Urban Development Specialist

JOB PURPOSE

Formulate and articulate policies and strategies on the urban sector development in developing member countries (DMCs). Engage in dialogue with the governments concerning urban development issues including urban planning, urban and municipal management, urban environmental management, and private sector participation in provision of municipal services. Lead in identifying, developing, processing, implementing and administering loans, technical assistance (TAs) projects, and non-lending products and services (NLPS) for the urban sector in DMCs.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Strategy and Planning
- Support the development of urban sector policy and strategies for urban development in DMCs in consultation and coordination with relevant government agencies and Resident Missions (RMs).
- Undertake review of urban development policy, related legal and regulatory framework and assess the progress towards achieving sustainable economic development and poverty reduction in the DMCs.
- Undertake policy dialogue with governments and other donor organizations on urban development thematic areas, promote efficient use of resources and encourage participatory approaches to development planning, financing and sustainability.
- Participate in country teams and provide inputs around urban development issues for Country Partnership Strategy and Country Operations Business Plans.
- Conduct economic, thematic and sector work in the context of sustainable economic development and poverty reduction.
- Coordinate with RMs for consistency of approach, exchange of experiences, and continuous improvement of practices and integration of urban development policy commitments to the management of projects.

Project Management
- Lead in the development, processing and administration of loan and TA projects in the urban sector possibly with moderate to high levels of risk and complexity.
- Liaise with and coordinate with development agencies on program loans and investment projects.
- Ensure key technical, economic, financial, institutional and crosscutting issues are incorporated into projects.

Knowledge Sharing
- Develop and maintain a suitable network in the area of urban development to keep abreast of the latest developments and issues.
- Substantially contribute to activities for advocacy, dissemination and knowledge building around urban development issues.
Staff Supervision
- Take the role of mission leader and supervise the work of mission members and ensure the overall high quality of outputs and reports.
- Supervise the performance of reporting staff, providing clear direction and regular monitoring and feedback on performance.
- Ensure the on-going learning and development of reporting staff.

EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Master’s Degree, or post-graduate degree in Infrastructure/Project Finance, Urban Finance, Urban Planning or related disciplines.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- Suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level
- At least 8 years of relevant professional experience in urban development and urban environmental improvement, urban sector development issues, or related area and in project administration and relevant experience in design of multisector projects, practical knowledge and experience in integration of financial, economic, social, institutional and safeguard requirements and issues in project design.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English.
- International experience working in development in several countries.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Application of Technical Knowledge and Skills
- Regularly shares knowledge on new international best practice trends in comparator situations
- Proactively applies relevant international best practices to own work
- Convinces others to adopt international best practice by explaining the situational relevance and benefits

Client Orientation
- Helps colleagues work effectively with clients in different contexts and from diverse backgrounds and country situations
- Adapts own approach and style when interacting with clients, as opposed to requiring them to adapt
- Draws upon international best practice in exploring solutions with clients
- Confirms the clients’ understanding and agreement before progressing
Achieving Results and Problem Solving
- Draws on own and others’ multi-country experience to identify viable courses of action when conducting analyses
- Helps internal and external clients achieve quality results beyond presenting problems and precedent
- Highlights possible solutions for project issues based on relevant multi-country and/or multi-client experience
- Regularly contributes insights and experiences to colleagues in the Division to help them achieve quality results
- Overcomes unexpected difficulties and challenges to produce desired outcomes

Working Together
- Maintains collaborative relationships within the Department
- Works effectively with diverse colleagues in own and other Divisions and Departments
- Flexibly alters positions and adjusts previously stated points of view to support the group consensus
- Follows through on team priorities in the absence of a team leader

Communication and Knowledge Sharing
- Checks the audience’s level of understanding and awareness of required follow up actions
- Consistently seeks and addresses feedback on own performance
- Creates knowledge products endorsed for wider distribution based on lessons and multi-country experience
- Independently amends and clarifies messages and documents

Innovation and Change
- Actively supports work improvement and/or organizational change by work and deed
- Develops and adopts change plans to support Division initiatives on which one works
- Considers current and future client needs in proposing ideas
- Vocalizes early support for change
- Recommends inputs to new policies, systems and processes in immediate work area

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS
- Supervisor: Director
- The following staff positions report to the Urban Development Specialist:
  - National Staff
  - Administrative Staff

We encourage diversity in our workplace and support an inclusive work environment. Women are encouraged to apply.