Donor Funded Staffing Program

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<th>TOR No:</th>
<th>2017-173</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>Education Specialist</td>
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<td>Grade:</td>
<td>GF</td>
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<td>Division/VPU:</td>
<td>Education Global Practice, East Asia and Pacific Region</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duty Location:</td>
<td>Washington D.C., Headquarters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appointment Type and Duration:</td>
<td>Two-year Term Appointment</td>
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BACKGROUND

THE EDUCATION GLOBAL PRACTICE

Education is central to achieving the World Bank Group’s twin goals: it is a reliable route out of poverty because it has large and consistent returns to income for individuals and because it can drive economic growth. It is also a prime vehicle for promoting shared prosperity. The main challenge in the education sector is to achieve “learning for all, learning for life”—that is, to ensure that all children and young people acquire the knowledge and skills they need for their lives and livelihoods. The WBG and the broader education development community are increasingly shifting focus to learning outcomes. Because traditional input-driven programs often fail to promote learning, the WBG’s education strategy highlights the need for a more comprehensive systems approach to education reform, investments, and service delivery. This approach is about increasing accountability and targeting results, as a complement to providing inputs. And it also requires strengthening the knowledge base on education, to highlight where systems are achieving results, where they are falling short, and what the most effective solutions are. These efforts are increasingly guided by the need to invest early; invest smartly; and invest for all. Through high-quality analytical work, collection and curation of evidence, and practical know-how in these three areas, the WBG is helping its partner countries accelerate their educational progress. The Education Global Practice (GP) is led by a Senior Director, who has overall responsibility for the practice. The Senior Director is assisted by the Director, who serves as the Chief Operating Officer of the Practice. The Education GP Management Team, which is the group that leads and manages the GP, consists of the Senior Director, the Director and seven Practice Managers.

The Education GP seeks the EAP Region comprises of more than 20 countries, including Middle Income Countries (MICs), Low Income Countries (LICs), and fragile states (EAP has the second highest number of fragile states amongst all the Bank regions). The Region is characterized by generally rapid growth, both sophisticated and low capacity borrowers, and some highly dynamic sectors. In the education sector, while many of the countries in EAP have achieved much in terms of getting their children to attend school at basic levels, they face ongoing challenges regarding the need to provide access at post-basic levels, improve the quality of schooling at all levels and enhance the relevance of education for the workplace.
EAP Region’s education strategy is consistent with the Bank’s own education sector strategy, with focus on following areas: (a) to strengthen education systems by helping develop institutions that enhance accountability, build information for effective decision-making through M&E and assessment systems and benchmarking; (b) to tailor our approach to country circumstances, specifically by responding to fast-growing countries’ requests to engage in upper secondary and higher education, skills development and vocational training, as well as to those from fragile and small states still trying to complete the Education for All (EFA) agenda; and (c) to use multi-sector approaches, such as conditional cash transfer programs, to achieve educational outcomes. Moreover, since the Region includes countries which are low-income or fragile states, as well as middle-income countries where loan financing is not the main priority, the Bank must combine its financial support with world-class demand-driven policy advice that uses its global knowledge base. Staff in the Education GP in EAP work closely with colleagues in other World Bank regional Education GPs, as well as in other GPs in the Region.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Education Specialist will work under the supervision of the Education Practice Manager for EAP. Based in Washington, D.C., s/he will work in close collaboration with different education task teams. Specifically, s/he is expected to be responsible for the following tasks and duties:

- Design and manage analyses of Bank-supported education sector operations in EAP to provide client countries with evidence-based findings that address their programmatic and policy needs.
- To contribute to the development of impact evaluations, policy briefs, technical notes and reports, and other regional and sub-regional studies.
- Support project teams in the identification, preparation, appraisal, and implementation of lending and grant projects in EAP to ensure the inclusion of poor and/or vulnerable groups and address social issues and risks.
- Participate in team activities and field missions and provide technical contributions to the design, preparation, supervision, and M&E of Bank-supported education operations in EAP.
- Provide training and capacity development for client countries to enhance their ability to carry out policy-informative research and impact evaluations in the education sector.
- Provide technical expertise and quality oversight in implementation of specific capacity building activities in accordance with client needs.
- Contribute to education policy discussions in client countries in developing and implementing education reforms and improving service delivery.
- Support business development in education and strengthening of strategic partnerships with internal and external alliances.

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

- Experience designing qualitative protocols, training national consultants, and presenting results to stakeholders
- Demonstrated ability to deliver high quality outputs in a timely manner
• Ability to work as a member of a multi-professional team with minimal supervision while seeking guidance on complex projects/issues from senior staff where appropriate
• Demonstrated analytical and writing skills, with the ability to translate technical knowledge and ideas into practical solutions and clear messages
• Strong oral communication and presentation skills
• Fluent English. Knowledge of one or more of the regional languages is desirable.
• Strong client orientation and demonstrated ability to work effectively with government agencies and other stakeholders, identify problems, provide technical assistance, build consensus, and arrive at solutions
• Familiarity with the Bank’s procedures would be a plus
• Knowledge of qualitative software packages such as NVivo or Atlas TI is desirable
• Field experience in the EAP Region is a strong asset
• Willing to travel to remote areas in developing countries