

Regulatory Researcher for Asia and the Pacific

Who are we?

We are the University of Cambridge's presence in Singapore, Cambridge CARES. Our activities are sponsored by the National Research Foundation's CREATE programme. The team is comprised of researchers from around the world who work on new scientific advances and technologies that will benefit Singapore and the international community.

The Cambridge Centre for Alternative Finance (CCAF) is an interdisciplinary academic research institute at the University of Cambridge Judge Business School, dedicated to the study of alternative finance, which includes technology-enabled financial instruments, channels and systems that emerge outside of the traditional financial system. The CCAF is leading the establishment of a global knowledge network that accelerates the creation and transfer of knowledge relating to FinTech: the Cambridge Alternative Finance Collaboration Network (CAFCN). Earlier this year the CAFCN has launched operations in sub-Saharan Africa and in the Middle East, North Africa and the Mediterranean. As a cross-sectoral and cross-regional network, the CAFCN can facilitate FinTech market development and effect evidence-based regulatory changes in economies seeking to promote the sustainable growth of FinTech industries. This programme will establish and grow the CAFCN in the Asia Pacific region (APAC).

Who are we looking for?

The role-holder will lead CCAF's research on the regulation of alternative finance in the APAC region in order to support the improved regulation of alternative finance, in line with the objectives of the Cambridge Alternative Finance Collaboration Network (CAFCN). The role-holder will provide key data and insights to inform and enable the work and practice of FinTech industry, investors, and policymakers and regulators, thereby facilitating FinTech market development and effecting evidence-based regulatory change. This will support the development of an enabling regulatory environment and increased regulatory and supervisory capacity, which are required to support FinTech market development and, in turn, financial inclusion and economic growth.

This position will be employed by CARES, a hosting organisation of CAFCN in Singapore.

Key responsibilities and role requirements

1. Regulatory innovation and learning

Gather and disseminate lessons learned and best practices on the regulation of FinTech activities regional and cross-regionally by:

- Examining the appropriateness and effectiveness of regulatory innovation initiatives in the region, such as regulatory sandboxes, innovation offices and RegTech;
- Providing evidence-based recommendations for policymakers and regulators seeking to develop an appropriate and fit-for-purpose regulatory framework for FinTech in the region; and
- Providing input on the regulatory barriers to FinTech in specific markets.

2. Research

Undertake and publish research which advances the regional and global understanding of how to design and regulate alternative finance/technology-enabled financial innovation. This includes translating knowledge of advances in the subject areas into research activity.

3. Education

Develop and deliver training and education programmes, both online and offline, on the subject of the regulation of technology-enabled financial innovation, in order to support regulatory capacity building in this field.

4. Partner relationship management

Publicly represent the CAFCN internationally and regionally for and among key partners, including financial regulators and central banks, international standard setting bodies, government departments, universities, think tanks and development partners.

5. Stakeholder and funding development

Support the CAFCN Regional Lead, and the wider CAFCN, in the development of the CAFCN's programmes, networks and outputs. This includes developing strong stakeholder relationships in the region and identifying and supporting the development of further funded initiatives.

What skills will you need?

- Extensive experience in the regulation of alternative finance/FinTech, with knowledge and skills obtained through direct experience of working with/for a financial regulator, central bank or other relevant authority in the region a strong advantage.
- Demonstrable track record in conducting and delivering regulatory research of interest to regulators and policymakers, and in engaging with policymakers and regulators, ideally at the international level.
- Strong stakeholder management skills.
- Effective organisational and project management skills.
- Excellent communication and presentation skills.
- Ability to function effectively in an international, intercultural and interdisciplinary environment.
- Excellent verbal and written English.
- Experience and knowledge derived from working with/for a regulator, central bank or other relevant authority's FinTech unit or function (such as an innovation office or regulatory sandbox), particularly in the region, is a strong advantage.
- Experience in delivering capacity building and training on the subject of FinTech and/or regulation is a strong advantage.
- Understanding of effective global knowledge creation and transfer in FinTech and financial innovation research is desirable.
- Insights into the major global financial system market participants, donor and philanthropic ecosystem is desirable.

- Excellent verbal and written skills in other relevant languages is desirable.

What can we offer you?

- A stimulating working environment with friendly, highly motivated colleagues.
- Opportunities to develop and implement new ideas in a creative environment.
- A competitive salary in line with your skills and experience.
- A one-year contract in the first instance, extendable following a satisfactory performance.
- A comprehensive medical insurance coverage as part of your employment.

Please note this post is mainly based in the CREATE Tower at NUS University Town, Singapore.

How to apply?

Please send your CV/Resume and cover letter (merged into one pdf), summarising the most relevant skills and experience that you have for the position to recruitment@cares.cam.ac.uk. Applications should be sent no later than 25 November 2020. Due to the anticipated large number of applications, only short-listed candidates will be contacted.