Assistant Statistician

East Kilbride, Glasgow

32,929

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The Department for International Development (DFID) leads the UK’s work to end extreme poverty, deliver the Global Goals, and tackle global challenges in line with the government’s UK Aid Strategy. Our aid budget is spent on tackling the great global challenges – from the root causes of mass migration and disease, to the threat of terrorism and global climate change – all of which also directly threaten British interests. We are ending the need for aid by building peaceful and stable societies, creating jobs and strong economies, fighting corruption, unlocking the potential of girls and women, tackling climate change and helping to save lives when humanitarian emergencies hit. We are doing this because it is both the right thing to do and firmly in Britain’s national interest.

DFID works in partnership across Whitehall and with governments, civil society, the private sector and multilateral institutions, including the World Bank, United Nations agencies, and the European Commission.

We are seeking applications for two Assistant Statistician posts, based in different DFID teams – both roles will involve working with a wide network of statisticians based in DFID country offices, with policy colleagues, DFID’s Chief Statistician and engaging with the international development statistics community.

All statisticians in DFID are encouraged to spend 10% of their time on professional development for business-wide projects outside their ‘home’ team. This can include technical support to short-term projects, for example, appraisal of statistical elements of business cases, and directly support to projects in developing countries including overseas travel.

- Statistician in the FPD Results team, part of the Finance and Performance Department (FPD)

FPD is the hub of management and financial information, results and development effectiveness for DFID’s senior leadership. It leads on coordinating the Spending Review processes, plays a key role supporting Ministers and the Executive Committee and leads on HMG activity to meet the target to spend 0.7% of Gross National Income on aid. The department works closely with Ministers (particularly
the Secretary of State) and the Permanent Secretary. DFID publishes a set of headline results every year, such as the number of lives saved by immunising against diseases or the number of children supported to gain a decent education. This role offers a unique opportunity to be at the heart of the results process, from collecting data via country office and central teams to analysis and final dissemination. The post-holder will be involved in a variety of high-profile policy and analytical work to ensure DFID effectively demonstrates the impact of UK aid, as well as helping to drive improvements in results-based management internally and across the international system. This is a great time to join the team, as the post will play an important role in supporting the implementation of an innovative new results approach.

The Key Functions Of This Role Are As Follows

- Manage the biannual Single Departmental Plan (SDP) headline results collection process across DFID and subsequent reporting. Headline results are reported both externally in DFID’s Annual Report and Accounts and SDP, and internally to DFID’s Executive Committee.
- Work collaboratively with policy advisers, country advisers, DFID’s Chief Statistician and regional statisticians to build capacity and provide support to ensure robust reporting of results.
- Work closely with colleagues in DFID’s Better Delivery Department and IT teams to identify and implement innovative approaches to increasing the efficiency of results data collection and reporting.
- Support high profile work across DFID to implement a new strategic results approach and embed a strong results culture across the Department.
- Work closely with the rest of FPD to deliver high quality corporate support, including responding to PQs and other ad-hoc requests for data and information on results, analysis of results data, working with Communications Division to provide accurate and relevant results information.
- Statistician in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) team, part of the Global Partnerships and Multilateral Effectiveness Department (GPMED).

The UK was at the forefront of negotiating the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, agreed at the UN General Assembly in September 2015. It is a historic global agreement to eradicate extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and leave no one behind by 2030. The postholder will work closely with the SDG Team Leader and will be line-managed by GPMED’s Senior Statistician as part of DFID’s new Statistics Hub, a new approach to statisticians in DFID working together across departmental lines, for example, by deploying as a unit to deal with emergent data and analysis priorities. The department works closely with Ministers (particularly the Secretary of State) and the Permanent Secretary. Data and statistics are critical to monitoring the SDGs – both in the UK and internationally. The post holder will undertake DFID’s central analytical work and data support on the SDGs, for example on how they relate to official development assistance (ODA) and DFID’s international activities, as well as part of follow-up to the UK’s 2019 Voluntary National Review (VNR), and lead on the relationship with the teams at the Office for National Statistics working on the SDGs.
The Key Functions Of This Role Are As Follow

- Undertake a global context analysis that roots UK International Development work more firmly in the context of the SDGs. This will involve reviewing existing global analyses and available sources of data towards their integration and adaptation, including designing, prototyping and testing.

- Help prepare DFID for the introduction of ODA reporting requirements relating to the SDGs by reviewing existing and exploring new methods. This work will be undertaken in collaboration with the DFID ODA reporting team and will involve engagement with the OECD.

- Support departments in developing SDG-linked business plans, for example, by using the SDG framework to align departmental strategic priorities with relevant external frameworks, and formulating case studies of success in the context of the SDGs.

- Support the Agenda 2030/SDG team on data and statistics, by contributing to briefings, papers and discussions, and by leading on SDG-related work with the ONS, drawing on the expertise of the DFID Chief Statistician and wider statistics network.

- Work with multilateral institution leads in DFID to align results and performance frameworks with the SDGs.

How To Apply

CV: Include your skills, employment history and qualification details. All Civil Service recruitment is anonymised so please ensure you remove any information that may identify you.

Evidence of Behaviours: Provide evidence of the required behaviours in no more than 250 words per behaviours (see behaviours below).

Evidence of Technical Skills: Provide evidence of the required technical skills in no more than 250 words per Skill (see technical skills below).

Your application contains the criteria by which the selection panel will decide whether to progress your application. Any other criteria detailed in the job profile may be tested during the interview and / or assessment process. Remember the STAR technique, situation, task, action and result when you are preparing your response.

If a large number of applications are received, we may sift on the lead behaviour and technical criteria.

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