Terms of Reference

Job Title: Science, Technology and Innovation Specialist

Department/Division: GFCFC

Grade: GF

Appointment Type: 2-year term appointment

Language Preferences: English [essential], Japanese [essential]

Location: Tokyo, Japan

Appointment: International Hire

Background / General Description:

Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) is an emerging priority topic both within the FCI GP and at WBG. Addis Ababa Action Agenda and Agenda 2030 adopted at the UN in 2015 positioned STI as key means of implementation of the SDGs. The WBG is responding by mainstreaming STI into its operations through the corporate initiatives to harness disruptive technologies for the poor, led by the President Office.

Japan is an important partner for the WBG to jointly advocate for and pioneer practices of STI contributions to development impact including through key forums in 2019 where Japan assumes leadership roles: G20, UN Multi-stakeholder Forum for Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs (STI Forum), and TICAD VII. As part of the broadening collaboration between Japan and the WBG on STI, the WBG is implementing a partnership program consisting of four pillars: i) review of Japan STI for development; ii) private sector opportunity scanning and engagement; iii) Japan-WBG STI partnership operationalization; and iv) STI agenda shaping and informing.

The first pillar aims at identifying areas of Japan’s future STI contributions to developing countries through its existing policy tools and programs, through operational synergies and possible joint programs with the WBG. The key deliverables include a review of Japan’s International STI support to developing countries, providing analytical underpinnings to Japan’s deliberation on its International STI Roadmap in its support to developing countries. Activities under this pillar will be implemented with close coordination with GoJ’s relevant ministries and agencies (e.g. Cabinet Office, MOF, MOFA, MEXT, METI, JST, JICA) and are expected to generate knowledge useful for others (developed and developing countries) interested in developing STI Roadmap in context of the UN STI Forum which Japan will be a Co-Chair. The FCI GP plays a key role in delivering the first pillar of the partnership program, and informing implementation of the rest of the program and broader activities to be well aligned with the joint priorities within the WBG’s broader engagement with Japan on STI. Other WBG units, including the President Office and the Office of Senior Vice President, 2030 Agenda, UN Relations and Partnerships, will closely work with the FCI GP on the WBG’s efforts on STI in context of the UN and WBG corporate agendas.
**Duties and Accountabilities:**

The position will provide operational and analytical support to FCI GP and other teams as relevant, with primary focus on (but not limited to) the first pillar of the WBG-Japan partnership program on STI. The position is based in Tokyo, and with occasional travel to Washington DC, New York or other locations as necessary for the operational and analytical tasks.

The candidate will need to demonstrate broad knowledge of STI policy topics and issues and grounded operational experiences in two or more of the below three areas:

- Japan’s institutional and budget frameworks relevant to public STI spending and official development assistance
- UN’s SDGs framework, modalities of multilateral agenda shaping processes and forums, and relevant international as well as domestic initiatives across public and private sectors in Japan
- The WBG’s instruments, portfolio, cutting-edge knowledge products and emerging thinking relevant to STI at corporate level as well as across different thematic areas and regions

Support to implementation of the pillar 1 of the STI partnership program will involve the following:

- Project management: carry out necessary project preparation and supervision activities, including contribution to joint planning among the GoJ, WBG and UN for international forums.
- Advisory service and analytics: analyze and synthesize findings from the review of Japan’s international STI programs and develop policy recommendations.
- Dialogue coordination: maintain close liaison with key ministries and agencies involved in GoJ’s international STI roadmap.

**Selection Criteria:**

- Advanced degree in relevant field (e.g. economics, public policy, international affairs or related relevant discipline)
- At least 10 years of relevant professional experience, preferably including at Japanese governmental bodies with international STI programs
- STI policy formulation and evaluation experiences, either in the specialized ministry/agency or inter-ministerial coordination body
- Multilateral policy dialogue experience, either in the private sector or from a public policy perspective on topics relevant to the SDGs
- Solid understanding of STI policy issues and more in depth knowledge in one of the thematic areas of Firm Capability and Innovation (i.e. firm managerial skills, STI PER, xxx)
- Proven project management skills from preparation to completion;
- Proven ability in conceptualizing and developing high quality technical and analytical work related to STI topics.
- Ability to work well with clients and strong interpersonal and team skills;
- Excellent technical writing and presentation skills (in developing power point based reports and presentations) and experience in public speaking;
- Knowledge of STI opportunity and challenges in context of developing countries.
Competencies

Client Orientation - Maintains client relationships in the face of conflicting demands or directions and provides evidence-based advice and solutions based on sound diagnosis and knowledge.

Drive for Results - Identifies the needed resources to accomplish results involving multiple stakeholders and finds solutions to obstacles affecting key deliverables.

Teamwork (Collaboration) and Inclusion – Plays a strong role in teams in ensuring the team stays organized and focused, and actively seeks and considers diverse ideas and approaches.

Knowledge, Learning and Communication – Is active in the sharing of best practice, trends, knowledge and lessons learned across units and with clients and partners, articulating ideas verbally and in writing in a clear and compelling way across audiences of varied levels.

Business Judgment and Analytical Decision Making - Gathers inputs, assesses risk, considers impact and articulates benefits of decisions for internal and external stakeholders over the long term.

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