



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: Senior Country Economist

Department/Division: International Growth Centre **Accountable to:** Director of Impact and Programmes

Job Summary

The International Growth Centre (IGC) 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 and in-country teams and initiatives working across Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East. Based at LSE and in partnership with the University of Oxford, we are majority funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). We work to improve the productivity of people and firms as the key driver of sustainable economic development.

Based in more than 11 country teams across Africa, Middle East and Asia the IGC has embedded Country Economists and Office managers based in its partner countries which currently include Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Jordan, Mozambique, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Uganda and Zambia.

Senior Country Economists / Country Economists represent the IGC locally and work with the leadership of the Country Director, Senior Advisor, and Lead Academic (the “country leadership team”) to develop and implement the country strategy and strategic objectives. They lead on establishing and maintaining relationships with key stakeholders to advance productive partnerships between researchers and key local policy makers in government, civil society and the private sector. Their core responsibilities include:

- Working closely with Country Leadership Team to shape and implement the country strategy.
- Leading on developing and maintaining strong relationships with high-level stakeholders.
- Driving project generation and the development of clusters of work and of thematic portfolios by proactively engaging with stakeholders, researchers and initiatives.
- Driving policy impact by supporting project implementation and policy engagement.
- Generating successful SPFs (policy-focused research projects), leading on the identification of key policy and research questions, supporting the drafting of proposals.
- Conducting research and data analysis, writing analytical policy research papers, synthesis papers, policy briefs, and blogs under the supervision of the country leadership team. This could include taking a Co-Principal Investigator role.
- Taking joint responsibility with the IGC Hub in London for programme management and meet the reporting requirements for all country activities to support the ongoing evaluation of the country programme.



- Lead on cross-country and initiative learning, identifying opportunities for collaboration with other teams.

Duties and Responsibilities

1. Work with the country leadership team to shape and implement the Country Programme strategy and strategic objectives. This will involve monitoring programme activities and ensuring the country programme's medium to long term objectives are in line with the overall country strategy and IGC's strategy.
2. Lead on building and maintaining strategic engagements and relationships with local stakeholders, including government authorities, multilateral and bilateral partners including FCDO, private sector stakeholders, civil society, universities, think tanks and media, with the aim, ex ante, of identifying policy demands of concern to policy makers and research gaps and, ex post, of maximising the impact of IGC research.
3. Drive project generation and the development of clusters of work and of thematic portfolios by proactively identifying research opportunities in line with the country team's research agenda to respond to policy demand and to fill knowledge gaps in line with the country strategy. This will involve reviewing potential projects, identifying and contacting appropriate researchers, and developing sources of relevant data, as well as working with the IGC Hub to ensure that research proposals are developed according to IGC Guidelines.
4. Drive policy impact by supporting project implementation and policy engagement over the lifetime of each project, facilitating cross-IGC learning and leading on synthesis papers and event strategies; and by identifying opportunities for policy influence and managing the dissemination of research to policy makers, NGOs, donors and the private sector through policy briefs, synthesis/ research papers, meetings and events.
5. Support cross-country and initiative learning, identifying opportunities for collaboration with other teams. Proactively work closely with country teams, initiative teams and country directors and contribute to IGC Communities of Practice to drive cross-country learning.
6. Synthesize the country team's research and develop presentations aimed at a diverse audience to inform policy, lead discussions, discuss proposals, engage in debates, develop partnerships and represent IGC at various events.
7. Identify opportunities to conduct research, potentially acting as a Co-Principal Investigator; write analytical policy research papers, policy briefs, and blogs, under the supervision of the country leadership team; these typically involve economic analysis using local data embedded in a global literature framework and respond to policy maker demand.
8. Support the effective management of research projects by ensuring, for example, that outputs are received on time and satisfy our quality expectations. This will involve reviewing outputs and working with the researchers to prepare these for sign-off by the country leadership team and IGC Hub. It will also require the country economist to provide the IGC Hub with regular updates on country/research projects.
9. Facilitate communication between Country Directors, Senior Advisor, Lead Academics and IGC Hub colleagues to ensure the integration of the country-relevant policy and the IGC research agenda, in the context of the evolving country situation.



10. Take joint responsibility with the IGC Hub for programme management, including drafting work plans, terms of reference documents, budget management, forecasting and ensuring value for money. Contribute to the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the country programme and may involve activities such as tracking the impact from engagements on particular research projects, and producing in-depth case studies in collaboration with the IGC Hub.
11. Make regular use of the IGC Salesforce CRM system, SPEAR, for project management and impact reporting and ensure oversight of data quality for assigned areas

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.

Free Speech

[The Code of Practice on Free Speech](#) outlines the responsibilities of LSE to protect and promote freedom of speech and academic freedom within the law for students, faculty, staff, and visiting speakers. It applies to all activities on LSE premises and those conducted in the name of the School or LSE Students' Union at any location. The Code confirms that LSE does not take formal positions on political or international issues but provides a platform for critical debate within the law, taking account of the various legislative requirements and the context provided by policies and procedures. Procedures are set out in the Code on how events must be arranged and conducted.



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