# JOB DESCRIPTION

**Postdoctoral Research Associate**  
Vacancy Ref: A3079

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<tr>
<th>Job Title:</th>
<th>Postdoctoral Research Associate</th>
<th>Present Grade:</th>
<th>6P</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department/College:</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
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<td>Directly responsible to:</td>
<td>Dr Jasmine Fledderjohann</td>
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<td>Supervisory responsibility for:</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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**Other contacts:**  
Internal:  
External:  
Dr Sukumar Vellakkal (BITS Pilani, Goa), Dr. Elisabetta Aurino (Imperial College London), International Project Advisory Board

Research from high-income countries shows that food insecurity (FI)—a situation in which access to enough nutritious food is sometimes or often problematic—has lifelong repercussions through impaired learning, health, and productivity. This represents a tremendous loss of human capital, with negative implications for a country’s economic development and ability to meet its Sustainable Development Goals.

Compared to high-income countries, far less is known about the consequences of FI in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Focusing on Ethiopia, India, Peru, and Vietnam, this project will:

1. Describe consequences of FI, focusing on pathways between household FI in childhood and adolescence, acquisition of essential skills (e.g. learning outcomes) and long-term impacts on health and well-being.

2. Document household resilience strategies by examining what factors may mitigate/exacerbate the risk of experiencing FI, including receipt of monetary transfers and utilisation of government social protection programs.

3. Measure intrahousehold inequalities in FI by generating evidence on inequalities in the experience of FI, which will be used to develop a new survey measure for future use.

**Major Duties:**

1. Under the direction of Dr Fledderjohann, undertake research (review literature, clean and analyse longitudinal survey data, engage in interdisciplinary discussion of research, contribute to collaborative academic outputs, provide intellectual leadership on selected academic outputs) to meet the aims and objectives of Dr. Fledderjohann’s project, ‘Food Insecurity, Intrahousehold Dynamics, and Lifecourse Outcomes in Low- and Middle-Income Countries’.

2. Liaise and work with external academic staff (as stated above) on aspects related to data analysis, production of academic outputs, meetings, contributions to workshops, impact activities.

3. In consultation with Dr. Fledderjohann, identify opportunities for your professional development (e.g. leadership on outputs, formal training courses) and actively engage with identified opportunities to enhance your research skills and CV.

4. Travel to India to assist with dissemination of findings, liaise with international stakeholders (including policymakers and academics), and contribute to project workshops.

5. Assist in the preparation and submission of ethics application documents for ethics review and approval.
6. Identify new research questions and lead on empirical research to answer these questions.

7. Participate in team meetings and connect with researchers within the project, and develop/participate in research networks more broadly.

8. Prepare and deliver presentations, draft policy briefs, and actively participate in writing academic articles of high quality for submission to top social science journals and the Research Excellence Framework (REF).

9. Contribute to impact activities, and identify unforeseen opportunities to increase impact of research findings.

10. Contribute to the national and international reputation of the project.

11. Actively seek out opportunities for funding, and contribute to drafting any follow-on research proposals that might build on the results of the project.

12. Work within the strategic direction of the University as a whole and the University’s code of ethics and practice guidelines.

13. Participate in and contribute more broadly to the research life and work of the Department.