

Job Title: Senior Researcher – (On Site – Colombo, Sri Lanka)

Join LIRNEasia, a dynamic and internationally recognized Think Tank, as a Senior Researcher

What we offer:

Competitive remuneration, international exposure on regional projects with potential foreign travel, a supportive work environment, the opportunity to learn new skills and develop your own brand.

In this role, you will:

- Design research using qualitative and mixed method approaches
- Undertake research at the intersection of economics, technology, law, and policy in sectors such as digital, education, labour, social protection, among others
- Work on, and manage research projects from end-to-end ensuring high-quality outputs, within strict timelines and geographically dispersed teams.
- Provide intellectual input on research projects and work within teams to develop high-quality outputs
- Summarize findings in oral and written presentations and reports
- Assist in or lead proposal writing and business development activities
- Organise and manage international events and training programs

What you will need:

Behaviours and Competencies

- Strong interest and experience in carrying out public policy research
- Self-motivated, intellectually curious, and able to independently build understanding in unfamiliar technical and policy domains.
- Excellent attention to detail
- Equally effective both independently, as well as within a team
- Comfortable with ambiguity: able to find solutions, without precise instruction on how to get there
- Ability to undertake a wide range and variety of tasks with conflicting deadlines and manage changing priorities

Skills and Experience

- Excellent knowledge of qualitative research methods
- Minimum 5 years' experience in designing, working on and managing research projects end to end using mixed methods and/or qualitative research methods.
- Able to produce excellent, well-structured, clear, and concise written outputs in English
- Strong verbal communication skills in English. Fluency in a language any other language will be an advantage
- Able to work with Microsoft Office and qualitative analysis software
- Master's degree with a minimum 2.1 or a GPA of 3.5 in sociology, economics, public policy, or any other relevant degree

To apply

- Email hr@lirneasia.net on or before 16 October 2026
- SUBJECT: Senior Researcher
- Detailed CV with the file name – <FirstnameLastname>_SeniorResearcher_Oct2026

What we do

LIRNEasia (www.lirneasia.net) is a think tank based in Sri Lanka and active across emerging Asia-Pacific. We conduct in-depth, policy-relevant research on infrastructure industries including the Digital sector. Our work often extends to areas such as labour, education, energy, disability, and social protection. We collect robust data, document regional good practices, and disseminate independent, actionable knowledge, to policy makers, regulators, private sector, and media, with the view of benefiting the poorest citizens in Asia.

Please note that LIRNEasia will only contact applicants that have been shortlisted for interviews.