

Job title: IGC Programme Economist – India (Bihar)

Department/Division: IGC Accountable to: Programme Manager – India (Bihar)

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 organizes and directs a global network of researchers and policy experts in economics and related disciplines, has more than 10 country teams across Africa and Asia, and works closely with developing country governments to undertake high quality research, and provide policy advice on economic growth issues. Based at LSE and in partnership with the University of Oxford, the IGC is initiated and funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

In partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) in India and the Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI), the IGC is currently establishing a new programme of work focussed on building a strong, sustainable ecosystem of monitoring and evaluation in Bihar, India. This will include:

- Increasing the demand, use, and integration of evidence, based on rigorous frontier research, in policymaking and programme design;
- Generating transformational ideas and strong policy impact in desired focus areas in Bihar, such as health, nutrition sanitation and financial inclusion;
- Enhancing skills of policymakers, researchers, and practitioners to build greater institutional capacity to facilitate and increase innovation and local adaptation of monitoring and evaluation knowledge.

The Programme Economist (PE) represents the IGC locally and reports to the Programme Manager, who, together with the Programme Director and Academic Lead, forms the Programme Leadership Team (PLT). Core PE responsibilities include:

- Implementing the programme strategy under the direction of the PLT;
- Developing and maintaining the interaction with policy makers, and other key local stakeholders;
- 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;
- Developing and facilitating capacity building activities, including workshops with local researchers, policymakers and/or practitioners; 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.

This position is based in Patna, Bihar but may involve regular travel within Bihar and India.

Duties and Responsibilities

1. Work with the Programme Leadership Team (PLT) to **implement the programme in Bihar, India**, ensuring high-quality, timely and cost-efficient delivery of major deliverables. This will involve monitoring that activities are in line with the overall programme strategy and periodically reviewing progress against set targets.
2. Working with the PLT, manage the day-to-day **engagement with all stakeholders**, including state and national level government authorities, local Bihar institutions, multilateral and bilateral IGC partners and other domestic stakeholders (from both public and private sectors).
3. Proactively **develop new research projects** to respond to demand for policy analysis and to fill knowledge and research gaps in line with the programme strategy and to identify opportunities and vehicles for supporting policy formation by providing evidence and analysis. This will involve

reviewing 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. **Facilitate research projects** by establishing connections between researchers and policymakers and other key stakeholders, if necessary, carrying out economic analysis, providing assistance in mobilising requisite data, and engaging key policy interlocutors. It also involves providing logistical support for visiting researchers.
5. Contribute to the **delivery of high quality policy and research outputs and activities**. These include policy briefs, research papers, and synthesis papers, as well as events and conferences for the dissemination of research/analytical work.
6. Manage the delivery of high-quality, impactful **capacity building activities** for policymakers, researchers and practitioners, including policy and research workshops in Delhi and Patna as well as implementation support.
7. Take joint responsibility with the IGC Hub for **programme and project management**, including drafting work plans, terms of reference documents, budget management, forecasting and ensuring value for money. Play a key role in facilitating other programme activities, working in conjunction with IGC Hub counterparts to ensure efficient implementation.
8. Provide the IGC Hub and ADRI with **regular reports** on the evolution of projects and deliverables. Monitoring and reporting tasks include tracking the progress of projects against agreed milestones, and the impact of intermediate outputs as well as final deliverables.
9. **Facilitate communication** between the PLT and IGC London Hub colleagues to ensure the integration of the programme-relevant policy and the IGC research agenda, in the context of the evolving local context. This will be through diary management, arranging meetings, teleconferences, and virtual meetings.