team within CUTS. SRA is expected to carry out primary and secondary research in the technology policy sector, on subjects such as infrastructure development, internet governance, cyber space, disruptive technologies, privacy, data protection and security, misinformation and disinformation, encryption, data portability and sharing, digital taxation, artificial intelligence, internet of things etc. and will prepare research reports, write briefing papers, monographs, viewpoint papers etc. Knowledge of practical aspects of economic policy, regulations or legal issue is essential. Strong network and contacts in technology policy sector is desirable. This will involve working with different teams within CUTS to develop, capacitate and deliver the research.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Identify emerging issues and trends in technology policy and designing researching ideas.
2. Undertake research projects in defined areas of interest with end-to-end ownership for project planning, data collection, analysis and documentation.
3. Carry out field research and data analysis, including qualitative and quantitative data analysis, behaviour and human centered research.
4. Collate and assist in analysis of data collected through pilot projects, and report on findings.
5. Deliver projects within agreed timelines, keeping in mind the quality and impact indicators set for the team.
6. Partner with the communication, advocacy and outreach teams to effectively disseminate research findings to media and other key stakeholders in the policy making ecosystem. Use innovative means for dissemination. Adept in using social media. Support dialogues, workshops, and conferences on the research outputs.
7. Support the fund-raising team in submitting grant proposals and identifying new donors for our projects.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- **Communicate Effectively**: Speak, listen and write in a clear, thorough and timely manner using appropriate and effective communication tools and techniques;
- **Creativity/Innovation:** Develop new and unique ways to improve operations of the organisation and to create new opportunities;
- **Analytical Skills:** Able to analyse large, complex data sets using a variety of software applications (SPSS, SAS, Excel, Microsoft Office Suite), including the use of relational databases;
- **Planning & Organising:** Able to multitask, prioritize, and manage time efficiently;
- **Relationship Management:** Anticipate, understand, and respond to the needs of internal/external clients/relevant stakeholders to meet or exceed their expectations within the organisational parameter;
- **Make Decisions:** Assess situations to determine the importance, urgency and risks, and make clear decisions which are timely and in the best interests of the organisation;
- **Cultural Understanding:** International mind set, understands different perspectives and is able to work comfortably in multi-cultural environment;
- **Accountability:** Self-starter with a strong sense of initiative and focused on results; ability to manage multiple projects within ambiguous and undefined parameters.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

1. Post Graduate in Economics/ Law/ Regulatory Issues/Competition Law or Bachelor/Masters in Engineering/Technology from an institute of repute.
2. 0-3 years of professional experience of working on ICT, tech policy, cyberspace, disruptive technology, privacy, data protection and security, artificial intelligence, data sharing, misinformation, etc. through research work.
3. Experience of micro/macro-economics, public policy, competition, regulatory economics, governance and finance based research.
4. Experience of working in a multicultural environment will be an added advantage.

TECHNICAL COMPETENCIES

Good working knowledge and proven experience of quantitative and qualitative research with strong analytical skills.

SKILLS

- Excellent writing skills for research papers as well as mass publications;
- Excellent communication skills both verbal and written;
- Passionate about research and new technologies;
- Team player;
- Ability to generate goodwill with working partners;
- Ability to manage parallel tasks and deliver on time to meet internal and external deadlines; and
- Competency in the use of market research tools, statistical packages such as Strata, SPSS and data analysis is an added advantage

COMPENSATION

CUTS recognises that the right candidate will have a significant impact on success of the organisation and is prepared to offer an attractive compensation package for the non-profit sector, commensurate with expertise and experience.

JOB LOCATION

The position will be based in CUTS headquarters in Jaipur. Occasional travel around India with potential for international travel to conferences will be expected.

TO APPLY

Qualified candidates should send their resumes to careers@cuts.org, along with a cover letter highlighting your suitability for the position. Please mention job code in subject line of application. Any application received without the appropriate job code will not be considered.

Given the large volumes of applications we receive, we are unable to respond to all applicants and our responses are limited to those who are shortlisted. If you do not hear from our end within 30 days after the submission of the application, please consider that you have not been shortlisted.

CUTS is an equal opportunity employer and considers all applicants on merit without regard to race, national origin, religious beliefs, gender, marital status or physical disability. Women candidates are encouraged to apply.