

Senior Economist

About the Company

Kimetrica is a social enterprise with a mission to increase the effectiveness of spending in the social sector. We help international organizations, governments and nonprofits to increase the impact and efficiency of their social investments, enhance accountability, manage critical risks, and build donor and taxpayer confidence.

Our services extend from major project evaluations to provision of early warning services, and monitoring the political, social and economic conditions in fragile states. Our analyses inform multi-million dollar policy and project design decisions, often in life-threatening humanitarian situations.

To have an impact, we need to convey technical findings and often highly nuanced messages to non-technical decision-makers.

About the Position

Kimetrica is seeking an experienced economist to strengthen our microeconomic and behavioral analysis. If you have strong quantitative skills, with a focus on microeconomics, econometrics and ideally behavioural economics, then this is an opportunity to apply advanced research to pressing policy problems, primarily in developing countries.

As part of a multidisciplinary team of data scientists, you will build and test models for predicting behavioural responses to climate events, other shocks and to public interventions. For example, you may be asked to build a model to predict the costs and benefits of proposed interventions to mitigate the effects of climate change.

You will also work with cost modeling and models for strategic and tactical response optimization. You will be motivated to experiment with tools that are not in the traditional microeconomic analysis toolbox, such as machine learning, agent-based modeling and heuristic optimization.

The team works in a Python environment. STATA or R users will be supported in the transition. Most projects will include academic partnerships and you will have access to rich data resources and opportunities for publication if you wish to maintain a foothold in academia.

Key Tasks

As Senior Economist, you will report to the Lead Data Scientist:

- Build and document a range of models (55 percent);
- Support the design and analysis of large-scale evaluations (10 percent);
- Mentor and supervise junior staff in all aspects of model building and testing (10 percent);
- Write up research findings for technical and non-technical audiences (10 percent);
- Identify opportunities and contribute to proposals (10 percent);
- Contribute to presentations to clients (5 percent).

Qualifications and skills

Required qualifications and skills are:

- A PhD in economics or a sub-discipline such as agricultural economics, development economics. This may be substituted for an MSc with 3 years+ of applied research experience;
- Excellent applied mathematics and statistical skills;
- Demonstrated experience of building econometric and/or machine learning models;
- Good verbal and written English language communication skills including the ability to convey economic concepts in succinct language to researchers from other disciplines;
- Experience in behavioral economics;
- Experience of analysing large household data analysis, such as LSMS;
- Intellectual curiosity and enthusiasm for interdisciplinary research; and
- Commitment to enhancing the effectiveness of humanitarian and public sector interventions.

Ideally, the candidate will also have these qualifications:

- Prior experience with building models in Python;
- Specific knowledge of poverty measurement and modeling methods;
- Experience of Agent-Based Modeling;
- Experience of managing research teams;
- Strong academic networks;
- Applied experience in experimental designs and quasi experimental methods; and
- Experience in working in distributed teams.

Location

New York, Washington DC, or Denver preferred. We will consider remote working options for the right candidate.

Perks

- Competitive salary;
- Generous benefits package (health, dental, vision, 401K with match, significant vacation, holiday and sick leave);
- Dynamic, innovative and highly committed work environment focused on making a positive impact.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or national origin.

Application: Send a CV and cover letter with salary requirements to jobs@kimetrica.com