



Job Description

This form summarises the purpose of the job and lists its key tasks. It is not a definitive list of all the tasks to be undertaken as those can be varied from time to time at the discretion of the School, in consultation with the postholder.

Job title: Research Officer

Department/Centre/Institute: Firoz Lalji Centre for Africa **Accountable to:** Strategic Director, Prof Alcinda Honwana

Job Summary:

The Firoz Lalji Centre for Africa promotes independent academic research and teaching; open and issue-oriented debate; and evidence-based policy making across LSE. The Centre accomplishes this by connecting different social science disciplines and by working in partnership with Africa bringing African voices to the global debate. The Firoz Lalji Centre for Africa is hiring a one-year research officer who has a research focus on Africa in the field(s) of rural and/or urban livelihoods, migration, informal economy, public authority, gender dynamics, youth, social dynamics of health, health care, popular culture, and/or education. The research officer will have completed a PhD no more than five years ago and will have significant research experience in Africa. This role is designed to strengthen a junior researcher's career and provide a platform from which they can build their research agenda and create lasting collaborations.

The research officer will be expected to contribute to the development of the Centre's research programme through participation in grant applications, research seminars and meetings. Furthermore, the position is tailored for the successful candidate to maintain and develop their own research programme and create research collaborations across LSE. The candidate will be mentored and supported by Strategic Director of the Centre, Professor Alcinda Honwana and by Centre Director, Professor Tim Allen.

Duties and Responsibilities

Research Focus

- Candidates should be developing bodies of research on **processes of social change as it applies to youth, women and children in Africa**, focusing on areas such as: (i) livelihoods and the informal economy; (ii) migration; (iii) gender dynamics and sexuality; (iv) popular culture; (v) humanitarian crises; and (vi) political engagement and social movements.

Range of Research Activities and Responsibilities

- Develop a research project under around the theme of **'processes of social change as it applies to youth, women, and children in Africa'**.
- Demonstrate the ability to analyse and research complex ideas, concepts or theories and apply appropriate methodologies
- Develop synergies with similar ongoing projects at FLCA and LSE
- Present a seminar at the FLCA Seminar series
- Produce at least one publishable paper in a peer-reviewed journal



- Produce at least one blog for the Africa at LSE blog
- Present research papers at conferences at LSE and in the UK
- Contribute to the formulation of peer reviewed research grant proposals at the FLCA
- Contribute to the organisation of conferences, workshops and seminars at the FLCA and LSE
- Develop and sustain links with FLCA and LSE academics to foster collaborations and knowledge sharing

Activities relating to administration and management and/or School service may include:

- Play a constructive role in the life of the Centre
- Some managerial duties may apply with the management of temporary research assistants

All of the above subject to the contractual obligations imposed by the external funding agency and with the agreement of the grant-holder, Principal Investigator and/or Head of Centre.

Flexibility

To deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility may be required in the duties performed in order to meet the exigencies of service. Job roles may also naturally develop over time and ongoing substantial changes to a role will be discussed between line managers and their staff, with job descriptions updated as and when appropriate.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

LSE is committed to building a diverse, equitable and truly inclusive university. All posts (and post holders) will seek to ensure diversity and inclusion, while opposing all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination on the grounds of age, disability, gender identity, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation, or social and economic background.

Ethics Code

Posts (and post holders) are assumed to have a responsibility to act in accordance with the School's Ethics Code and to promote the principles and values that the Code enshrines. The Ethics Code clearly states that the whole LSE community, including all staff, students, and governors of LSE, are expected to act in accordance with the principles which are set out in the Code. As such you are required to read and familiarise yourself with it. The School's Effective Behaviours Framework is designed to support this Code. It sets out examples for the six behaviours that all staff are expected to demonstrate, these can be found on the following link: [click here](#)

Environmental Sustainability

The post holder is required to minimise environmental impact in the performance of the role, and actively contribute to the delivery of the LSE Environmental Policy.