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: State Fragility initiative Economist

Department/Division: International Growth Centre
Accountable to: Head of State Fragility initiative

Job Summary:

The International Growth Centre works with policymakers in developing countries to promote inclusive and sustainable growth through pathbreaking research. We are a global research centre with a network of world-leading researchers, country teams across Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East, and a set of global policy initiatives. The IGC works closely with partner governments to generate high quality research and policy advice on key growth challenges, focusing on four themes: state effectiveness, firms, cities and energy. IGC has in-country teams in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Ghana, Jordan, Mozambique, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Uganda, and Zambia. We also have remote engagements in a broader set of countries, including SFi engagements in Yemen and Solomon Islands. Based at LSE and in partnership with the University of Oxford, IGC is majority funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), with SFi receiving additional funding from Rockefeller Foundation.

State Fragility initiative (SFi) is an IGC initiative that aims to work with national, regional, and international actors to catalyse new thinking, develop more effective approaches to addressing state fragility, and support collaborative efforts to take emerging consensus into practice. SFi brings together robust evidence and practical insight to produce and promote actionable, policy-focused guidance for national, regional, and international actors in the following areas: state legitimacy, state effectiveness, private sector development, energy access and conflict and security. Academic leadership is provided by Professors Paul Collier and others.

The SFi Economist will work with the Head of SFi on SFi’s national-level engagements in Yemen (also Solomon Islands and other potential new countries) on SFi’s global-level engagements, including the DFI Fragility Forum and other opportunities as they arise.
Duties and responsibilities:

**Thought leadership and stock of knowledge**
- Produce synthesis papers on key themes by undertaking comprehensive and systematic policy analysis and research synthesis. Synthesis papers take the form of growth briefs, policy papers, policy toolkits aimed at a policy audience.
- Become an expert on research findings and typical policy issues faced by countries experiencing fragility, conflict, and transition (such as macroeconomic management, taxation, and private sector development, energy access) and identify opportunities for thought leadership.
- Build relationships and networks with policymakers, researchers, practitioners and organisations working in related areas, share findings with and engage them on relevant topics, actively involving them in SFI activities, and support uptake of evidence into policy and practice.
- Work with policymakers and practitioners to co-produce case studies outlining the successes and challenges of various policy reforms to facilitate cross-country learning.
- Support cross-country learning, working closely with the IGC country teams, policy initiatives, and the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning team.

**National engagement**
- Identify, design and deliver national engagements that respond to a specific policy demand, often at pivotal moments. This includes building and maintaining relationships with policymakers and other stakeholders, managing and delivering on research and policy projects.
- Work with and support IGC country teams and/or other IGC policy initiatives to undertake country- or thematic-specific analysis based on specific policy demands.

**New research**
- Support and facilitate new research projects in collaboration with researchers to fill knowledge gaps that expand the evidence base on issues of state fragility.
- Identify and build relationships with researchers working on economic growth in the fragile contexts.
- Undertake initial review of small research projects and commissioning board projects and relevant outputs.

**Global engagement and communications**
- Contribute to global-level engagements, including management and coordination of the DFI Fragility Forum and activities and engagements of the Council on State Fragility.
- Develop dissemination plans for research and policy publications, event organisation, working with the IGC Communications team.
- Write and publish blogs and commentary to contribute to the global debate and/or to disseminate key findings from research and synthesis papers.

**Operations, grant management and reporting**
- Support on managing external grants and reporting for donors.
- Work with the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning team to capture SFI’s policy impact and ensure programme data is captured on SPEAR, IGC’s project management system.
- Assist in bid writing for externally funded project opportunities.
- Support in programme management, including keeping work plans updated, managing research and policy projects, budget management and ensuring value for money.

The role is based in London, with an expectation of travel.
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.
### 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.