



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: Country Economist Sierra Leone

Department/Division: International Growth Centre **Accountable to:** Country Director for Sierra Leone

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

Country Economists represent the IGC locally and work under the leadership of the Country Director and Lead Academic (the “country leadership team”). They form the link between key local policy makers in government, civil society and the private sector and global researchers. Their core responsibilities include:

- Implementing the Country’s strategy under the direction of the country leadership team;
- Developing and maintaining the interaction with policy makers, and other key stakeholders;
- Write analytical policy research papers (often with senior co-PIs), policy briefs, and blogs under the supervision of the country leadership team;
- Supporting researchers in facilitating research projects and managing these projects, with potential opportunities to be involved as a researcher;
- 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; and
- 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.



Duties and Responsibilities

1. Work with the country leadership team to implement the Country Programme strategy. This will involve monitoring that programme activities are in line with the overall country strategy and periodically review progress against the overall country strategy.
2. Build and support 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. Write analytical policy research papers (often with senior co-PIs), 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.
4. Proactively develop new research projects to respond to demand for policy analysis and to fill knowledge and research gaps in line with the country strategy and to identify opportunities and vehicles for supporting policy formation by providing evidence and analysis. This will involve reviewing projects at entry as part of the country team review, 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. There are opportunities for Country Economists to work on research projects alongside other researchers should interests and skills match.
5. Facilitate research projects by establishing connections between researchers and policy makers and other key stakeholders, if necessary, carrying out economic analysis, providing assistance in mobilising requisite data, and engaging key policy interlocutors. It may also involve providing logistical support for visiting researchers.
6. Engage in the 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.
7. Identify opportunities for analytical support to policy and coordinate the dissemination of research outcomes, working with both the country leadership team and the IGC Hub. This implies contributing to high quality policy briefs, research papers, synthesis papers, newspaper articles and blogs for targeted groups of stakeholders. Further, this will involve the organisation of dissemination events, locally or regionally and the online dissemination of research outputs on the IGC website, both with support from the IGC Hub. Some country economists assume specific responsibilities as communications leads.
8. Facilitate communication between Country Directors, 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.
9. Produce regular reports on research and policy developments in the country programme to the country leadership team and the IGC Hub. This is an important part of contributing 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.



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. Play a key role in facilitating other country programme activities, working in conjunction with IGC Hub counterparts to ensure efficient implementation.

11. Make regular use of the IGC Salesforce CRM system, SPEAR, for project management and impact reporting. 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.