



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: Head of State Fragility initiative

Department/Division: International Growth Centre
Accountable to: Research Director

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, 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, and conflict and security.

The Head of *State Fragility initiative* manages the Initiative under the academic leadership of Professors Paul Collier and Tim Besley. The role sets, implements and reviews the strategy for the *State Fragility initiative* and ensures overall effectiveness of the initiative at a national, regional and global scale, including liaising closely with SFi funders. They are responsible for the continued quality of the initiative work which include:

- National-level engagements with policymakers of countries undergoing pivotal moments, where exit from fragility may be possible, with the flagship engagement being in Yemen.
- The DFI Fragility Forum, which brings together DFIs to improve the effectiveness of job-creating private investment in fragile and conflict-affected environments, as well as broader work on development finance and private sector development in fragile contexts
- Programme of work on scaling up investments in energy access in fragile settings.
- Other thematic work as is decided from time to time by the SFi team and its academic leadership
- Thematic leadership on state fragility issues within the wider IGC.

The Head of *State Fragility initiative* will work collaboratively with the IGC's Country Teams and other Initiatives to support evidence-based policymaking. This will involve management of a team of economists, including economists working directly on projects. It will also involve budget management and the management of various grants. The Head of State Fragility initiative will also support the Communications and Development Director on fundraising in the state fragility space, proactively seeking out and developing opportunities, in line with the initiative's overall objectives.



Please note this role requires overseas travel.

Duties and responsibilities:

Management and leadership

- Provide strategic leadership for the *State Fragility initiative*, with a high level of autonomy – including setting the initiative's strategic vision and objectives, how the initiative will grow its influence, and which geographics and issues it will target.
- Lead, motivate and develop a team of economists, including consultants and project-based economists, to deliver the *State Fragility initiative* objectives, developing a team workplan, setting individual objectives and reviewing performance.
- Liaise with SFI's academic leadership (currently Professors Paul Collier and Tim Besley) and coordinate and manage IGC's high profile academic and policy leadership for the initiative, leveraging this intellectual leadership to strengthen the overall initiative.
- Lead and develop the *State Fragility initiative* global engagement strategy, acting as a spokesperson for IGC on state fragility issues as well as supporting the Research Director's external engagements in the state fragility space.
- Provide thought leadership and support to the IGC country programme on their state fragility agendas, as well as being the point person for high level stakeholders interested in state fragility work (outside of the country programme), this includes understanding their needs and how *State Fragility initiative* can best respond and identifying opportunities for cross-country learning.
- Explore and develop funding opportunities for *State Fragility initiative*, building consortiums and designing programmes, and working closely with Communications and Development Director and relevant people in both LSE and other academic partners.

Deliver the State Fragility initiative Programme

- Develop and manage the initiative budget and overall team workplan – bringing together complex multiple grants into a coherent plan that delivers the initiatives vision and objectives while fulfilling the requirements of the grants, including reporting requirements. Currently this includes grants from FCDO Yemen to deliver an engagement with Yemen's Executive Bureau and from The Rockefeller Foundation to deliver a programme on scaling up energy access in fragile settings, as well as IGC's core FCDO grant.
- Build and maintain an up-to-date knowledge of relevant state fragility research and policy debates, IGC research and promote the IGC's work and its values.
- Oversee the delivery of the DFI Fragility Forum, working closely with Forum co-hosts (IFC, BII, and AfDB) to set the agenda and ensure effective delivery of the annual event.
- Engage policymakers from selected fragile environments to identify areas for potential policy-relevant research and bring together robust evidence and practical insights to produce actionable, policy focussed guidance. Current engagements include Yemen, Solomon Islands and Myanmar.
- Identify key state fragility policy priorities and build out thematic work and national-level engagements on these topics as appropriate.
- Devise a publication schedule, and review and author or co-author publications and synthesis products, and dedicated webpages; support the development of communications products, including blogs, that support the dissemination of evidence-based learning on state fragility globally.
- Build, develop and engage a global network of policy makers including leadership in governments of countries undergoing pivotal moments, multilateral organisations, development partners, local and international NGOs working in state fragility policy, developing strong trusting relationships.
- Work closely with the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) team to develop and monitor a set of metrics to capture impact information and use these to feed into learning for the initiative overall.

IGC State Programme

- Provide expert advisory support, where requested, to other IGC country teams on state fragility research and policy to supplement the work of the Country Economists.



- Act as the point person for the IGC State Research Programme on the sub-theme of state fragility; this includes working closely with Research Programme Directors and SFi academic leadership in understanding the needs of the programme, reviewing and feeding back on research proposals for IGC commissioning.
- At times, the post holder or SFi team members may need to support other parts of the IGC, depending on needs and capacity.

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.