**BACKGROUND**

**Global Practice for Social, Urban and Rural Development, and Resilience (GSURR).** The JPO will be part of the broader GSURR with about 500 staff and a global portfolio of $22.55 billion. The Global Practice works with governments, communities, civil society and the private sector to help promote a state that is inclusive, responsive and accountable to citizens. The Global Practice combines several key sectors to develop solutions towards achieving the SDGs. Social Development focuses on the need to 'put people first' in development processes, recognizing that poverty is more than low income – it is also about vulnerability, exclusion, unaccountable institutions, lack of voice and agency, and exposure to violence. Urban Development supports green, inclusive, resilient and competitive cities where the majority of the world’s population now lives. Resilience: One and a half billion people live in countries affected by repeated cycles of violence. In the absence of services, participative planning and responsive institutions, these trends will result in increased poverty, social exclusion, vulnerability and more violence.

**Violence as one of the main urban challenges worldwide:** About half a million people are victims of interpersonal violence annually—many times the number of lives lost in open warfare. Roughly half are younger than 29 years old, mostly males from poor urban neighborhoods. About a third of women around the world have experienced some form of sexual or physical violence at least once in their lives. Crime and violence impose serious costs on countries, disproportionately affecting the poor, and undermining poverty reduction, good governance, and economic development efforts. This applies both to both middle and lower income countries. Homicide rates are disproportionally in Latin America and Caribbean (LCR) and several countries in Africa (AFR), child abuse and maltreatment are especially pronounced in East Asia and Pacific (EAP) and AFR, self-inflicted violence has a high prevalence in Europe and Central Asia (ECA), and gender based violence is present in all regions though markedly in South Asia and Middle East and North Africa (MNA).

**The Bank’s response and the Global Urban Youth Violence Prevention Architecture:** The Bank has recently established a Global Solutions Group (GSG) for Stability, Peace, and Security. The GSG builds on previous work in the field, especially the Global Urban Youth Violence Prevention Architecture, to respond to the global challenge of violence in an effective, collaborative, preventive and innovative manner. Within GSURR and building on the experience of the LAC Social Development Team that has led
the agenda on violence prevention in recent years, the Global Architecture aims to bring the Bank’s efforts to a global scale. The objective is to build strong partnerships and alliances within and outside the Bank to strengthen policymaking, enhance evidence-based, state-of-the-art interventions and strategies to prevent violence, and enhance conditions for their successful implementation in a diversity of contexts and sectors. For this, the Global Architecture supports activities to: 1) enable the strategic creation of evidence and the development of a cumulative knowledge base; 2) disseminate knowledge, along with the development of effective means to access it; and 3) generate initiatives and the capacity of institutions to increase the use of evidence in both policy and practice. Part of the strategy of the Global Architecture is also to operationalize this knowledge through Bank operations across Regions. This is being done primarily through integrating violence prevention in operations of other Global Practices the objectives and results of which are enhanced by having a component addressing violence. To develop this operational agenda, the Global Architecture builds on a network of over 100 staff from 12GPs/Cross-Cutting Solution Areas (CCSAs) and from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) who are members of the Bank’s Violence Prevention Global Beam activities. The Junior Professional Officer (JPO) will be part of these global efforts to implement the Global Architecture. For this effect, s/he will belong to the Global Programs Unit and work under the supervision of the Global Lead for Stability, Peace, and Security.

The JPO position within the Global Programs Unit: The GPSURR Global Programs Unit consists of a multi-disciplinary team working to design and deliver innovative and high-quality development solutions to support clients in achieving goals including, among others: understanding better the opportunities of urbanization; enhancing the potential for inclusive growth, poverty reduction, shared prosperity, and livability of communities, cities, and territories through social inclusion; improving the preparedness and resilience of cities and regions with respect to economic downturns and natural disasters; and supporting the Bank’s operational agenda on fragility, conflict and violence. The Global Programs Unit supports knowledge generation and exchange across the global practice through research, global advocacy, and knowledge sharing and is closely aligned with 9 global solutions groups housed within the GP. Within the Global Programs Units, the JPO will have an important role in enhancing the coordination of the Global Urban Youth Violence Prevention Architecture’s core activities across Practices and Regions.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Junior Professional Officer will have the following responsibilities:

- Support the implementation of the Global Urban Youth Violence Prevention Architecture and the Violence Prevention Global Beam.
- Within the Bank, assist in building, strengthening and maintaining a community of operational practitioners on violence prevention across Global Practices and Regions;
- With external partners (practitioners, policymakers, foundations, other multi-and bilateral development organizations, academics, civil society organizations), support the development and maintaining of strong relationships, and engagement in common activities including outreach and knowledge dissemination activities, among others.
- Contribute to taking stock of sector specific, evidence-based interventions to mainstream violence prevention in key sectors (transport, urban development, education, health).
- On an ad-hoc basis, contribute to violence prevention-related operations or components in Regions.
- Any other duties as may be required.
Note:
The selected candidate will not be assigned to programs involving his/her own government such as donor coordination and trust fund management.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Education: Master’s degree in Social Sciences
- At least two years of experience in violence prevention and/or social development, with field experience in developing countries a plus
- Good understanding of violence prevention from a development experience in partnership building a plus; ability to reach out to different teams to enhance collaboration and build coalitions
- Strong organizational skills
- Excellent oral and writing skills
- Fluency in Spanish, French and/or Portuguese a plus
- Proven ability to work in a team and intercultural environment, with minimal supervision
- Driver for results and ability to work in fast-paced environment often involving multi-tasking
- Hands-on and solution-oriented approach
- Enthusiasm and commitment to development