

(Full time position) Field Research Associate in the DR Congo

We're looking for a field research coordinator for a 1.5 year study on a large humanitarian assistance program in Eastern Congo. The position requires excellent logistical and management skills, in addition to a solid understanding of household survey implementation and quantitative social science research methods. The field research coordinator will learn cutting-edge research practices, build relationships with global humanitarian and development actors and leading Congolese organizations, and contribute to public goods in one of the most compelling humanitarian contexts in the world. This is a full time paid position.

Principle investigators: Ghislain Bisimwa (Université Catholique de Bukavu), John Quattrochi (Simmons College), Maarten Voors (Wageningen University), Peter Van der Windt (NYU Abu Dhabi)

The program: UNICEF, OCHA and multiple donor agencies created the precursor of the Rapid Response to Movements of Population (RRMP) program in eastern Congo in 2004. Currently, RRMP is the largest single humanitarian response program in DRC after food aid. The goal of RRMP is to provide assistance to internally-displaced people (IDPs) within three months of displacement or return. In 2013, with a budget of approximately 40 million usd, RRMP assisted over 2 million people.

The study design: In a sub-set of RRMP interventions, non-vulnerable households will be randomly assigned to (A) vouchers to purchase essential household items, or (B) nothing (i.e. pure control). If additional funding becomes available, vulnerable households will be randomly assigned to (C) vouchers to purchase essential household items, or (D) an equivalent amount of cash. These randomizations will occur in 30 RRMP interventions across North and South Kivu. One unique aspect of this study is that we cannot predict when and where these interventions will occur (since they are triggered by emergencies), thus the field research coordinator must be able to rapidly plan and implement surveys in partnership with the RRMP staff. This will require a high level of organization and communication.

Job responsibilities:

- * frequent communication with RRMP staff to plan survey rounds and monitor randomization
- * assistance with recruitment of field survey team (enumerators)
- * training of enumerators
- * supervision of enumerators
- * monitoring and documentation of all project expenditures
- * progress reports on program and survey implementation
- * regular communication with PIs via phone and email
- * conversion of preliminary study design document into pre-analysis plan
- * assistance with questionnaire design
- * programming of tablets (e.g. ODK Collect, Survey CTO) for data collection

Required qualifications:

- * Master's degree in Politics/Economics/Development or Bachelor's degree with significant experience in managing household surveys
- * Proficient in French and English
- * Able to clean and analyze data in Stata or R
- * Able to program tablets with ODK, Survey CTO, or a similar program

Desired qualifications

- * intrinsic motivation to contribute to the global public good of scientific evidence
- * experience in low income, post-conflict settings, particularly the DRC

Start date and duration: Ideally the position would begin as soon as possible. We would like to have pilot data by the end of 2016. Before that the Field Research Coordinator will need to coordinate with the RRMP partners (including a workshop to explain the study design), and recruit and train enumerators. After a trial period of 1.5 months, the position will be extended for the duration of the project (projected to be 1.5 years total) if all parties agree.

How to apply: Send CV to Prof. John Quattrochi (john.quattrochi at simmons.edu with the subject line "Field Research Coordinator DRC"