**Unique opportunity for the CPR*south*/CPRafrica community**

**We are looking for researchers and quantitative experts to work on systematic reviews (and to learn about them)**

CPRs*outh* (through LIRNE*asia*) is offering a unique opportunity to be trained and to work on systematic reviews.

The systematic review method is gaining wide traction in the fields of social science and international development. The method is championed by international agencies such the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and the World Bank. Considerable funding has been made available to trained reviewers by DFID, AusAid and 3ie over the past three years.

A systematic review (SR) synthesizes and summarizes the best available primary research on a specific research question. The SR method originated in the field of medicine where a need arose to systematically bring together the available evidence.

LIRNE*asia* has received funding to train researchers and quantitative experts in systematic reviews from IDRC, Canada. The trained researchers and quantitative experts will then get an opportunity to be a part of teams conducting systematic reviews on the topics listed below.

* What is the empirical evidence on the development impact of mobile money on the poor?
* How have young or adult learners in Developing Asia benefitted from ICTs?
* How has access to knowledge and information, mediated through ICTs, affected micro, small and medium enterprises?
* Has the use of ICTs or quality differentiation led to improved market efficiencies in Agriculture?
* Efficacy of Telecom Reform in Low and Middle Income Countries

**Who can apply:**

**For the role of Researchers, applications are welcomed from anyone who has applied for or participated in a previous CPR*south*/CPRafrica conference or tutorial. Even others are welcome to apply, since the completed papers will be showcased at the next CPR*south* conference.**

**For the role of Quantitative Experts, applications are welcome from anyone who has econometric expertise.**

No previous experience with systematic reviews is required. However, some domain knowledge in one or more of the topics below will be helpful. The work will be conducted from the researchers’ current locations.

**Your Role as a researcher**

After the training, you will work as a member in a team of five (a subject specialist, a quantitative expert and three researchers). As a researcher, your main role will be searching and screening studies to be included for the review as per the pre-determined inclusion criteria. The inclusion criteria will be determined by the team. The selection of studies will be done with the aid of software. In addition, you will also be involved in the analysis to some extent.

**What we require**

* Ability to work independently and as part of a remote team
* Access to a broadband connection and electronic databases
* Interest or background knowledge of any one of the above topics
* A time commitment from Feb-Apr 2014 for approximately 40 days over three months

**What we Offer**

* An opportunity to get trained in conducting systematic reviews
* An opportunity to work with high-caliber colleagues on a review
* A total of USD 2100 for your time and effort, payable upon satisfactory completion of work

**Your Role as a quantitative expert**

After the training, you will work as a member in a team of five (a subject specialist, a quantitative expert and three researchers). As a quant expert, your role will be synthesising and analysing the studies selected by your team members. The studies will be selected as per the pre-determined inclusion criteria. The inclusion criteria will be determined by the team.

**What we require**

* Ability to work independently and as part of a remote team
* Experience and knowledge of econometrics (at least at Masters level)
* Access to a broadband connection and electronic databases
* Interest or background knowledge of any one of the above topics
* A time commitment from Apr-Jul 2014 for approximately 40 days over three months

**What we Offer**

* An opportunity to get trained in complex quantitative synthesis methods and conducting systematic reviews
* An opportunity to be an expert in the research question you worked on
* An opportunity to work with high-caliber colleagues on a review
* Remuneration for your time and efforts (will be discussed based on experience), payable upon satisfactory completion of work

**The training**

All selected participants must attend a training course that will be held at the [Blue Waters hotel](http://www.bluewatersrilanka.com/gallery.html), Wadduwa, Sri Lanka, 18-20 Oct 2013. LIRNE*asia* will cover economy class airfare, accommodation and meals for the duration of the course.

The training will include but not limited to the following:

* Principles & rationale for systematic review
* Searching & Identifying literature
* Assessment of study quality and critical appraisal
* Data extraction and management
* Use of logic models
* Principles of synthesis
* Narrative synthesis (quantitative and qualitative)

**How to apply**

**Complete the form given below and submit with a detailed CV** (no more than four pages), phone/email contacts of two non-related references, to info@cprsouth.org by **midnight (Sri Lanka time) 15th September 2013**. The subject of the email should be**: Systematic\_Review\_2013**.

If you are a Masters student, PhD candidate or employed full time please note that a letter of permission from your supervisor is required prior to signing the contract.

**Application to become Systematic Reviewer (researcher and/or quantitative expert)**

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| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Country of residence** |  |
| **Country of citizenship** |  |
| **Current Affiliation (1)** | Name of organization |  |
| Position |  |
| Contact details (email address, Phone number, mailing address) |  |
| Name of supervisor  |  |
| Contact details of supervisor |  |
| **Current Affiliation (2)** | Name of organization |  |
| Position |  |
| Contact details (email address, Phone number, mailing address) |  |
| Name of supervisor  |  |
| Contact details of supervisor |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Position applying for**(Please indicate which position/s you are applying for. You can apply for both) | Researcher/Quantitative Expert |
|  |
| **Access to databases** (Please indicate if you have unrestricted access to the following databases) | Econlit | Yes/No |
| Web of Knowledge | Yes/No |
| Academic Search Complete | Yes/No |
| Business Source Premier | Yes/No |
| CAB Abstracts | Yes/No |
| LISTA | Yes/No |
| ERIC | Yes/No |
| AGRICOLA | Yes/No |
| Other (Please specify) | Yes/No |
|  |
| **Systematic review/s you are interested in working on**(Please indicate which systematic review you are interested in working on) | What is the empirical evidence on the development impact of mobile money on the poor? | Yes/No |
| How have young or adult learners in Developing Asia benefitted from ICTs? | Yes/No |
| How has access to knowledge and information, mediated through ICTs, affected micro, small and medium enterprises | Yes/No |
| Has the use of ICTs or quality differentiation led to improved market efficiencies in Agriculture? | Yes/No |
| Efficacy of Telecom Reform in Low and Middle Income Countries | Yes/No |

Please submit above form with a detailed CV of no more than 4 pages.