

Donor Funded Staffing Program

TOR No:	2024-042
Title:	Junior Professional Officer
Grade:	UC
Division/VPU:	Digital Dev - AFR EAST/SOUTH (IDD04)/Infrastructure Practice Group (GGIVP)
Duty Location:	Washington, D.C.
Appointment Type and Duration:	Two-year Term Appointment

BACKGROUND

The Infrastructure Practice Group

Globally, 840 million people live more than 2 kilometers from all-weather roads, 1 billion people lack electricity, and 2.7 billion people lack internet access. Access to basic infrastructure services is critical for creating economic opportunities for the poor. The Infrastructure Practice Group is charged with developing sustainable solutions to help close infrastructure gaps in developing and emerging economies. The World Bank Group helps developing countries build smart infrastructure that supports inclusive and sustainable growth, expands markets, creates job opportunities, promotes competition, and contributes to a cleaner future. We help countries address their unique infrastructure needs by working with the public and private sectors. Infrastructure improves lives by connecting people to opportunity. For more information: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/infrastructure>

Digital Development Global Practice

The Digital Development Global Practice (DD) is part of the Bank's Infrastructure Practice Group. It plays a critical role in enabling the achievement of the World Bank's Twin Goals of ending poverty and promoting shared prosperity as well as the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Digital technologies are transforming firms, governments and people's lives; and with the digital economy growing at a rate significantly higher than that of the global economy, it offers emerging economies a unique opportunity to leapfrog traditional paths for development through digital solutions. Collaborating across technical, geographic and institutional boundaries, the Digital Development team helps design and deliver ICT-enhanced solutions to a diverse range of clients. The team supports clients (i) through advisory assistance to establish policy and regulatory environments that allow the widespread use of technology and create a trust environment; (ii) lending operations by building infrastructure to connect the unconnected, or enabling digital government shared platforms (cloud, digital, identification, etc.). For more information: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/digitaldevelopment>.

The DD Global Practice is led by a Director supported by several Practice Managers with specific regional and thematic responsibilities. The IDD04 unit is responsible for Digital Development activities and portfolio in the Eastern and Southern Africa region, including lending, supervision and analytical work.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

IDD04 is looking for a Junior Professional Officer (JPO) to be based in Washington DC, USA. The JPO will report to the IDD04 Practice Manager. The JPO will:

- Participate in developing and implementing digital/ICT sector strategy, reform roadmaps and assists in country-specific policy work and implementation plans.
- Gather and analyze country, technology and markets facts and data to support sound decisions and inputs to Systematic Country Diagnostics, Country Partnership Frameworks and other
- Participate to a range of digital economy and ICT sector assessments, financial and business case analyses, and best practice notes.
- Provide technical expertise on selected ICT policy and regulatory issues and contributing to the design, preparation and supervision of World Bank Group financed digital development related investment and policy reform programs in client countries with a particular emphasis on aspects such as stimulating development of digital connectivity infrastructure through PPPs and regulatory/policy reforms, facilitating development of digital government IT infrastructure, platforms and services, and promoting development of digital skills and innovation as well as on addressing corporate requirements (e.g. climate change, gender,...).
- Liaise and coordinate with colleagues working in other sectors (including agriculture, health, education, energy, financial services, transport, etc.) on how to leverage digital technologies to improve public service delivery and efficiency in the respective sectors.
- Perform economic and financial analysis (market models, business models, etc.) to inform decisions on project designs, PPP schemes, financing plans, etc.
- Support data management activities including data inventory process, open data initiative, data collection and any other data related matters in the context of digital transformation activities.
- Work independently in providing operational, analytic or other professional support to senior professionals and seeking guidance on complex projects/issues from senior professionals.

Note:

The selected candidate will not be assigned to programs involving their own government such as donor coordination and trust fund management.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Master's degree in telecommunications, engineering, computer science, economics, or related public policy or law with a focus on technology or ICT and related field. Also a minimum of 3 years of experience in ICT / Digital Economy policy and regulation and/or ICT / Digital Economy project design and implementation - or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Working knowledge of the ecosystem of inter-related policies, strategies, institutions, laws and regulations relevant to the ICT sector and digital transformation of economies and societies
- Strong conceptual and analytical skills, including ability to think strategically and innovatively about the role of digital technologies for socio-economic development and for transformation in other sectors of the economy.
- Firm understanding of digital technologies, digital transformation of society, and digitally enabled business model trends relevant to socio-economic development in Africa (and in particular in Eastern and Southern Africa) context and enthusiasm to stay abreast of new innovations. Experience in Fragile Conflict and Violence environment would be an additional plus.

- Good client engagement skills, taking responsibility and accountability for timely response to client queries, requests or needs, working to remove obstacles that may impede execution or project success.
- Excellent written communication and verbal communication skills in English. Solid presentation skills, using charts, graphs and other data presentation techniques appropriately to communicate data, technical information, or complex concepts to non-specialists in a clear, easily understandable and effective manner.
- Strong drive for results, taking personal ownership and accountability to meet deadlines and achieve agreed-upon results.
- Strong business judgment and analytical decision making, analyzing facts and data to support sound and logical business decisions.
- Proven ability to function effectively as a team member of multi-disciplinary teams.
- Enthusiasm for, and commitment to development work
- Willingness and ability to travel to remote areas in the region if required.
- Field experience in developing countries a plus