

TERMS OF REFERENCE

for an

Economic Research Consultant

Background

The Global Investment and Competition (IC) group in the Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment Global Practice (MTI GP) at the World Bank Group (WBG) supports countries on structural reforms to boost private investment and foster healthy competition. IC's Investment Policy and Promotion (IPP) team provides technical assistance to help developing economies design and implement policy, legal, regulatory, and institutional reforms to foster private sector growth, through foreign direct investment (FDI) in particular. Advisory solutions for clients are conceptually organized around the 'investment lifecycle', comprising of strategy, investment attraction (investment promotion and investment incentives), investment entry, investment retention, and linkages between FDI and local business.

The IPP team based at the WBG's offices in Vienna, Austria, is seeking a consultant to support its ongoing work program with applied economic research, including data analysis and developing analytical tools and services to better target, design, and measure policy interventions. Besides, s/he will be asked to contribute to client-facing operational work and provide analytical, operational and strategic inputs requested by the IPP team. The consultant will be expected to contribute to all IPP workstreams but has a focus on FDI trends and impact, especially related to economic transformation, FDI linkages and spillovers, Global Value Chains (GVCs), investment incentives, as well as issues around FDI liberalization especially related to services sectors.

The position requires strong quantitative and analytical skills, solid knowledge of both macro- and microeconomics in a development context, client facing experience in advisory work (ideally in developing countries), and a demonstrated ability to take initiative, work harmoniously in a team and meet deadlines.

Roles and responsibilities

Specific tasks are expected to include:

- Design new analytical tools and empirical approaches and advise on suitability and/or improvements in methods of analysis and databases where needed.
- Conduct research and help grow the knowledge agenda on the IPP workstreams, including the development of methodological notes detailing specific data sources and analytical methodologies, as well as primary and secondary data collection and analysis.
- Synthesize and translate research into implications for policy and best practices, including the relationships of these policies with the broader macroeconomic framework.
- Contribute to the preparation of research papers, reports, and policy and briefing notes, potentially as a co-author with other team members.
- Contribute to providing technical assistance to client countries on investment policy issues and undertake travel to clients as needed.
- Support the Manager on ad-hoc analyses and research and provide day-to-day support to the IPP team as needed.

Competencies/Skills

- A completed Master's degree or PhD in economics, public policy, statistics or related fields.

- Conversant with the latest approaches to economic and private sector development topics, such as FDI, economic diversification, GVCs, business regulations, international trade.
- Graduate level training in economics and econometrics. Proven experience in analyzing micro data and strong skills with STATA (R is an advantage) or other statistical software are required.
- Extensive quantitative skills including statistical/economic modeling and other analytical tools and techniques to support project design, monitoring and evaluation.
- Experience conducting research using firm-level data. Experience analyzing FDI and/or trade and GVC data is a strong plus.
- Demonstrated ability to align research design/questions with relevant policy advice is a plus.
- Well organized, detail-oriented, able to prioritize, and manage multiple tasks simultaneously with minimal supervision.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English, with focus on research protocols, research papers and descriptive reports for diverse audience. Knowledge of other languages (e.g. French, Spanish, Russian) is a plus.

Application and Contract Details

These TOR aim to identify suitable candidates for 2-3 positions to be filled based on the qualifications outlined. It is not required to demonstrate experience on all research areas covered. In your application, please indicate your area of expertise and interest.

The contract will initially cover 60 days, with the possibility for renewal and extension, and should start as early as possible. It is guided by the WBG's policy on short-term consultants (STC).

The presence of the consultant at the WBG's office in Vienna, Austria (Praterstrasse 31, 1020), is required for at least 3 days per week.

Please send your application package including

- your CV,
- a short statement of interest, and
- a writing sample of work relating to one of the topics outlined, preferably demonstrating your quantitative and modelling skills,

to Ms. Dalia Ali (dali2@ifc.org) by **17 March 2019** at the latest.