



SENIOR RESEARCH MANAGER: J-PAL AFRICA

(Payclass 11, Permanent Post)

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

Faculty of Commerce

[J-PAL Africa](#) seeks a senior research manager to manage multiple 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 senior research manager 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 managing the research staff who work on these studies, closely liaising with the academic researchers who design and lead the projects and ensuring that the projects are implemented with fidelity to the study design. A key component of the role involves ensuring rigorous data quality measures are in place, including high-frequency checks, back-checking, effective training and debriefs with field staff, and other measures as required. The role also involves building and maintaining strong relationships with project partners – often governments and large NGOs - and working with them to ensure study results inform their programmes and policies.

The position will be based in the 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: 07 February 2024

Reference:

ID 520

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UCT reserves the right not to appoint.