Job Announcement: Project Coordinator and Researcher at the Social Justice and the City Program, Issam Fares Institute

Scope: Affordable Housing Options for Beirut

Type of work: Part time/ project coordinator

Period: 15th of August- 15th of November 2017

Application deadline: July 22nd, 2017

Overview

The Social Justice in the City Program at AUB’s Issam Fares Institute is looking for a part-time project coordinator to lead on an on-going applied research initiative exploring possible strategies to protect and expand Beirut’s stock of affordable housing.

The Project Coordinator’s main task will be to assist in the formulation, development, and follow-up of an intervention strategy in the housing sector of the neighborhood of Mar Mikhael (Beirut) where a pilot project is to be articulated, legally and financially investigated, and debated with neighborhood residents in focus groups.

The Project Coordinator’s task will include field research to support the work of three consultants (housing, legal, financial), the integration and analysis of the three consultant reports, the organization of two neighborhood participatory meetings, and final reporting.

Responsibilities

Research tasks
- Follow up with three consultants on the advancement of their work and coordinate with Program Director;
- Complete the data set on the neighborhood by going on the field, if needed;
- Organize and lead on 2 focus groups in the neighborhood to test the openness of
- Document workshops, meetings and assemblies;
- Write a 3-5 page final report on the project.

**Coordination tasks**
- Set the project’s timeline and ensure its application;
- Report on the advancement of the project to the Program Coordinator and the Program Director;
- Process all administrative tasks related to the project (catering for experts’ workshops, securing logistics for the neighborhood assembly, etc.).

**Requirements**
- BA in Urban Studies, Urban Planning, Sociology, Political Sciences, Economics, or any relevant field;
- Fluency in English and Arabic;
- Past experience in project coordination;
- Past experience in fieldwork research or community work;
- Excellent communication skills both verbal and written;
- Close knowledge of Mar Mikhael is an asset.

Please send your CV and cover letter to Ms. Dounia Salamé on ds65@aub.edu.lb before July 22nd, 2017.

**About the project**
This project is a small section of a larger research effort that has been conducted over the past two years by the Social Justice and the City Program in collaboration with a number of researchers. The project builds on previous research findings looking at the structures of housing provision and challenges to housing affordability in the neighborhood of Mar Mikhael (Beirut).

Through a mix of hands-on, participatory research involving on the one hand, legal and urban experts and policy-makers and on the other hand, neighborhood groups and residents, we seek to articulate a framework for possible intervention at the scales of a building, a block and/or a neighborhood that can account for the necessity to preserve an existing stock of affordable housing in the neighborhood, potentially within an urban heritage preservation strategy. The research findings will serve both as an advocacy tool for neighborhood dwellers and coalitions and a basis for replicable interventions in other areas of the city.
**About SJC**

The aim of the Issam Fares Institute's *Social Justice and the City* Program is to formulate an agenda for research that establishes a partnership between scholars, policy-makers, and activists in Lebanon (and beyond) working towards more inclusive cities. The program seeks to act as a platform where scholars, policy-makers, and activists can share reflections, experiences, and strategies by (i) documenting, analyzing and reflecting on ongoing urban processes affecting the organization and life of the city, (ii) sharing and validating research with activists, affected communities, and other social groups who are potentially interested in sharing both the acquired competence and the pool of research tactics, and (iii) supporting and informing initiatives that hope to influence change through debates, media, publications, and advocacy.

Learn more about SJC by clicking here:

https://www.aub.edu.lb/ifi/programs/social_justice/Pages/sj_city.aspx