DEPUTY DIRECTOR, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION ANALYSIS

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Professional Experience

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT FOR SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY. SEPT 2022 - ONGOING

I lead a diverse team of analysts and provide policy analysis for the UK Science, Research and Innovation. This includes setting the policy direction for over £40 billion investment over the next three years, ensuring government investments have high impact and contribute towards UK economic Growth.

- Lead my team of 20 analysts to ensure the R&D and innovation policy is well informed by analytical insights and ministers understand various tradoffs they face in maximising the impact of govt investment.
- Informing ministerial decisions on UK's R&D and Innovation strategy with macroeconomic and sectoral policy analysis through policy briefings, position papers and strategic insights.
- Leading team to develop policy analysis for the UK Science and Technology Framework, business case for Horizon Alternative programme, R&D workforce needs and comparative analysis of business innovation across industry sectors.
- Using analytical insights to influence balance of R&D funding across different priority areas, regions and sectors of the economy to maintain and improve UK's world leading research base and innovation.
- Collaborate with partner organisations to leverage knowledge creation on over 100 R&D programmes and disseminate good practice in programme design, implementation and benefit maximisation.
- Overseeing internal research and externally commissioned projects including gap analysis of UK's R&D and innovation strength, international benchmarking, econometric analysis of R&D return across the economy, sectors and regions, and mapping of UK innovation cluster using machine learning techniques.
- Representing UK at international forums including serving at multiple OECD committees to improve cross country cooperation on R&D and innovation indicators and effective policy responses to global challenges.
- Oversee the work of senior analysts in the team, external contractors and sign-off business cases for over £70 million investment.

DEAPRTMENT FOR BUSINESS ENERGY AND INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

HEAD OF STRATEGIC INNOVATION ANALYSIS. MARCH 2019- SEPT 2022.

I led cutting edge policy analysis for UK's R&D and Innovation policies to stimulate economic growth across regions and industry sectors. In addition, I appraised investment projects covering billions of R&D investment to improve the quality and delivery of R&D schemes across the UK.

- Led a high performing multi-disciplinary team of 11 analysts including recruiting, coaching, and developing team members to deliver BEIS main priority of Unleashing Innovation.
- Briefed BEIS ministers, Senior Leadership Team (SLT) on evidence related to design, implementation and effectiveness of R&D policies and other strategic issues.
- Effectively developed evidence base for BEIS R&D and innovation policies including setting and achieving 2.4% of GDP R&D investment target to improve productivity and economic growth across the UK.
- Ensured value-for-money of over £6 billion R&D investment portfolio through successful approval of business cases such as the case for Horizon Alternatives, Advanced Research and Invention Agency and quality.
- Implemented best practice guidance for BEIS partner organisations to improve the quality of business cases and impact evaluation of R&D portfolio.
- Worked side-by-side with policy teams and analysts in Partner Organisations, such as UK Research and Innovation, to implement R&D programmes, increase economic growth and productivity.
- Represented the UK at OECD's committee: National Experts on Science and Technology Indicators.

- Provided expert advice to three trails in HMG through the Cross Government Trial panel.
- Successfully completed research projects to further develop the evidence base to influence BEIS ministers, HMT, and No 10. Managed research budget between 400-500K every year.
- Mentored BEIS staff, improved diversity through supporting activities of the Race-to-the-Top group.

HEAD OF R&D APPRAISAL AND EVALUATION. SEPTEMBER 2016 - FEBRUARY 2019

I led a team of 8 analysts and provided high quality evidence for R&D policy, ensured R&D business cases were high quality and impact evaluations across R&D portfolio followed best practice guidance.

- Built a multi-disciplinary team of analysts which developed evidence base to support the R&D Roadmap, M&E of the R&D portfolio with over 150 programmes, wrote budget and Spending Review bids, and influenced ministers and senior decision makers with clear, concise and authoritative evidence.
- Built analytical capability in team through commissioning research, improved staff's management, analytical skills and improved quality of analysis with best practice guidance across the BEIS' partner organisations. Managed change effectively in team through creating culture of learning and improvement.
- Worked with partner organisations (Innovate UK, Research Councils, Met Office) to address gaps in programme data collection and implementation of impact evaluation. Also wrote business cases to deliver Industrial Strategy priorities such as the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund with £1bn budget.
- Managed analytical research contracts ranging 300-500K per year.
- Improved directorate In Year Awards to improve fairness and efficiency and improved the selection process of Fast Stream for available vacancies in BEIS.

ECONOMIC ADVISOR

LEAD ANALYST FOR THE GROWTH VOUCHERS PROGRAMME, BEIS.

July 2013 - August 2016

I developed and implemented the largest Randomised Controlled Trail (RCT) in the UK to test the effectiveness of online and face-to-face business advice for over 30K businesses across England. Also designed an RCT with eight English business schools to improve growth of local small businesses.

- Designed two Randomised Controlled Trials which delivered business support to over 30 thousand small businesses across England. The programme improved access to business support for SMEs and delivered on PM's commitment to support small businesses.
- Designed an online business recruitment platform to reduce delivery cost and increase access to business support across England. This addressed long-standing issue of lack of robust evidence on the impact of business support.
- Designed and successfully implemented a leadership and management support intervention with eight business schools across England to test the impact of Leadership and Management support on business growth.
- Designed and implemented programme evaluation, with £700K budget. This was the largest RCT in business support and influenced future business support programmes such as currently implemented Help to Grow schemes.

LEAD ANALYST ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND GROWTH, UK TRADE AND INVESTMENT

June 2012 - July 2013

- Build evidence base on barriers to exporting for UK small businesses. The analysis improved small business access to export services through better targeting and new interventions.
- Influenced senior leadership in addressing challenges in increasing the number of small businesses to increase their export and achieve UKTI targets.
- Commissioned research and business surveys to understand how exporting leads to sales and staff growth in businesses and what type of businesses face barriers in exporting their goods and services

PROJECT MANAGER FOR DEVELOPING FINANCIAL STATISTICS, OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS

April 2011 – June 2012

- Led ONS response on the coverage and reporting of financial activity after the 2008 financial crisis and worked with HMT, BoE, OBR, BEIS and FCA to have a better data on tracking risks that led to 2008 financial crisis.
- Conducted a Gap Analysis of the coverage of financial assets flow and developed UK flow-of-funds account. This account identified the counter-party risks and how failure of one action in the financial system negatively affect others and could lead to systemic risk.

HEAD OF ECONOMIC METHODS DEVELOPMENT TEAM, OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS.

Dec 2008 – April 2011

- Developed UK's first account to reclassify R&D expenditure from consumption to investment and include it in the GDP estimates.
- Led Innovation Index Project for the ONS. This project was the first attempt to measure intangible capital investment (e.g. R&D, Design, management capabilities) in the UK and estimated contribution of intangible assets to economic growth.
- Developed economic cases for over 20 business cases for ONS investments in statistical infrastructure and improvement in delivery of statistical outputs.

INTERNATIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Policy Studies, Singapore.

July - August 2007

• Reviewed the 'Competition Policy of Singapore' and conducted a comparative analysis of Singapore competition regime with other small countries such as New Zealand.

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, KARACHI PAKISTAN. OCT 2002 – JULY 2006

- Supervised over 50 research projects to improve efficiency in public service delivery across many government ministries in Pakistan.
- Designed and implemented leadership and policy analysis courses for senior Pakistani Civil Servants.

Consultant, Asian Development Bank, Balochistan Resource Management Program Office, Pakistan June – July 2006

• Reviewed the design and delivery of Wheat Subsidy scheme in Balochistan Province. Based on my assessment then I designed an alternative subsidy delivery mechanism to reduce leakages and improve access for low income families. ADB implemented my proposed delivery mechanism which lead to improved outcomes.

Education and Training

Oxford Programme on Negotiation, March 2021, Said Business School. University of Oxford

The Economic Analysis of Public Policy, Nov 2020, Kings Collage London. UK

Future Leaders Scheme, 2018-2020, UK Civil Service, UK.

Master in Applied Sciences (Economics), CGPR 3.59/4. May, 2001 - July, 2002 Applied Economics Research Centre, University of Karachi, Pakistan

Relevant Courses: Microeconomics I II, Macroeconomics I & II, Econometrics I, Applied Econometrics and Computer Application, and Monetary Economics

M.A., Economics 1998 - November 2000. Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan, Pakistan

Relevant Courses: Microeconomic Theory, Macroeconomics Theory, Mathematics used in Economics, Statistics, Economic Values of Islam, Economic Development, History of Economic Thought, Comparative Economic System, and Monetary Economics-Theory and Practice.

Master in Public Administration (Merit- 66%) Sept, 2007 - July 2008. London School of Economics and Political Science}, GPPN Scholar

Relevant Courses: Economic Development Policy, Politics of Money in the World Economy, Politics of Economic Policy, Group Working and Leadership. Dissertation: Supervisory Institutional Structure and Banking Sector Development around the World **Project:** Developing Indices to Compare Performance across the UK Central Government Departments

Master in Public Policy, (CAP: 4.71/5) July, 2006 - May 2008 National University of Singapore (NUS), Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

Courses: States, Markets and International Governance; Non-state Actors in International Relations; Statistical Techniques for Public Policy; Introduction to Public Policy and Analysis; Economic and Public Policy I; Public Financial Management; Political and Organisational Analysis; Economics and Public Policy II; Institutional Design and Analysis; and Public Policy Research and Evaluation.

Dissertation: A Comparative Analysis of Banking Supervisory Institutional Structure in Asia-Pacific **Independent Study Module:** Banking Sector Reform: A Case Study of Pakistan

Honors and Awards

- Future Leadership Scheme for High Potential Civil Servants (2018-2020)
- Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy Scholarship, NUS, Singapore (2007-2008)}
- Harwin Award for Student Leadership, NUS, Singapore (2007)}
- Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy Scholarship, NUS, Singapore (2006-2007)
- American Express Bank Prize, for securing highest marks in Economics (2004)
- Applied Economics Research Centre Scholarship, University of Karachi, Pakistan (2001-2002)

Publications

- Breaking the Breakers Public Policy & Governance Case Studies from Pakistan (Edited with Syed Abu Ahmad Akif), 2021.
- Enhancing Coverage of Financial Market Activity (with Muhammad Yaqoob), 2011. in *Economic and Labour Market Review*: 5, pp. 82-99.
- The Characteristics of Patentors, (with Peter Evans). In *Economic and Labour Market Review*, Office for National Statistics, December 2009.
- Capitalising Research and Development: Towards New System of National Accounts, (With Lars Wenzell and Peter Evans). In Economic and Labour Market Review}, Office for National Statistics, September 2009.
- The Quality of Public Sector Management and Economic Inequality, (With Syed Abu Ahmad Akif). In The Role of Public Administration in Building a Harmonious Society }, Asian Development Bank, December 2006.
- Strategic Management in Financial Institutions: Survival in the 21st Century. In Strategic Management in Financial Institutions: Survival in the 21st Century}, Publisher, Institute of Bankers, Karachi, Pakistan, 2006.
- The Role of Civil Service Training in Strengthening Democratic Institutions in Pakistan, (with Syed Abu Ahmad Akif). In The Role of Public Administration in Alleviating Poverty and Improving Governance}, Asian Development Bank, December, 2005. Inflation and Stock Market Performance: A Case Study of Pakistan, Saving and Development}, April 2004.

Reports.

- Evidence for the UK Innovation Strategy (2021), Department for Businesses, Energy and Industrial Strategy. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/evidence-for-the-uk-innovation-strategy
- Catapult Programme: A Framework for Evaluating Impact 2017, UK Government Publication.
- Office for National Statistics. 2009. "Developing Financial Statistics for Policy." Economics and Labour Market Review-Special Issue: 3. [Team publication]

- Innovation, knowledge spending and productivity growth in the UK: Interim report for NESTA Innovation Index project (with Jonathan Haskel, Tony Clayton, Peter Goodridge, Annarosa Pesole, David Barnett, Graeme Chamberlin, Richard Jones, and Alex Turvey) http://www.nesta.org.uk/library/documents/growth-accountipdf
- Review of Wheat Subsidy Mechanism of the Food Department, Government of Balochistan, and Replacement of Existing Subsidy with Pro-Poor Targeted Atta Subsidy Mechanism in Balochistan.

Computer Skil l	lS
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Statistical Packages: R and STATA.