Data Research Analyst

Salary circa £35,000 depending on experience
Permanent, and flexible-working, full or part-time considered.

Based in London, Publish What You Fund is the global campaign for aid and development finance transparency. We envisage a world where aid and development information is transparent**,** available and used for effective decision-making, public accountability and lasting change for all citizens.

We combine independent research with intelligent, long-term advocacy and technical expertise. Our flagship report, the Aid Transparency Index, and close relationships with major aid donors around the world have been essential to this. Our pioneering approach to encouraging donor governments and civil society organisations to support our mission has led to more and better quality aid and development finance information.

However there is still work to do: We are embarking on an exciting new chapter, where we will be emphasising greater data use for better development outcomes and broadening our horizons to look in more detail at a wider range of aid and development funding vehicles and settings, including development finance institutions, private sector finance and humanitarian aid.

We are looking for a Data Research Analyst to join us in this pivotal role helping us to promote even greater transparency in aid and development finance globally.

Job summary

Combining data analysis and Python programming skills, the Data Research Analyst will contribute primarily to producing the Aid Transparency Index that assesses transparency levels among leading aid and development finance agencies and provides a key advocacy tool to press for ever greater transparency.

The Data Research Analyst will conduct in-depth analysis into open aid data as well as oversee the technical maintenance and operation of the [Aid Transparency Tracker](), the data collection and verification tool that we use in the Aid Transparency Index and other associated reviews. The Tracker runs automated tests on aid transparency XML data, alongside forms for manual data collection.

Specific responsibilities include: conducting background research and data analysis for methodology testing and development; making changes and adjustments to the Tracker; helping to run the data analysis and trouble shoot errors; and providing information and technical explanations to aid donors being assessed. Other tasks could include outreach and engagement with the open data community on our work and the design and implementation of new tools and visualisations. There is considerable scope for training and development in this role.

Main role and responsibilities

- Development and maintenance of the Aid Transparency Tracker, including upgrades, methodology updates and trouble-shooting errors.
- In-depth research and analysis of aid data to analyse donor performance and as inputs to Index research.
- Lead on outreach and engagement with the open data community, particularly on International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) developments and technical changes.
- Engage with donor agencies and campaign partners on providing information and technical explanations to aid donors being assessed.
- Provide inputs into Index planning processes and research methodology reviews.

Additional tasks:

- Design and disseminate new tools and visualisations in support of improved aid and development finance transparency.
- Support with data collection, data quality control and consistency.
- Oversee contractors, including for Publish What You Fund's website maintenance.
- Technical support for and contributions to additional transparency projects as required.

Essential skills and experience:

- Degree in international development, economics, statistics, mathematics, computer science, computer engineering or similar field.
- Programming and coding skills, particularly in Python, and a desire to develop these skills further.
- Data analysis skills, including quantitative research methodologies, applied statistics and working with large datasets.
- At least three years' experience of working in a similar technical and/or research field.
- Demonstrable interest in international development and/or transparency and open data.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills.

Desirable skills and experience

- Knowledge of programming languages, such as XPath, Flask, PostgreSQL, Ansible, Git
- Experience of project management, particularly delivery of software development.
- Knowledge of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) Standard and community.
- Knowledge/experience of international aid donors and projects.

How to apply

The deadline for applications is 9am BST on Thursday 11 April. Please send your CV and a covering letter to: recruitment@publishwhatyoufund.org.

We expect to hold interviews during the week of 15 April.