

## Data Scientist, Bristol

At Development Initiatives (DI), we're working to end extreme poverty by 2030 by making data and information on poverty and resource flows transparent, accessible and useable. We help decision-makers use information to increase their impact for the poorest people in the most sustainable way.

We have a fantastic opportunity for a Data Scientist to join our driven and friendly team in Bristol.

### Role function:

This is an exciting and fast-paced role, leading on research and analysis of a new project: **Joined Up Data Standards**. Reporting to the project's Information Architect, it includes documenting and cross-mapping a range of data standards maintained by global institutions such as the UN, World Bank, OECD, IMF and international standards bodies such as [IATI](#) and [EITI](#) to build the case for making these standards more compatible and interoperable.

You will be experienced in managing and integrating software packages that mine and link data to other online tools and websites. You will also be creative in providing solutions on how large data sets can be brought together to meet the needs of users, as well as preparing Green and White Papers for the technical community around joining up data standards.

This position will sit within DI's technical team, which includes back-end and front-end developers, and contribute to DI's overall work to analyse complex data and visualise it effectively online to increase its use. The project will be run in partnership with Publish what You Fund and the Data Scientist will also work closely with project staff (Advocacy Adviser and Project Lead) at Publish What You Fund.

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## Person specification

### Education/qualifications

- A master's degree in semantics, international relations or information systems (NB essential demonstrable knowledge below)

### Knowledge/technical competencies

#### Essential

- At least three years' professional research experience
- At least three years' professional data analysis experience
- Demonstrable knowledge of the organisation and functioning of global institutions such as the UN System, IMF, OECD
- Demonstrable knowledge of semantic web technologies, particularly SKOS
- An understanding of the role of information in international development

**Working knowledge of the following would be an advantage:**

- Statistical methodology and systems
- Specific global data standards
- XML
- SDMX
- Pool Party Thesaurus server (or similar technology)

### **Personal skills/qualities**

- Enterprising research skills
  - Excellent written communication skills
  - Able to articulate and describe technical issues in a simple way
  - Able to understand complex issues (eg statistics, financial flows)
  - Able to form strong working relationships with colleagues and agencies
  - Organised and efficient
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### **Duties/responsibilities**

#### **Technical duties**

- Identify and document all existing standards relating to supra- and sub-national geographic areas, sectors and organisation identifiers
  - Research and write up case studies on how incompatible standards lead to barriers in joining up data
  - Cross-map these standards in an online thesaurus server using SKOS relations
  - Write proposals for how selected standards (with minimum mismatches between them) could be rationalised and combined
  - Monitor and document the progress made by the Joined Up Data Alliance of application standards in seeking common solutions to common problems
  - Combine all the above work into a white paper for advocating the formation of an international working group on global data standards
  - Induct analysts from other standards' bodies in becoming active contributors to the online thesaurus and lead collaborative work in cross-mapping these standards.
  - Contribute to technical elements of donor reporting
  - Undertake any other project-related tasks as assigned by line manager
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### **Personal development and general responsibilities**

- Prepare for and engage in fortnightly 1:1 meetings and 6-monthly performance management meetings
  - Maintain professional development and personal development plans
  - Input into own objectives, linking to organisational strategy
  - Take personal responsibility for any health and safety issues and obligations
  - Uphold all aspects of organisational policies, procedures and legal requirements in relation to personal conduct
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### **Contractual details**

Start date: Two year fixed term contract starting ASAP.  
Location: Bristol  
Salary scale: £30,000-35,000

Hours: 35 hours a week  
Probation: 3 months  
Leave: 25 days plus all bank/public holidays  
Benefits: Refer to web page

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### **Application details**

Please email your CV (no more than three pages) and covering letter (no more than two pages), detailing your skills, experience and how they relate to the role profile, to Jane McNeil (Human Resources Manager) at HR@devinit.org, quoting ref: DataSc in the email subject line. Please include in your letter your salary expectations, notice period/available start date and where you saw the job advert.

Closing date: Midnight (GMT) on 31st May 2015.

Interviews: Week Commencing 8<sup>th</sup> June 2015

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### **Other**

We welcome applications from all sections of the community.

We have a duty to prevent illegal working by checking potential employees' documents, before employing them, to ensure they have the right to work in the country in which this post is based.

We are unable to offer sponsorship for a work permit/visa application. Evidence of right to work will be requested.

Due to the volume of applicants that we receive, we regret to say that we will be unable to acknowledge receipt of your application and if you do not hear from us within four weeks of the closing date, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

Development Initiatives is an equal opportunities employer and in line with our policies, we aim to ensure that no job applicant receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of race, colour, nationality, religion, ethnic or national origin, age, gender, marital status, sexual orientation or disability.

We find it helpful for all applicants to complete our Diversity Monitoring Form found on our website at [devinit.org/about/working-for-us](http://devinit.org/about/working-for-us)