



## **ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH: J-PAL AFRICA**

(Payclass 12; 3-Year Fixed Term Contract)

### **J-PAL Africa in the in the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit, School of Economics Faculty of Commerce**

J-PAL Africa seeks an Associate Director of Research to oversee and lead its research division, including its portfolio of research projects that test the impacts of a variety of social programmes in South Africa through randomised evaluations (also known as randomized control trials). This is an exciting opportunity to contribute to the generation of scientific evidence about what works in the fight against poverty. The Associate Director of Research will build the capacity of young, talented research staff, and will get hands-on experience with real-world policymakers and their programmes – all while working at the frontier of academic research.

The position holder should be a capable manager of field research projects, with excellent quantitative research and people management skills. The role involves overseeing the implementation of randomised evaluations in South Africa, ensuring that these studies are run to a high standard, including overseeing the hiring, training and management of the research staff who run or work on these evaluations, with direct management of management-level research staff. The position additionally involves growing the network of researchers engaging with J-PAL Africa, with a focus on African researchers; developing new research opportunities for J-PAL Africa researchers; and working closely with a range of stakeholders – notably PIs, policymakers and J-PAL staff from other divisions and regions – on research generation, implementation and dissemination, and on technical training.

The position will be based in the Cape Town or Johannesburg office of J-PAL Africa, the Africa regional office of J-PAL Global, which forms part of the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU) in the University of Cape Town's School of Economics. Travel to other locations in South Africa will be required for fieldwork supervision, partner management, and work with J-PAL staff or other colleagues. The Abdul Latif Jameel Action Lab (J-PAL) aims to reduce poverty by ensuring that policy is informed by scientific evidence. J-PAL consists of a global network of academics who specialise in conducting randomised evaluations of social policies/programmes to generate this evidence.

To view and apply for this position, please visit the UCT Jobs site [View](#) (For Internal Applicants) and [View](#) (For external Applicants) to create a profile and to submit your application.

**Closing date:** 19 February 2024

**Reference:**

ID 519

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**UCT reserves the right not to appoint.**