



## 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: Director of International Programmes and Impact**

**Department/Division: International Growth Centre      Accountable to: Executive Director**

### Job Summary:

The International Growth Centre (IGC) works with policymakers in developing countries to promote inclusive and sustainable growth through pathbreaking research. The IGC is a global research centre with a network of world-leading researchers and a set of resident country teams and initiatives working across Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East. Based at London School of Economics (LSE) and in partnership with the University of Oxford, the IGC is majority funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

The Director of International Programmes and Impact plays a key role in driving IGC's strategic thinking and planning as a member of the Senior Management Team (SMT) and reports to the Executive Director (ED). The role is based in the IGC LSE Hub.

The Director of International Programmes and Impact provides vision and overall direction for IGC programmatic policy engagement activities with the aim of promoting IGC's policy impact in our partner countries and more broadly. They oversee the country-level implementation of the IGC's collaborative approach to knowledge generation and policy influence and promote the effective management of the country teams, including overseeing the development and implementation of country strategies, setting priorities, and funding levels, ensuring good communication across countries and coordinating the work of the Country Directors.

The role leads IGC's impact strategy and provide strategic leadership and direction for monitoring, evaluation and learning. They provide strategic direction on ways to maximise impact across the organisation, oversee the systems and processes for capturing and analysing the impact of IGC's research and policy engagement, and lead the embedding of learning practices across the organisation.

The Director of International Programmes and Impact leads the IGC's relationship with FCDO, and other major funders as required, including the proactive development of new opportunities as well as the effective delivery of existing grants.

### Key tasks/responsibilities:

#### Organisation leadership and vision

- Play a key role in IGC's leadership team, driving IGC's strategic thinking, planning and implementation, working closely with the Executive Director and SMT colleagues;
- Provide vision and overall direction for IGC programmatic policy engagement activities with the aim of promoting IGC's policy impact in our partner countries and more broadly
- Lead IGC's impact strategy and provide strategic leadership and direction for evaluation and learning across the organization.
- Foster a culture across IGC in support of IGC's four values - independence, objectivity and integrity; excellence through diversity; collaboration and respect; and learning to improve.
- Recruit, lead, motivate and manage a high performing Programme management team, MEL team and Systems, data and knowledge management team.

#### Programme leadership



- Provide vision and strategic direction for the country-level implementation of the IGC's collaborative approach to knowledge generation and policy influence.
- Promote the effective management of the country and thematic initiative teams, supporting the development, implementation and review of country strategies, the setting of team priorities, workplans and budgets. This includes chairing the six-monthly Team Strategy Meetings to review progress.
- Oversee and support the work of Country Directors, who report to the Executive Director, through reviews of their country strategies and progress reports, advising on research and policy engagement aspects of the programme, and identifying research and policy clusters across countries to drive cross country learning and further impact.
- Lead on country and policy impact assessments in the research commissioning process, working with the Research Director in setting the IGC research priorities and articulating policy engagement issues and advocating for policy impact objectives in commissioning boards, feeding in from country teams and facilitating Country Director participation.
- Support project generation, including 'matchmaking' between policymakers and researchers, across the IGC, liaising with Lead Academics, the Research Director, and the Research Programme Directors.
- Leverage the IGC's data and learning from MEL to inform decision-making in programme management and across the organisation. Lead oversight of data management relevant for MEL and programme management ensuring robust processes for data quality.
- Work closely with the Operations Director and Finance Director, and with the Head of Programme Management, to meet reporting requirements, funders contractual requirements, and to ensure best practice in contract and project management, human resources management and in-country risk management.

## Impact

- Lead IGC's impact strategy and provide strategic leadership and direction for monitoring, evaluation and learning, including increased emphasis on evaluation and learning.
- Provide strategic direction on maximising IGC's impact, overseeing the systems and processes for capturing and analysing the impact of IGC's research and policy and global engagement.
- Drive a stronger organisational focus on transformational impact and the scaling up of impact, working with SMT and facilitating communication and collaboration across the country, thematic initiative and communications teams and with external partners, as relevant.
- Identify key IGC research findings and policy impact around which to raise IGC's profile, working closely with SMT and the Communications team.
- Provide direction and oversight for the design and implementation of evaluation frameworks, and the associated negotiations with donors, to ensure systematic identification and measurement of the IGC's impact across different dimensions. Ensure appropriate knowledge management and data quality systems are in place to support evaluation, management information and external reporting.
- Promote a learning culture and lead the embedding of learning practices across the organisation by identifying programmatic synergies among the country programmes and thematic initiatives and by strengthening cross team engagement on high impact IGC research, policy ideas, and events.
- Champion the Value for Money (VfM) Strategy, in close collaboration with the Finance Director, Operations Director and other members of SMT, with specific responsibility for championing Effectiveness and Equity, and ensuring robust procedures are in place for measuring and reporting on Economy and Efficiency.

## Donor relationships and external representation

- Lead the IGC's relationship with FCDO, our principal funder, including all governance and reporting aspects building a strong, trusting relationship.
- Oversees IGC's delivery of specific other grants, including setting the strategy, workplan, deliverables, budget and reporting for the grant.
- Support IGC's broader fundraising efforts, working closely with the Executive Director and the Director of Communications and Development, identifying key areas of opportunity, promoting the effective demonstration of IGC impact and overseeing the design of relevant MEL frameworks.



- Lead on demonstrating impact to IGC funders and other organisations (for example, through bid documents, case studies, policy briefs and web resources, as appropriate), and well as within LSE and with IGC's stakeholder network.
- Represent the IGC externally, meeting with potential partners, donors and others and building relationships as appropriate.

#### **Note on reporting and working relationships**

The post holder reports to the Executive Director and is a member of the SMT. The IGC is committed to hybrid working, combining in-person and remote working in a flexible working environment.

#### **Note on pay**

The LSE has a progressive pay structure that rewards you with annual pay increases up to a certain level as you develop in your role. We also provide for further reward past this point in the form of further pay increases based on exceptional performance.

#### **Flexibility**

To deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility is needed, and the post holder may be required to perform work not specifically referred to above. The role involves regular travel.

#### **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.