



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

SENIOR RESEARCHER or RESEARCHER

Location: Mexico City (office and/or virtual)
Hours: Full time
Start date: Spring 2023
Reports to: Research Coordination and Executive Director
Senior Researcher: 2,695 – 3,503 USD/month + benefits (following a 3-6-month trial period)
Researcher: 2,072 – 2,694 USD/month + benefits (following a 3-6-month trial period)
Deadline: May 19, 2023

Organization

Empower, LLC is a U.S.-incorporated, Mexico-based, worker-owned and worker-governed social enterprise. It specializes in strategic research, business intelligence, and capacity building for civil society organizations from a human rights perspective. Empower's mission is to improve corporate accountability by eliminating the strategic information gap between business and civil society. Our aim is to solve the existential problem of the corporate capture of the State by private economic interests, which we believe is the root cause of numerous social problems, from corruption and large-scale inequality to the climate crisis and impunity.

Objective of the position

Empower has 1 vacancy available for either a Senior Researcher (4+ years experience) or a Researcher (1-3 years of experience). The objectives of this position include conducting strategic corporate research projects, follow-the-money research, and analysis of financial markets and the political economy from a gender and human rights perspective.

Responsibilities specific to Senior Researcher

- Be part of a team of researchers, under the direction of research coordinators and the executive director. Perform individual and team work, with greater autonomy and capacity to influence the design and direction of projects than regular researchers.

Responsibilities for either position

- Be part of a team of researchers, under the direction of research coordinators and the executive director. Perform individual and team work.
- Creatively solve needs that arise during the development, writing, and presentation of research projects.
- Create strategies for access to information and corporate transparency for exclusively civil society clients and counterparts.
- Use transparency platforms to carry out and monitor freedom of information requests.
- Employ a variety of technologies (particularly free software), databases, and research services, among both open and paid resources.
- Conduct field research using human sources, as necessary.
- Construct, feed, and maintain databases about investors, boards of directors, and company finances, in addition to other tasks of feeding and maintaining information contained in databases or websites.
- Contribute to advocacy processes based on research findings, in conjunction with clients and counterparts.

Requirements

- Excellent **writing skills in English and Spanish**. One must demonstrate proven writing ability in both languages. Perfect spelling and grammar. Strong argumentative and demonstrative skills. Arabic language skills, particularly reading and writing, is highly desirable.
- Have at least **basic knowledge of the financial sector**, including proven research experience into areas of corporate and/or project finance.
- Extensive **knowledge of the energy sector** and the companies that operate in it is highly desirable, preferably with international projects (outside of Latin America).
- Proven **experience handling datasets** using Excel or equivalent software.
- Demonstrated curiosity for Empower's work and research topics. **Please do not apply without taking the time to research who we are and what we do.**
- Handle independent and critical analysis of the corporate capture of the State, elite theory, and preferably knowledge of elites in Mexico, the United States, or Latin America.
- Senior Researcher: 4+ years of research experience directly related to our research areas or methodologies.
- Researcher: 1-3 years of research experience.
- A bachelor's degree in social sciences, economics, finance or business administration, journalism, or relevant career.
- Knowledge of research technologies, including databases, search engines, and mapping, as well as transparency platforms, including access to public information and property registries. Preferably knowledge of open source software.
- Commitment to strengthening civil society and innovation for social change.
- Fluency with normative human rights frameworks. Integrity and ethical commitment with a gender and human rights perspective.
- Sensitivity to the interests, needs, and dynamics of communities and collectives. Patience, creativity, and flexibility to work with partners with different timelines and needs to learn and share.
- Demonstrate ability to work individually and with a team. Be an independent, self-starter with no need for constant supervision. Have efficient time management.
- Willingness to solve problems, work under pressure, and in changing environments.

Application process

Please send the following documents to admin@empowerllc.net. Deadline: May 19, 2023.

- Indicate in heading of e-mail whether applying for Researcher or Senior Researcher position
- Brief expression of interest (less than one page)
- CV (less than two pages, if possible; please include links to your profiles or jobs)
- Examples of texts written in Spanish and English (2-3 in each language)
- Three professional references (full name, position, employment relationship, and e-mail and telephone number). Reference letters are not accepted.

No calls please. Only shortlisted people will be contacted.

Empower guarantees equal opportunity in employment, consulting, and volunteer positions to all without regard to race, skin color, sexual orientation, gender, identity, religion, age, ancestry, ethnic or national origin, marital status, or disability. We encourage applications from women, LGBTTTIX and non-binary people, indigenous people, Afro-Latinos, and/or people with disabilities. If you wish, you can mention your affiliation and/or identification with these groups in your expression of interest and we will take it into account when deciding on the right candidate.