Job Announcement

POSITION: **Research Assistant/Associate**

PROJECT: **State Authority Project**

START DATE: **ASAP**

MINIMUM COMMITMENT: **Minimum one year**

LOCATION: **29-P, Gulberg II, Lahore**

CERP is recruiting a Research Assistant/Associate for the Governance project. This is a full-time position based at the CERP office in Lahore and may require travel to other urban and rural locations for fieldwork. The position will involve very frequent liaising with police, and other relevant collaborating partners. You will also have the opportunity to engage with leading economists and public policy experts from Harvard University, MIT, University of Chicago and LUMS.

Project and Position Description

The Governance Project is an exciting study of citizens' interaction with state services, the reasons for changes or lack thereof in perceptions based on interventions initiated by the project team, and the potential policy implications of changes in allegiance from non-state to state actors. The aim of the project is to design, pilot, and implement various interventions which facilitate data collection on citizens' perceptions and change in behavior.

Phase 1 of the project completed its roll-out by conducting surveys and field experiments in rural villages of Sargodha District in Punjab. The roll-out involved the completion of over 2000 surveys which was completed in October 2015, and has been subsequently drafted into a paper.

Phase 2 of the project will involve designing new exposure treatments/interventions to measure take up of police and related services over a period of time for citizens experiencing some form of dispute or crime. The treatments will vary from information only, to possible assistance with navigating the criminal justice system. Through Phase 1 of the project, we have identified dispute resolution as a service where non-state actors are playing increasingly important roles and pose direct challenges to state authority. This has helped us develop specific "exposure treatments" pertinent to dispute resolution, establish partnerships with relevant players, and identify individuals at initial stages of a dispute, thus allowing us to measure the impact of the interventions on actual engagement in addition to survey and experimental outcomes.

The Principle Investigators of the project are Dr. Asim Ijaz Khwaja (Harvard Kennedy School), Dr. Ali Cheema (IDEAS), Dr. Daron Acemoglu (MIT), and Dr. James Robinson (University of Chicago)
To find out more about the Governance Project, click here.

Job Description

Your primary responsibility will be towards the said Project. However, you may be asked to assist on other tasks/projects at CERP in consultation with your reporting supervisor(s). Your tasks will include:
  a. Assisting in the design and development of the RCT interventions through field visits, market research and data analysis

b. Supporting the piloting of survey and intervention design
c. Gathering and processing data from the police and field
d. Working with in-house teams and/or survey company to administer surveys and intervention roll-outs
e. Supporting management of data under the project. This includes organization of files and cleaning data for use in analysis
f. Conducting data cleaning and analysis
g. Regular reporting to researchers in Pakistan and the US, as required
h. Frequent field visits to rural districts in Punjab Province
i. Assist the Senior Research Associate with management of project activities by:
    i. Help manage relationships with local partners
    ii. Help administer project calls with local and international PIs
    iii. Help structuring and organize project activities and documentation
    iv. Help plan project activities
j. Other duties as assigned by the Senior Research Associate/ or Principal Investigators

The work can be challenging, yet very exciting given the scope and possibilities for growth within. CERP's project teams are small, and the amount of work we accomplish is significant. The position is challenging but rewarding – only apply if you are the type of person who takes charge and responsibility, can do good work with little supervision, and are not afraid to learn new things in order to get the job done. **Strong data analytic skills and econometric understanding is required** to clean and analyze the data collected for sampling purposes, as well as through the pilot, and eventual roll-out phase. A willingness to travel and the ability to take on challenges are essential.

Job Requirements

- Minimum of a Bachelor's degree in economics, public policy, or a related discipline from an internationally recognized university.
- Preferably 1-2 years of relevant experience in research/program design and/or evaluation, including the design and execution of surveys, focus groups, and interviews
- Ability to work closely in a small team and take direction.
- Ability to take a well-defined problem and come up with a response based on an independent analysis of the data.
- Strong STATA skills.
- Familiarity with various research and evaluation design concerns.
- Willingness to travel to urban and rural locations in Punjab for fieldwork.
- Demonstrated ability to manage various tasks effectively and coordinate between project members
- Comfortable communicating with key stakeholders in the public and private sectors as well as with a wide range of urban and rural populations in Pakistan.
- Fluent in English and Urdu and comfortable with Punjabi.
- Willing to take on added responsibility as the project progresses.

How to apply:

Interested candidates should fill this online form and send their **_cover letter, CV, and university transcripts_** to sap.project@cerp.org.pk and cc **jobs@cerp.org.pk** with the subject title **"Research Team- Governance".** Incomplete applications will not be considered.