

Internship at the Office of the Chief Economist of Infrastructure Vice- Presidency at the World Bank

Background

The Infrastructure Vice-Presidency (GGIVP) was formed on July 1st, 2018 with a view to strengthening institutional focus on the infrastructure sectors, defined to include Energy & Extractives, Urban Resilience and Land, and Transportation, as well as the cross-cutting Infrastructure Finance, PPPs & Guarantees Group. In addition to being one of the highest lending Practice Groups in the World Bank, GGIVP also takes leadership on key corporate priorities – energy transition, digital development, and private capital mobilization – as well as being an important contributor to the agenda on Climate Change.

The infrastructure Chief Economist's Office (INFCE) was established in July 1st, 2019 to spearhead research activities on infrastructure economics that address critical knowledge gaps and to provide broad strategic guidance on the content and focus of GGIVP's analytical program. For these purposes the office undertakes various activities: producing infrastructure flagship reports, research papers, and policy notes on policy issues of strategic importance, identifying Infrastructure data priorities, and improving data curation, mapping and diagnostics.

The office works closely with the leading economists and acts as a liaison between GGIVP and the Chief Economist Offices of other Practice Groups as well as the six Regional Vice-Presidencies to forge partnerships on agendas of mutual interest.

Duties and accountabilities

The main objective of the internship is to assist the office in fulfilling its functions by providing research, analytical and organizational assistance. Depending on the task, the intern will report to Stephane Straub (Chief Economist at INFCE), Jevgenijs Steinbuks (Senior Economist at INFCE), Yue Li (Senior Economist at INFCE), He He (Economist at INFCE), and Estefania Vergara (Economist at INFCE) and shall maintain close working relations with the other team members in the office. Exact allocation of reporting duties will be defined at the time of starting the internship. The main tasks will include the following:

- 1) Contributing to micro-econometric analysis using STATA and/or R, MATLAB, and handling Geospatial Data
- 2) Supporting analytical work (Flagship reports and papers), for example by synthesizing information and reviewing academic literature, conducting independent data collection and analysis, and contributing to the drafting of research studies and policy notes. Ongoing projects include among others a) generating a database of rates of return of infrastructure across sectors, with one component being the creation of a global database of capital stocks across these sectors; b) Understanding complementarities between emerging digital technologies and

other infrastructure sectors, with applications for example to maintenance as well as the potential for GHG emissions reduction; c) generating and analyzing a database of transport public-private partnerships (PPPs) in Latin America, with a focus on financial characteristics of projects.

3) Contributing to Infrastructure data initiatives, such as data curation and management

4) Assisting with other activities of the office, as needed

Qualifications

We have multiple positions and are interested in candidates who can offer one or more of the following specialized skills:

- Expertise with desk-based research
- Expertise in economic analysis or related fields, possibly with a background in one or more infrastructure sectors (Energy, Transport, Urban and Land)
- Basic skills to use statistical packages, including STATA and/or R, MATLAB, and standard software such as Microsoft Office
- Experiences in econometric analysis
- Expertise with collection, management, and analysis of large datasets
- Skills and experience in working with geospatial data and software such as ArcGIS, QGIS, etc.

The candidates are expected to have the following qualifications:

- Education: Graduate-level training in economics or some related field
- Strong analytical and conceptual skills
- Strong oral and communication skills in English
- Ability to deliver results effectively in support of the team.
- Highly motivated and results-oriented with initiative, persistence, and a positive attitude.
- Ability to take personal ownership and accountability to meet deadlines.
- Ability to work under pressure and work flexibly on a range of assignments and adjust to and prioritize a variety of evolving tasks.

The contract will be for 5 months, from October 2024 to February 2025. The first month of the internship will be remote, starting from October 1, 2024, in South Korea. From November 15, 2024, interns are expected to join the team in person at the World Bank office in Washington, D.C.