

Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development

September 2025

HIRING: Staff Attorney/Research Associate

The Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development (IGSD) is looking to recruit a full-time Staff Attorney/Research Associate. Candidates will have at least a law degree or a Master's degree in a policy-relevant field or have similar degrees or equivalent experience, with a minimum of 3 to 5 years of experience.

IGSD's mission is to build resilience by accelerating fast climate mitigation actions to slow near-term warming and self-reinforcing climate feedbacks, avoid catastrophic climate and societal tipping points, and limit global temperature to 1.5°C—or at least keep this temperature guardrail in sight. Part of this work involves improving access in the Global South to affordable, energy-efficient, and ozone- and climate-safe technology.

Experience & skills:

Required

- 3 5 or more years of experience in international climate change or related topics;
- Interest in working at the intersection of policy and science related to climate mitigation;
- Excellent English-language research, writing, and communication skills; and
- Experience advancing research and policy for climate action and supporting project management and coordination with partner organizations.

Preferred

- Experience analyzing international environmental treaty negotiations and policy developments in countries and regions to promote the mitigation of non-carbon dioxide (non-CO₂) climate super pollutants; and
- Experience working with countries in the Global South on the transition to climate-friendly technologies.

About the role

The Staff Attorney/Research Associate will work closely with the IGSD senior team, including IGSD Senior Counsel, Richard ("Tad") Ferris, and Senior China Counsel, Xiaopu Sun, on IGSD's Campaign to *Stop Harmful Environmental Dumping of Cooling Equipment*, among other projects. Responsibilities will include collaborating with IGSD subject-matter experts to research and develop multilateral, regional, and country-specific climate mitigation strategies and recommendations related to environmentally harmful product dumping and associated matters, such as drafting research reports, issuing alerts on new developments, and developing declarations and agreements. This role will also involve managing research projects related to these and other treaty and climate strategy topics. Additionally, the role will include supporting IGSD partnerships

among multilateral organizations, governments, and NGOs. The role will likely involve some international travel.

For an example of the type of research we do, see:

- Narrowing feedstock exemptions under the Montreal Protocol has multiple environmental benefits (2021)
- Fast action on short-lived climate pollutants and nature-based solutions to help countries meet carbon neutrality goals (2022)
- China's Ongoing Efforts to Address Methane Emissions and Opportunities to Further Raise China's Methane Mitigation Ambition (with the Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law, 2024)
- Metrics and Measurements of Methane Emissions, in <u>Innovative Technologies for Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Carbon Sequestration Monitoring</u> (China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development, 2023)
- Preventing the Dumping in Vulnerable Developing-Country Markets of Inefficient Cooling Equipment Using Obsolete Refrigerants (2025)

This is a hybrid/remote position, though ideal candidates will be based in the Washington, D.C., area. Candidates within 6 hours of the US East Coast time zone will also be considered.

Salary & Benefits

Competitive salary, commensurate with experience.

Benefits include fully paid medical, dental, and vision insurance, 401k, and a generous vacation policy.

IGSD is an equal opportunity employer. All applicants will be considered for employment without attention to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran or disability status.

Apply

To apply, please send a CV and cover letter to Giselle Gonzalez at ggonzalez@igsd.org. Please indicate your last name and position in the subject line using the format "Last Name CV: IGSD Advisor."

Applications received by 1 October 2025 will be considered. Anticipated starting date is ASAP.