Researcher Position in Digital Labour Platforms Project – Call for Applications

Job Description

Job Title	Researcher
Location	University of Ghana Business School, Legon, Accra, Ghana
Department	Department of Operations and Management Information Systems
Monthly Salary	Negotiable between GBP 1300 – GBP 1600 (GHS 9,778 – GHS 12,035) per month, depending on experience
Hours	Full time
Contract type	Fixed-term to 30 June 2022
Reporting to	Professor Richard Boateng

Department of Operations and Management Information Systems

University of Ghana Business School

The Fairwork Project, housed within the Department of Operations and Management Information Systems in the University of Ghana Business School, Accra is seeking to appoint a **Researcher** for a contract position starting as soon as possible until the end of June 2022.

Reporting to the Principal Investigator (PI), Prof. Richard Boateng, the post holder will act as a Researcher (fulltime) on an action research project that assesses digital labour platforms against principles of fair work and uses that research to push for positive change in the gig economy. The Researcher will be a central figure in the Fairwork Foundation's upcoming work in Ghana, and will also work closely with its central team based at the Oxford Internet Institute (OII) at the University of Oxford. The project currently operates in the UK, Germany, South Africa, India, Chile, Ecuador, Brazil, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Egypt, Pakistan and Bangladesh. The Researcher position will involve hands-on field research in Ghana and will have opportunities to co-publish with, and regularly collaborate with, the project's international body of researchers. Tasks will involve developing fair work standards for the Ghanaian platform economy, conducting research with workers and platforms, organising meetings, managing project outreach, liaising with external partners, stakeholders and funders, disseminating findings in the media, assisting with the supervision of project suppliers, and keeping the project to key deadlines.

Minimum requirements:

- Hold a PhD in a relevant degree such as information systems, innovation, sociology, geography, anthropology, economics, development studies, or related fields.
- Academic or professional experience, and an established career, related to the gig economy, platform work, the digital economy, decent work, or precarious/temporary work.
- Proven experience in conducting empirical qualitative research including semi- and unstructured interviews.
- Ability to manage own academic research and associated activities.
- Previous experience of contributing to publications/presentations.
- Excellent communication skills, including the ability to write for publication, present research proposals and results, and represent the research group at meetings.
- Ability to organise complex sets of information and develop granular work schedules.
- Experience coordinating a diverse set of stakeholders, especially in Ghana.
- Knowledge of issues impacting on precarious and insecure workers, and a demonstrable commitment to working towards the empowerment of workers, and to equity and inclusion.
- Experience working in a multidisciplinary research team.
- Experience working in or with researchers from a public university in Ghana.

Other desirable qualities include:

- Practical work experience in an Information Systems/Information Technology role will be an advantage. Experience studying platform work in Ghana or any of Fairwork's countries of interest, and its relationships to race, gender, culture, and society.
- Experience of independently managing a discrete area of a research project.
- Experience of actively collaborating in the development of research articles for publication.
- Proficiency in multiple Ghanaian languages e.g. Akan, Ga and/or Ewe.

Responsibilities:

- Doing primary and secondary research and drawing on our existing research to evaluate platform companies against principles of fair work.
- Having operational responsibility for multiple sub-areas of work within the Fairwork Ghana project and giving input to all key decision-making project wide.
- Regularly liaising with project stakeholders and funders, and supervising some external project suppliers.
- Disseminating and promoting the 'fair work' rating criteria in close collaboration with the PI and project team, which includes the Director of Fairwork, Fairwork Ghana Country Lead and Fairwork Ghana Project Manager, who are based at the Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford.
- Preparation and writing of research publications, chapters, summaries and reports.
- Extensive travel to conduct research, both alone and with partners, to investigate and analyse wider issues shaping platform work in field sites and supervise some external project suppliers.
- Detail-oriented project management and the co-ordination of multiple aspects of work to meet deadlines.
- Represent the research group at external meetings/seminars, either with other members of the group or alone.
- Prepare regular update reports to the funder and other collaborators.
- Disseminate findings in the media.
- Leading efforts to maintain a constant public profile (blogs, social media, short reports, etc.)
- Managing the project's stakeholder and funder relationships.
- Maintaining an awareness of key project deadlines and helping to steer the team towards them.
- Leading in the organisation of workshops about fair work.
- Assisting the team as we expand Fairwork to other countries.
- Other duties as may be required by the PI.

The remuneration is negotiable between **GBP 1300 – GBP 1600 (GHS 9,778.51 – GHS 12,035)** per month, depending on experience**.**

To apply, please e-mail the documents listed below in a **single pdf file** to Richard Boateng at richboateng@ug.edu.gh

- Cover letter stating your motivation; and
- Curriculum Vitae (CV) highlighting specifically your experience relevant to the minimum requirements of the post as specified above and your earliest starting date.
- Scanned Copy of the PhD Certificate
- List of Publications starting with those relevant to the project

Please ensure that the position title is indicated in the subject line of your email.

An application which does not comply with the above requirements will be regarded as incomplete. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted and may be required to complete competency assessments as part of the selection process.

Closing date: 31 January 2021