Research Fellow – Applied Macroeconomics and Growth
Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI)

Job Description

SDPI seeks an applied macroeconomist with a keen interest in policy-relevant research on sustained and inclusive economic growth. The candidate should specialise in fiscal policy, monetary policy, industrial organisation, innovation, productivity, or related areas, with a strong understanding of how governance and institutions shape economic outcomes.

The role combines rigorous quantitative analysis with sound qualitative judgement, linking the behaviour of firms, households, financial institutions, and government to macroeconomic performance. Translating research into practical policy recommendations is central to the position.

Key Responsibilities

- Conduct applied research on the drivers of, and constraints to, economic growth, particularly in Pakistan.
- Examine how fiscal and monetary policies, firm behaviour, competition, and innovation affect investment, productivity, employment, and growth, drawing on the candidate's expertise.
- Assess how governance, institutional quality, and state capability influence economic incentives, policy effectiveness, and reform implementation.
- Undertake empirical analysis using relevant macroeconomic and microeconomic datasets, integrating institutional analysis and qualitative evidence to develop feasible policy recommendations.
- Produce research papers, policy briefs, reports, and presentations, and engage with government, development partners, the private sector, and researchers.
- Develop research opportunities by identifying funding and consultancy calls; preparing concept notes, proposals, methodologies, work plans, and budgets; and building partnerships and consortia to secure assignments aligned with SDPI's priorities.
- Manage research assignments, coordinate with collaborators, and mentor junior researchers to deliver high-quality outputs on time.

Required Qualifications and Skills

- **PhD in Economics**, with a focus on macroeconomics, growth, public finance, monetary economics, industrial organisation, innovation, or a related field.

- **Demonstrated commitment to applied research**, evidenced through work addressing practical economic and policy challenges.
- Strong grounding in macroeconomic theory and the microeconomic foundations of growth, including the incentives and constraints facing firms, households, and public institutions.
- Expertise in one or more relevant areas: fiscal policy; monetary policy and financial intermediation; industrial organisation and competition; innovation; or productivity and structural transformation.
- Strong understanding of the role of governance, institutions, and state capability in economic growth.
- Proficiency in applied econometrics and quantitative data analysis using Stata, R, or Python.
- Sound qualitative judgement, including the ability to interpret findings in context, assess economic mechanisms, and recognise methodological limitations.
- Ability to formulate practical recommendations that account for policy trade-offs, distributional effects, and implementation constraints.
- Excellent analytical writing and communication skills, alongside the ability to contribute to funding proposals, collaborate effectively, and manage deadlines.

Desirable Experience

- Applied research on Pakistan or comparable developing economies.
- Experience in growth diagnostics, macroeconomic modelling, productivity analysis, policy evaluation, or institutional and political economy analysis.
- Engagement with policymakers and development organisations, and contributions to successful funding proposals or research partnerships.

How to Apply:

Please email the following documents to jobs@sdpi.org, with the job title in the subject line:

1. An updated CV, including publications and relevant research experience.
2. A cover letter outlining your research interests and suitability for the role.
3. One writing sample (research paper, dissertation chapter, or policy paper).
4. At least one recommendation letter from your principal academic supervisor or employer.

Last Date to Apply: September 30, 2026