

World Bank Group

International Finance Corporation

Job Title: Research Assistant

Department: Economic Research (CERER)

Appointment Type: Short-Term Consultant (STC)

Location: Washington, D.C. (possibility for remote work, if candidate is able to come to office as needed)

Duration: Up to 150 days in a fiscal year, with possibility of renewal conditional on performance.

Remuneration: Based on candidate's qualification

Closing date for the receipt of applications: April 30, 2024

Background / General description:

The International Finance Corporation (IFC), member of the World Bank Group, is the largest global development institution focused on private investment in emerging economies. The organization operates in more than 100 countries, using capital, expertise, and influence to create markets and opportunities that work for development.

The Economics and Market Research Department (CER) focuses on operationally relevant research on firms and private sector development in emerging and low-income developing economies. This includes overseeing country private sector diagnostics, working to identify the most impactful business opportunities, creating a series of reports, undertaking research for peer-reviewed journals, organizing conferences with academia, and providing analytical input to guide IFC's strategy.

The department is looking to hire a research assistant to support its growing research workstream, especially related to financial topics such as firm financing, financial markets, and investments. The selected candidate will report primarily to one member of staff, with assignments that may span several projects and staff in the department.

Terms of Reference

- Download, clean, and structure large datasets for empirical analysis, and manage project databases.
- Perform econometric analysis, including regressions. Prepare charts, tables, and other outputs.
- Prepare literature reviews.
- Draft sections of studies/reports, prepare syntheses, presentations, and bibliographies.
- Proofread and edit documents.
- Support other tasks on research and analysis, as needed.
- Support the organization of online and in-person events to the extent that location allows.
- Support communication activities online.
- Liaise regularly with staff and external associates working on the topics assigned.

Qualifications

- Graduate degree in economics, finance, or related quantitative field. Graduates with master's degree who are planning to apply to a PhD program in economics/finance in the next 2 years are preferable.
- Specialization or research experience in the field of finance is desirable.
- Experience extracting, cleaning, and analyzing data from financial databases, including Bloomberg and/or Refinitiv, for research purposes is highly desirable.
- Strong analytical and quantitative skills with good knowledge in applied econometrics.
- Experience in working with micro-data, including firm- or transaction-level data is required, along with experience managing databases.
- Excellent command of Stata and other statistical software, Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint, is essential. Coding skills in Python, MATLAB, or R is an advantage.
- Ability to write well-documented, reproducible code for data processing pipelines, and analysis.
- Excellent drafting and presentation skills in English.
- Excellent organizational skills.
- Intellectual curiosity, creativity, and ability to connect seemingly separate narratives.
- Communication and Team Skills: High level of personal and professional integrity. Self-starter. Strong ability to function well in a multi-cultural environment and working in teams.
- Flexibility, responsiveness, and ability to manage multiple activities to tight deadlines.
- Strong interest in conducting academic and policy-relevant research, especially in private sector development.

Applications must take the form of a Curriculum Vitae (CV) and a brief cover email sent directly to Gleice Zanettin De Marrocos gmarrocos@ifc.org, with the subject “RA Application Finance – [your name]”. For any enquiries, please send an email to Imtiaz Ul Haq iulhaq@ifc.org.