



Terms of Reference

This form summarises the purpose of the role 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 post holder.

Title: IGC Country Economist

Ref no.: 1443126

Department/Division: International Growth Centre

Accountable to: Country Director (for country where post-holder is based)

Role Summary:

The International Growth Centre (IGC) aims to promote sustainable growth in developing countries by providing demand-led policy advice based on frontier research. The IGC directs a global network of world-class researchers in economics, political economy and related disciplines, and a set of 15 country teams across Africa and Asia. Based at LSE and in partnership with the University of Oxford, the IGC is initiated and funded by DFID.

The IGC has Country Economists based in its partner countries which currently include Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Liberia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. There are upcoming vacancies in Uganda, Ghana, Mozambique and Myanmar though candidates will also be considered for a reserve pool for all countries.

Country Economists work with the country leadership team in implementing the country strategy, with a particular emphasis on identifying and developing opportunities for policy influence and connecting researchers with policy makers. They support researchers in facilitating research projects; manage country programme activities including country visits and events as well as regular reports on research and policy developments; contribute to the ongoing evaluation of the programme; support the dissemination of research outputs to maximise policy impact; and can potentially work on IGC research projects where opportunities arise and interests match.

Country Economists report to the IGC's Country Directors / Co-Country Directors. Core responsibilities include project management, supporting and developing the interface with policy makers, facilitating and overseeing country research projects, with potential opportunities to be involved in research projects, and managing country programme activities. Country Economists are also responsible for meeting all reporting requirements on country activities. They represent IGC country teams locally and connect researchers with key local policy makers in government, civil society and the private sector.



Key tasks/responsibilities:

- Play a central role in developing, implementing, monitoring and reporting on the Country Strategy, supporting the work of the Country Directors and Lead Academics (the “Country Leadership team”).
- Work with the Country Leadership team to build and support relationships with local stakeholders, including government authorities, multilateral and bilateral partners including DFID, and private sector stakeholders, with the aim, ex ante, of identifying policy demands and research gaps and, ex post, of maximising the impact of IGC research.
- Work pro-actively to support the development of new research projects to fill these gaps (e.g., by identifying and contacting appropriate researchers and exploring the availability of relevant data) and to identify opportunities and vehicles for influencing policy.
- Facilitate country research projects through logistical support for visiting researchers and assistance in mobilising requisite data, engaging key policy interlocutors, and organising wide-ranging interactions in support of research. Can potentially participate in IGC research projects where opportunities arise and interests match.
- Contribute to the delivery of high quality policy and research outputs and activities. These include policy briefs, research papers, synthesis papers, and growth events for the dissemination of research and analytical work.
- Facilitate communication between Country Directors, Lead Academics and IGC London Hub colleagues to ensure the integration of the country-relevant policy and the IGC research agenda, in the context of the evolving country situation.
- Play a key role in facilitating country visits and events, as well as coordinating other project activities, working in conjunction with London Hub counterparts to ensure efficient implementation of each project.
- Provide the IGC Hub with regular reports on country/research projects. Monitoring and reporting tasks include tracking the progress of projects against agreed milestones, and the impact of intermediate outputs as well as final deliverables.
- Take joint responsibility with the IGC Hub for programme management, including drafting workplans, terms of reference, budget management, forecasting and ensuring value for money.
- Support on-line dissemination of research outputs in contributing to the management of country or regional economic policy web portals (for example ‘Ideas for India’ (www.ideasforindia.in)).

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.

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.