

We search a research assistant for work in

MIA – Measures for Improved Availability of medicines and vaccines

at BI Norwegian Business School

The MIA research project is funded by the Research Council of Norway's (RCN) HELSEVEL-program for a period of four years from 1 March 2020. The COVID-19 Supply Chain Task Force (MIA+), focusing on medicine supply chains related to the pandemic was established 1st May 2021 and is funded by GLOBVAC in RCN. Together with partners from the Norwegian Institute of Public Health, INSEAD Business School in France, Lancaster University in the United Kingdom and Erasmus (Rotterdam School of Management) in The Netherlands, and two Ethiopian Health Research Institutes, BI Norwegian Business School (Researcher Joe Viana, Profs. Kim van Oorschot, Dag Morten Dalen, Marianne Jahre) will systematically study the supply and distribution of vaccines and medicines. The aim is to advance knowledge and understanding of medicine/vaccine supply chain security, to ensure supply both in normal situations and in crises. To achieve this, MIA shall adopt a cross-disciplinary approach consisting of diverse perspectives, including patients and governments, to gain a better understanding of market dynamics between manufacturers and the effects of digitalized supply chains. By developing and applying holistic supply system models, we aim to identify robust systems, which work well in a variety of situations, through analysis and comparison of different outcome measures.

The purpose of the projects is to help key stakeholders make evidence-based decisions that sustainably reduce shortages to limit disruptions to health and care services. We will provide rigorous (cost benefit) analyses of identified measures that will form a basis for comparative studies in other countries, by developing: baseline data, research design, analytical and pedagogical models and tools. Our findings will inform ongoing strategy work and collaboration initiatives within Norway, the UK and Europe more broadly. We will draw policy implications and put forth recommendations for supply chain design, procurement strategies and alignment of economic incentives. We will develop training resources and tool kits and embed these into higher education curricula in pharmaceutical education, risk management and operations/supply chain management, thus increasing cooperation in educational programs across sectors, stakeholders, and disciplines including health, social science, and economics.

BI Norwegian Business School is seeking a part-time research assistant within MIA and MIA+, starting summer 2021 on an hourly basis and minimum 20% from 15 August onwards. It is great if you want to do your master thesis project within the auspice of MIA/MIA+, but this is not a condition. You can be in your master program or have finished, preferably within operations-/supply chain management. You should speak one of the Scandinavian languages, but this is not an absolute requirement. You should not on internship or exchange in the fall 2021.

Tasks

- Help with organizing meetings/stakeholder communication
- Notes from meetings
- Updating website
- Help with research
 - Secondary data: Desk review
 - Primary data: Interviews/focus groups: collection & transcription

Hourly rate is approximately 200 -230 NOK. Additional information can be obtained by contacting project leader and professor Marianne Jahre, Department of Accounting and Operations Management, BI Norwegian Business School, phone +47 46410475. Please send your application/ motivation with CV and grade transcripts to marianne.jahre@bi.no.

Application deadline: 15th May 2021.