



## Gender & Housing Officer

### The Socio-Economic Rights Institute of South Africa (SERI) Johannesburg, South Africa

#### About the Host Organization:

[SERI](#) is a registered non-profit organization and public interest law clinic that provides professional, dedicated and expert socio-economic rights assistance to individuals, communities, community-based organizations (CBOs) and social movements in South Africa. SERI conducts applied legal research, litigates in the public interest, facilitates civil society mobilization and coordination, and conducts popular education and training. SERI's core work relates to the advancement and protection of access to socio-economic rights in socio-economically marginalized (poor) communities.

One of SERI's thematic focus areas is 'Securing a Home', which includes protecting and fulfilling the right of access to adequate housing, challenging unlawful evictions, promoting greater tenure security for the urban poor, protecting the rights of residential tenants, informal settlement upgrading, advocating for spatial justice, and defending and promoting access to basic services such as water, sanitation and electricity, particularly in the inner-city and in informal settlements.

We have been involved in a series of important court cases dealing with land occupations, evictions, the provision of alternative accommodation, landlord-tenant disputes, bank repossessions and informal settlement upgrading. We also produce research reports, rights guides as well as policy briefs on these topics.

#### Project Description:

This placement will help contribute to the Women's Spaces project by assisting with the scoping and gender analysis work in some of our key areas of work, namely work with community-based advice officers, registered property as well as systemic property system reform. The placement will contribute by deepening the understanding of the complex intersectional issues of race, class and gender in the formal South African property system.

#### Note:

Please note that the visa application process for the position with SERI in South Africa will require an in-person appointment at the South African consulate in Toronto and can take up to 8 weeks to process. Applications are limited to persons within a reasonable travel distance of Toronto: Southern and Eastern Ontario, Montreal and Western Quebec.

#### Job Description:

- To assist with scoping of gendered issues in different tenure contexts in South Africa.
- To work with community-based advice officers to scope the gendered dimensions of the advice given as well as the nature of the requests received by these offices.
- To assist with the writing up of different products related to the scoping exercises, such as literature reviews, preliminary reports etc.
- To assist with advocacy and awareness activities related to the women's rights to land and housing.



**Qualifications:**

- Strong working knowledge of issues related to poverty, gender, international development and/or human settlements.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Good cross-cultural communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work both independently and within a team context to meet overall project goals and objectives.