

RWI – Leibniz Institute for Economic Research is an independent, non-profit research institution headquartered in Essen, Germany. The institute is a leading center for scientific research and evidence-based policy advice in Germany.

RWI's newly founded Policy Lab "Climate Change, Development and Migration" conducts research on environmental policies, labor markets, and migration from a global perspective. The policy lab cooperates closely with a wide network of academic partners, governments, and international organizations. The group is also engaged in the meta-science and research transparency debate. The unifying objective is to critically assess pro-poor policies on some of the world's most pressing challenges.

RWI is inviting applications for a

PhD-candidate (m/f/d) (100% for 3 years)

in the new Policy Lab "**Climate Change, Development and Migration**".

The position is to work in close collaboration with Profs. Renate Hartwig and Jörg Ankel-Peters on population, health and development economics – with a meta-scientific angle. The candidate will apply empirical and data-driven methods, including qualitative and quantitative research designs, using a range of methods from text analysis to expert surveys and Randomized Controlled Trials. Projects will also examine the scientific process, i.e. how empirical evidence is generated and compiled, as well as, the shortcomings thereof. A specific focus will be dedicated to the science-policy interface and how scientific knowledge translates to society.

Your tasks will include

- collaborating on exciting and challenging projects at the intersection of empirical economics and meta-science
- exploring the economics of demographic trends and health in the Global South and the methodological challenges in studying these phenomena
- contributing to the collection and harmonization of existing data and evidence
- actively following the academic and policy discourse and outreach to support our efforts to improve the science-policy interface and evidence-based policymaking
- the implementation of empirical studies and data collection using different methods – including field work in Sub-Saharan Africa
- working with data and publishing academic papers
- contributing to the intellectual environment of the Policy Lab through active participation in seminars, workshops, and other social activities
- completing a doctoral degree within RWI's Ph.D. program

The successful applicant will

- be a critical thinker and a highly motivated and intellectually curious individual
- be enthusiastic about empirical research, economics, philosophy of science, and the study of knowledge creation and transmission
- have a Master's degree in Economics, Philosophy, Political Science or Public Policy
- have, ideally, already acquired knowledge in the use of statistical-econometric programs (especially Stata and/or R)
- have gained first experience in scientific research, for example, with an empirical Master thesis
- have a very good command of English
- enjoy working independently, as well as, working in an interdisciplinary team
- be an effective communicator with a high level of self-initiative, creativity and problem-solving skills

We offer the Ph.D. candidate

- a vibrant research environment, encouraging innovative and ambitious research ideas
- experienced co-authors for academic papers
- pro-active PhD supervision including intense collaboration at all stages of an academic project
- participation in RWI's PhD program, with access to summer schools and post-graduate courses at various universities, including those offered by the Ruhr Graduate School in Economics and the Bavarian Graduate Program in Economics
- an extensive international and interdisciplinary network and the facilitation of research stays abroad
- strong support to present research results at international conferences and publishing in leading academic journals

The full-time position (100%) is initially limited to three years, but an extension is desired. The position is based in Essen/Germany starting as soon as possible. Details can be arranged in consultation with the candidate. The remuneration and benefits are based on the German public service pay scale (100% TV-L E13). Compliance with the guidelines for the disabled and the provisions of the law on part-time work are guaranteed. We promote equality of all genders. For any inquiries regarding the position, please contact Prof. Renate Hartwig (renate.hartwig@rwi-essen.de). For information on the application procedure, please contact Mr. Tilo Schneider (humanresources@rwi-essen.de). To apply, please send your application documents (a short cover letter [in English] outlining your interests and motivation, CV, relevant transcripts and diplomas, a writing sample [e.g. master thesis, seminar paper etc.], at least one letter of reference) via email to Tilo Schneider (humanresources@rwi-essen.de), quoting the **reference number 70219-09/24** until **April 30, 2024**

RWI – Leibniz Institute for Economic Research

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For more information on the Institute, please visit <http://www.rwi-essen.de>

Please note, when you submit your application by email your data will be unencrypted, which may result in third parties to note and falsify your documents. Therefore, you can also submit your application by post.

Essen, March 5, 2024