



## GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

# President & Chief Executive Officer

### About the Organization

The Global Development Network (GDN) is a public international organization that supports high quality, policy-oriented, social science research in developing and transition countries, to promote better lives. We see ourselves as a global research entrepreneur who promotes research to inform development policy and debate. Since 1999, we have supported over 4,000 researchers and grantees from over 140 developing and transition countries.

GDN seeks support from funding partners to provide research opportunities to developing country researchers. With versatile and professional staff, we provide a whole range of research-oriented services: diagnostics of country research systems, mentoring on the design, choice of methodology and quality of research projects, organization and management of research, peer review and quality control, research communication, dissemination and publication.

### Our Strategy

GDN follows a three-pronged strategy:

- partnering with research institutions in low-income countries to strengthen their capacities
- organizing and supporting high-quality collaborative research across geographies and disciplines
- promoting and facilitating the use of development research by policymakers and other stakeholders

Our key activities include global research programs, global development conferences, awards and a research blog. We work on topics such as development finance, agriculture, research systems, governance, industrial productivity, natural resource management, biodiversity, education, and more.

Additional background information about GDN can be accessed at: [www.gdn.int](http://www.gdn.int)

### About the Position

GDN seeks to appoint a world-class leader who will strategically increase its impact, visibility and influence; strengthen its substantive research and capacity-building capabilities; and deepen its relationships with key research institutions, governmental entities and funders.

Reporting to the GDN Board of Directors, the President & Chief Executive Officer will have the executive leadership capabilities, development research experience and strategic mindset to lead GDN to its next level of achievement. The President & CEO will bring energy and inspiration to the international development community on behalf of GDN while imaginatively, knowledgeably and effectively building valuable research capacity in developing and transitional countries. An important challenge is to continue strengthening GDN's ability to fund further enhancements of the quality, impact and relevance of its programmatic initiatives and activities. **The remuneration ranges around €120k, with benefits according to the French Social Security system, with a renewable 3-year fixed term contract.**

## Responsibilities

The President & Chief Executive Officer will:

- Serve as the principal spokesman for GDN around the globe and build its visibility and recognition worldwide among governments, organizations, institutions and individuals;
- Shape the realization of GDN's strategic aspirations and oversee all aspects of its programs, activities and operations;
- Provide intellectual inspiration and support for all aspects of GDN's research capacity-building;
- Further advance the quality, focus and relevance of GDN's global network and its development research on high priority policy questions;
- Lead in the thoughtful and imaginative cultivation, solicitation and stewardship of major public and private funders;
- Ensure GDN achieves its annual and long-term financial goals and fundraising targets by developing and successfully executing plans to strengthen its funding base;
- Foster a dynamic learning environment throughout the GDN network and promote talent development across all of its offices and programs;
- Lead GDN's staff in New Delhi and Clermont-Ferrand and some working remotely, including senior staff, he/she will be the voice and intellectual inspiration of the organization; and
- Faithfully and fully execute the policies and strategic directions of GDN's Board of Directors.

## Qualifications and Experience

The successful candidate will bring the following professional experience and capabilities:

- Significant executive leadership experience in the public, government or global development sector with a record of successful executive leadership in organizations that share some of GDN's scope and priorities. Experience leading and managing multidisciplinary, international teams is an asset, especially in an independent policy research institute setting;
- Engagement with and passion for the issues, institutions and communities associated with development research and research capacity building; experience of conducting high quality research; knowledge of economic and social policy issues in one or more of the regions targeted by GDN; and understanding of policy research methods and approaches;
- Demonstrated experience with effectively representing complex institutional interests and capabilities to a wide variety of audiences and stakeholders;
- Proven abilities to think strategically, work effectively with governing board(s), identify and capitalize on opportunities, build and maintain strategic partnerships, manage risk and oversee financial affairs;
- An energetic, entrepreneurial and inclusive nature that combines intellectual leadership and political savvy with keen appreciation and understanding of multiculturalism;
- Advanced academic, research or professional degree or equivalent experience; and
- Fluency in English and French is a requirement; residence in Clermont-Ferrand, or otherwise a substantial presence there; and regular visits to the New Delhi office are mandatory.

## Application

Application should include an up-to-date Curriculum Vitae; contact details & email address; and a brief letter of motivation explaining your proficiency and interest to fill this Presidency position (about 1000 words).

Applications and enquiries may be made in strict confidence to the email address no later than **15<sup>th</sup> October 2022**: [gdnpresident@gmail.com](mailto:gdnpresident@gmail.com) The search will be co-ordinated on behalf of the Chairman of the Board and the Search Committee by: Aarti Khanna, Board Secretary, Global Development Network. Enquiries should be directed to her in the first instance, via the email address if possible, and otherwise by telephone between 9:30 am and 6:00 pm Delhi time; Mobile: +91 9810460578.

Only the shortlisted candidates selected for interview will be contacted. The Board reserves the right, in exceptional circumstances, to appoint a candidate who has not made a formal application.