

## **Financial Sector Economist – Sector Economics and Development Impact (IFC5)**

Job #:

Department / Division: Sector Economics and Development Impact (CSEFI)

Grade: (Associate) GF/GF

Appointment Type: Term (Duration: 3 Years)

Language Preferences: English [Essential]

Location: Washington, DC

Appointment: International Hire

### **Background / General description:**

IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in emerging markets. Working with more than 2,000 businesses worldwide, we use our capital, expertise, and influence to create markets and opportunities in the toughest areas of the world. In FY17, we delivered a record \$19.3 billion in long-term financing for developing countries, leveraging the power of the private sector to help end poverty and boost shared prosperity. For more information, visit [www.ifc.org](http://www.ifc.org)

The Sector Economics and Development Impact Department, part of the Economics & Private Sector Development Vice Presidency in IFC, analyzes sectoral economic trends, and works closely with IFC Operations in formulating sector priorities and strategies, conducting policy dialogue, structuring, appraising, and monitoring investment and advisory projects, and reporting on IFC's impact.

The Department is looking for a Financial Sector Economist to help it assess, on an ongoing basis, the impact of financial sector development on macroeconomic trends, perform deeper analysis for decision making purposes and incorporate the relevant analysis to IFC's strategy and private sector development (PSD) objectives. He/she will work in close collaboration with the Investment and Advisory Staff of the Financial Institutions Group (FIG), responsible for designing and structuring IFC's financial sector operations.

Financial sector operations comprise a significant portion (40%) of IFC's investment operations, and make important contributions to financial sector development in client countries. These operations span commercial banking, including specialized product areas such as SME banking; insurance, microfinance, housing finance, trade finance, distressed assets, and capital markets development.

### **Duties and Accountabilities:**

His/her responsibilities may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) Contribute to the development and implementation of an ex-ante project assessment framework for investment and advisory projects throughout the project cycle.
- 2) Work in close collaboration with the FIG teams on Board submissions to ensure well-articulated and well-justified analysis of developmental impacts of FIG's engagements in private sector development

citing documented and proven outcomes from academic research that support recommended interventions.

- 3) Undertake strong analytical work based on rigorous applied economics in collaboration with FIG investment and advisory teams to inform sector strategies and operational decisions.
- 4) Monitor and analyze trends and developments in the financial sector on the global, regional and country level, and in collaboration with the economists, produce reports with a focus on challenges, priorities, and opportunities for market creation and private investment in the sector.
- 5) Support the preparation of briefs, reports, and presentations to various stakeholders including CSE and FIG management, senior management and the Board, as well as external stakeholders, on issues in financial sector development.
- 6) Contribute to various Strategy and Business Plan documents (e.g., FIG Strategy and Deep Dive Presentations, Country Private Sector Diagnostics, IFC Road Map, IFC Annual Report).
- 7) Provide assistance to CSE management, as needed.

**Selection Criteria:**

- Master's degree in Economics or related field is required. A PhD in Financial Economics/Finance/Economics or other relevant graduate degree from a reputable university is preferable.
- At least 6-8 years of experience demonstrating analytical skills in economics and private sector development work, with a focus on the financial sector.
- Prior work experience focusing on the financial sector in a Development Finance Institution (DFI) or in the private sector, and track record of working on financial sector strategies and policy related aspects. This includes demonstrated ability to apply economic knowledge into operational and strategic work in the financial sector.
- Strong analytical and quantitative skills. Proven capability to handle complex assignments (e.g. project related or analytical tasks with operational relevance) and produce work to a high professional standard, with minimum supervision.
- Knowledge of IFC or similar operational and portfolio work and a good understanding of investment projects processes and assessment methods in the financial sector is desirable.
- Drive for learning and innovation. Self-motivated to learn fast about new approaches and methodologies; and conceive and promote innovative approaches.
- Proven ability to work in teams and capability to work in multi-cultural environments.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English and ability to communicate effectively with different stakeholders.
- Highly motivated with enthusiasm and commitment to development work, especially the potential contribution of the financial sector and financing for development to achieve the WBG Twin Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals.

IFC values diversity and encourages all qualified candidates who are nationals of IFC member countries to apply, regardless of gender, gender identity, religion, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or disability. Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.