THE WORLD BANK
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Technology & Innovation Office

Terms of Reference

About the World Bank Group:

Established in 1944, the World Bank Group (WBG) is one of the largest sources of funding and knowledge for developing countries; a unique global partnership of five institutions: the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Development Association (IDA), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), and the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID). With 189 member countries and more than 120 offices worldwide, the WBG works with public and private sector partners, investing in groundbreaking projects and using data, research, and technology to develop solutions to the most urgent global challenges.

Background/General Description:

The WBG ITS Technology & Innovation Office serves as an internal technology advisor, and a knowledge and exploration hub around operationalizing emerging technologies for development impact, enabling WBG to be future ready and competitive in the digital age. We work across multiple sectors and themes to solve corporate and development challenges in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals agenda, while harnessing the convergence of both conventional and emerging technologies and innovative paradigms including design thinking, foresight and system's design.

Technology & Innovation Office recently launched the 3-year work program anchored in the World Bank Group Korea Office. The aim of this program is to support the East Asia Pacific (EAP) region by harnessing AI and data-driven technologies to foster innovation and enhance the WBG's operations for sustainable development. This will be achieved by providing guidance to WBG operations and client countries, supporting knowledge sharing and capacity building opportunities, and delivering technical guidance on responsible AI and data safeguarding.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Terms of Reference is for the recruitment of a local STC (Short-Term Consultant) to be based in the WBG Korea Office to assist in this program and supporting the implementation of the workplan. The candidate should demonstrate analytical skills and understanding of the emerging technology landscape and market trends, and ability to determine potential impact to solve development challenges.

The candidate will support the team efforts on evaluating innovative technology fit for addressing development problems and issues faced by the WBG business units and its clients. The candidate will participate or co-lead joint efforts to support use cases leveraging disruptive/innovative technologies from both technical and business perspective. The candidate can also support exploration initiatives on disruptive technologies.

Duties and Accountabilities:

- Support the development and delivery phases as part of the Technology & Innovation and contribute to engage with the WBG community and ensure its participation in innovation initiatives and projects across WBG.
- Continuously research and monitor emerging technologies, industry trends, and best practices to stay current with the latest technology developments.
- Support providing technical assistance to WBG operation projects and country clients.
- Build and follow-up on engagements with various Korean stakeholders and partners.
- Contribute to the development of prototypes to show case innovative solutions.
- Assist and support the team in creating relevant communication materials related to the workplan outcomes.
- Identity and analyze the business requirements and develop solutions that align the client's needs.
- Contribute to identifying market technology trends which create the potential for the World Bank to leverage/accelerate the use of innovative digital platforms and/or hosting solutions.

Required Competencies

- At least two years' work experience in relevant fields
- Degree in a field relevant to this analytical work, such as Engineering, Data Science, Economics, and/or related fields regarding innovation/Technology/ICT
- Proven technical skills and knowledge of computer language is a strong plus.
- Strong teamwork and interpersonal skills and the ability to communicate effectively.
- Experience managing multiple projects, including simultaneous task assignments.
- Excellent communication skills, written and verbal, in English and Korean is a must.

Time Schedule and Operations

The initial contract will be 50 days in current FY. The days can be extended upon performance.