



Massachusetts Institute of Technology | Department of Economics

## Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab Indonesia Research Fellowships, 2008-2009

The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) in partnership with the World Bank and supported by the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Jakarta, is pleased to offer four year-long research fellowships for the year 2008-2009, including two **half-time senior fellowships** open to Indonesian academics and two **full-time junior fellowships** for young researchers in Indonesia. The fellowships will provide opportunities to participate in rigorous academic research related to governance and development in Indonesia. All applications are due by **31 March 2008**.

These fellowships will provide a rare opportunity for Indonesian researchers to build their knowledge base through:

- On-the-job training working alongside J-PAL and World Bank staff and through regular long-distance communication with J-PAL-affiliated faculty researchers, including development economists from some of the top US-based universities such as MIT, Harvard and New York University.
- All research fellows will participate in a week-long training session on evaluating social programs (with a particular emphasis on randomized experiments) to be held in Denpasar, June 23-27, 2008.

The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab is a leading research institute based at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the United States and serves as a focal point for development and poverty research based on [randomized trials](#). J-PAL works with NGOs, international organizations, government institutions and others to evaluate programs and disseminate the results of high quality research. J-PAL's work includes projects in over 15 countries, including Indonesia. More information about J-PAL's work can be found on the J-PAL website ([www.povertyactionlab.org](http://www.povertyactionlab.org)).

J-PAL has been working in Indonesia since 2002, and has conducted randomized experiments studying corruption in Javanese village road projects; village-level decision making in Java, Southeast Sulawesi, and North Sumatra; and improving health and education in Java, North Sulawesi, and NTT. The research fellows will work on current J-PAL research projects in Indonesia, which include evaluating alternative schemes for targeting poor households, reducing corruption in teacher certification, and using incentives to improve traffic enforcement. For further information on J-PAL's activities and programs in Indonesia, please visit the website: [www.povertyactionlab.org/indonesia](http://www.povertyactionlab.org/indonesia).

## **Fellowship Descriptions**

### **Junior Research Fellows**

Junior research fellows will work full-time (**minimum of 40 hours per week**) and will be based at the World Bank Office in Jakarta. They will work side-by-side with international J-PAL junior researchers, and will coordinate frequently with senior J-PAL researchers based in the United States. Junior research fellows will be involved in the following types of activities:

- Designing survey questionnaires and research strategy
- Conducting interviews for the research
- Translating research documents
- Supervision of surveys and experiments in the field
- Data analysis
- Coordination with government counterparts
- Overall project and administrative support
- Other responsibilities as needed

### **Desirable skills for the position:**

- Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree (S1) or Master's degree (S2) in Economics, Public Policy, International Affairs, or a related field, and should ideally demonstrate an interest in pursuing a PhD.
- Strong writing skills in English is an advantage; some experience in data analysis, survey work, or other research assistant work is preferred.
- Fellows must be willing to travel frequently to the field outside of Jakarta, including rural areas of Indonesia.

Junior Fellows will work from May 2008 through April 2009 and will receive a stipend of Rp. 5 million per month for full-time work. Applicants who are unable to begin working until June 2008 due to current enrollment in university will also be considered.

### **Senior Research Fellows**

Senior research fellows will work half-time (**minimum of 20 hours per week**) and will be based at their own university offices. They will play an active role in:

- Assisting with the research design of the projects
- Designing surveys and implementation procedures
- Writing drafts and reports
- Overseeing project implementation in the field
- Facilitating connections between the research and university networks

### **Desirable skills for the position:**

- Applicants should have a PhD in the field of Economics, Public Policy, or a related field, and should be currently working as a university professor.
- A publication record and prior research experience on topics related to development economics/public policy is required.
- Successful applicants who are based outside of Jakarta are expected to work a minimum of four to five days per month in Jakarta but the actual duration may vary depending on the cycle of the projects.

- Fellows must be willing to travel occasionally to the field outside of Jakarta, including rural areas of Indonesia on supervision missions.

Senior Fellows will work from July 2008 through June 2009 (**dates may be flexible**) and will receive a stipend of Rp. 5 million per month for half-time work.

## Application Process

All applicants must send:

- (1) Application form (Form attached)
- (2) Personal statement of interest (no more than 500 words, in English)
- (3) Curriculum vitae (CV)
- (4) Writing sample (English or Bahasa Indonesia, not to exceed 5 pages for Junior fellows and not to exceed 30 pages for Senior fellows)
- (5) Two letters of recommendation (required only for Junior fellow applicants)

Please send all materials by email to [indonesia-fellows@povertyactionlab.org](mailto:indonesia-fellows@povertyactionlab.org). Please send all materials (except letters of recommendation) in a single email. Letters of recommendation should be sent electronically by recommenders to the same email address.

Short-listed candidates will be contacted individually by 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2008 in order to schedule a follow-up interview as a final stage in the application process. We apologize that we will be able to contact only short-listed candidates.

Please visit [www.povertyactionlab.org/indonesia](http://www.povertyactionlab.org/indonesia) for more information regarding registration and the course. If you have further questions after thoroughly reviewing the information on the website, contact Ritwik Sarkar at [indonesia-fellows@povertyactionlab.org](mailto:indonesia-fellows@povertyactionlab.org).