

University of Manchester Q-Step Summer Project 2016

Ref: #46 UoMQStep 2016 DFID International Development Statistics

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Organisation Name: Department for International Development (DFID)

Team / Department: Finance, Performance, Impact Department

Address: 22 Whitehall, London, SW1A 2EG or Abercrombie House, Eaglesham Road, East Kilbride, G75 8EA

Provisional title for project: Interactive presentation of DFIDs Statistics on International Development

100 word abstract of what the project would probably undertake, and any data to be used:

DFID's National Statistics publication 'Statistics on International Development' ([SID](#)), provides users with overview of official UK spend on international development.

The annual publication provides:

- Total UK spend on international development for the preceding calendar year;
- Trends for the previous 5 years;
- Key breakdowns by recipient country or organisation, type of assistance and purpose;
- International comparisons of spend on international development.

The publication focuses on the key international measure of official aid spend, known as Official Development Assistance (ODA).

The publications are static and do not allow users to interact with the data effectively. In particular we would like users to be able to interrogate flows to specific countries and flows over time.

Some examples:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/mayors-office-policing-and-crime-mopac/data-and-research/crime/crime-dashboard>;

<http://public.tableau.com/profile/prachis4067#!/vizhome/Indiaafricaaidflows/Dashboard4>

This project is the opportunity for the student to make a significant transformation in the way that users (internally and externally) are able to use DFID's flagship National Statistics.

The student will be required to:

1. scope user needs,
2. design and build an appropriate tool in Tableau, and
3. disseminate the product in DFID and externally.

Key words (up to 12):

International development; data analysis; interactive data visualisation; aid data; user focussed

Essential and desirable skills that the student would need to have:

Essential:

The student would be required to have good data analysis skills and excel skills are a must. They must have an eye for detail, and should be familiar with approaches for disseminating and visualising data, including on line. They should be a self starter, be able to take initiative and have confidence in discussing options with a range of users of different grades.

Desirable: Previous use statistical software similar to Tableau, or even use of Tableau itself, would be an advantage. Previous experience in creating interesting data visualisations, especially maps and bubble charts would also be an advantage.

Where the work would be carried out:

London, Whitehall or East Kilbride. Some home/remote working may also be supported if required.

Preferred selection method (interview or other meeting):

Interview

Support and training offered by the organisation:

The student would work with colleagues based London and in East Kilbride and possibly with other staff based around the world. Their colleagues will all have other jobs as well, so although they will offer full support and briefing; the student they would need to be a self-starter and work fairly independently.

The student would gain exposure to the broader work of DFID, to international development, and the work of DFID and partner organisations. They would also gain an introduction to DFID's statistical work and its use in policy, opportunities for networking with other DFID statisticians and policy officials who use the data, on-the-job training/support in use of tableau (if required) and in data visualisation in general. They may get opportunities to join wider learning initiatives e.g. lunch time seminars and meetings that may be of interest.

Any issues of data confidentiality and/or IPR that would need to be resolved:

None – the data to be used will be entirely publically available.

Supporting information:

A DBS or security check will be carried out by DFID prior to take up of position

Financial assistance offered by the organisation:

None