

# Development Impact (DIME) at the World Bank

Hiring drive for Research Assistants and Field Coordinators

October 2023

## 1. Summary

The Development Impact (DIME) department seeks is hiring 22 Research Assistants (RA) and Field Coordinators (FC) across 18 projects. The consultants will work with the DIME team and external researchers on all phases of the impact evaluations (IEs), from study design to analysis. The details specific to projects hiring, including expected start date, can be found on [this page](#). Applicants may also indicate interest in being considered for positions that will open in the future.

*Research Assistants* work with the research team to support data acquisition, processing, cleaning, and analysis. *Field Coordinators* supervise implementation of the impact evaluations in the field and liaise with the research team, World Bank operational staff, and Government Officials.

Research Assistants may either work remotely or be based in Washington, DC, depending on the needs of the research team (as specified in position *descriptions*). Field Coordinators are typically based in the country where the study is taking place, either at the World Bank Country Office or a city near to the project implementation area. Research Assistants (RAs) and Field Coordinators (FCs) will be hired as Short-Term Consultants (STCs).

**Details about open positions can be found on [this page](#). Qualified candidates should apply using [this link](#) <sup>(OBJ)</sup> Thursday, October 19, 1 PM ET. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.**

## 2. Background and objectives

DIME generates high-quality and operationally relevant data and research to transform development policy, help reduce extreme poverty, and secure shared prosperity. It develops customized data and evidence ecosystems to produce actionable information and recommend specific policy pathways to maximize impact. Most DIME IEs are associated with a World Bank project. DIME works across the following World Bank sectors: Agriculture, Governance, Climate Change, Financial & Private Sector Development, Entertainment Education, Transport & Infrastructure, Social Protection & Jobs, and Fragility Conflict and Violence. DIME establishes a research team to work on each IE study through its completion. Each research team typically includes a principal investigator and co-investigators, a field coordinator based in country to support the government team on all aspects of the IE, and one or more research assistants to support data cleaning, processing, and analysis.

More information can be found at <http://www.worldbank.org/dime>.

### 3. Tasks and deliverables

The consultants will report to the project Principal Investigators and other members of the Impact Evaluation team.

***Duties for RAs include, but are not limited to:***

- Clean administrative and primary datasets and create all indicators required for analysis
- Write well-documented, reproducible code for data cleaning, descriptive statistics, regression analysis, data visualization, and any other analysis as per project needs; document all data work on the project's GitHub repository
- Manage databases, integrating various data sources (for example, project monitoring data, administrative data from local government, and household survey data). This may require programming matching algorithms, using spatial data to create linkages, performing manual matching, and linking up with field staff for additional information on specific tasks
- Support primary data collection: participate in questionnaire design; program electronic questionnaires, design and run high frequency quality checks on raw data; liaise with field staff to resolve data issues and required clarifications
- Conduct literature review and syntheses, contribute to impact evaluation reports and policy briefs, support the development of grant applications, and other writing and editing tasks
- Prepare push-button replication files academic papers and related outputs
- Support receipt of ethical approvals and ensure that data security of identifiable information on project are maintained
- Deliver training courses like impact evaluation, data processing and analysis for government counterparts
- Participate in regular code review sessions with [DIME Analytics](#)

***Duties for FCs include, but are not limited to:***

- Act as a liaison among members of the research team, government representatives, local stakeholders, and other locally hired field staff to promote understanding of and support for the impact evaluation
- Contribute to the development and implementation of field protocols for primary data collection and procedures and survey instruments, including field protocol, data quality protocol, recruitment of field staff, field staff training, and survey pilots
- Support receipt of ethical approvals and ensure that data security of identifiable information on project are maintained
- Supervise the implementation of primary data collection and data entry activities (including field monitoring, high frequency data checks, survey audits) and act as the primary point of contact with the research firm hired to conduct surveys
- Coordinate acquisition of secondary data, such as administrative data
- Ensure that impact evaluation interventions are carried out as planned, adhering to implementation protocols and timelines. This may include ensuring IT systems for inspections are installed, inspection forms and checklists are properly used, tablets are prepared and available, and other similar tasks. Closely monitor the implementation of the interventions to be evaluated to ensure that the identification strategy is not compromised

- Send weekly progress reports on the implementation to the research team
- Support data cleaning, processing, and analysis
- Support in-country capacity building by helping train local hires and stakeholders in impact evaluation methodology, data collection, etc.
- Support the dissemination of impact evaluation methodology and results
- Perform other related tasks, upon request

## 4. Skills Required

### A.) For Research Assistants and Field Coordinators (STC) -

- **Academic specialization:**
  - A **master's degree in economics, public policy, statistics, computer science or related field**, with strong quantitative research skills is essential
- **Technical skills:**
  - Advanced skills using either Stata or R for data processing and analysis is required for Research Assistants and preferred for Field Coordinators
  - Experience with survey programming in an ODK-based platform is strongly preferred, especially for Field Coordinators
  - Experience with machine learning, natural language processing, Shiny dashboards, and geospatial analysis are desirable, especially for Research Assistants. Knowledge of python is an advantage (and required for certain positions)
  - Experience coding in a team environment and using GitHub is highly desirable.
- **Experience:**
  - The candidate must have background in impact evaluation and econometric analysis
  - Experience working with raw household survey data is strongly preferred for research assistants
  - Field research experience, and/or experience managing data collection, is required for Field Coordinators
  - Experience working in developing countries preferred and knowledge about the relevant sectors is desirable
- **Capacity Building Skills:**
  - Demonstrated ability and experience in designing and delivering training and capacity building activities or other teaching experience is a plus
- **Language:**
  - Superior written and oral communications skills in English is essential
  - Certain positions will require fluency in other languages (such as French, Portuguese, Hindi, Swahili), as detailed in the specific job ads on the DIME Jobs page.
- **Interpersonal skills:**
  - Motivated self-starter, with demonstrated ability to work effectively and sensitively in teams, and excellent cross-cultural communication skills

- For additional skills and requirements, see detailed job ads linked on the next page.

## 5. Intellectual Property

The World Bank shall, solely and exclusively, own all rights in and to any work created in connection with this agreement, including all data, documents, information, copyrights, patents, trademarks, trade secrets or other proprietary rights in and to the work. The consultant is not allowed to post or publish (electronically or in print) any project-related information without the explicit permission of the Impact Evaluation Team.

## 6. Terms

The Research Assistants and Field Coordinators will be hired as short-term consultants, and remunerated according to the World Bank scale. Contract duration will be discussed on a project-by-project basis.

## 7. Selection Process

**Qualified candidates should apply using [this link](#) no later than Thursday, October 19, 1 PM ET. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.** Applicants will be asked to upload a zipped folder which include the following:

- Resume
- Brief statement(s) of interest (SOI). Candidates have the option to include a specific SOI for each position they are applying to. At a minimum, we request that candidates submit a separate EOI for each type of position (RA, FC). Each SOI should be no longer than 500 words, and the file title should clearly indicate the position of interest.
- (If applicable) Sample code. Applicants are recommended to include sample files prepared by them that best indicate their level of experience in Stata, R, Python, and/or ODK. Candidates may submit multiple code samples (no more than one per programming language), if relevant to their position(s) of interest. If you prefer to point to code on GitHub rather than attaching code samples, please share, as a readme file, the link to individual scripts that best represent your skills in the language. If full repositories are linked, the code will not be considered.

Shortlisted candidates might be invited to take a technical test based on the skills required by the hiring team and will be required to participate in interviews. **Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.**

The World Bank Group is committed to achieving diversity in terms of gender, nationality, culture, and educational background. Individuals with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply. All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

## 8. Projects with Open Positions

The details specific to projects hiring, including expected start date, can be found below for each category.

### *8.1 Research Assistants (RA)*

**Note: Certain RA positions are listed as Pre-Doc RAs. In these cases, hiring teams are specifically looking for candidates who plan to go on to PhD programs in the next few years.**

For more details on the projects below, please see [this link](#).

- *Data and Evidence for Justice Reform (De Jure)*
- *Measuring Organizational and Personnel Determinants of Public Administration Productivity in the EU*
- *Rwanda Agriculture Impact Evaluations (Pre-doc)*
- *PEI Impact Collaborative*
- *IntPact Kenya (Pre-doc)*

### *8.2 Field Coordinators (FC)*

For more details on the projects below, please see [this link](#).

- *Impact Evaluation of Rice Value Chains under Marshland Irrigation (Kigali, Rwanda)*
- *PEI Impact Collaborative (Cameroon)*
- *PEI Impact Collaborative (South Sudan)*
- *PEI Impact Collaborative (Sierra Leone)*
- *PEI Impact Collaborative (Ethiopia)*
- *PEI Impact Collaborative (Malawi)*
- *PEI Impact Collaborative (Haiti)*
- *IntPact Kenya*

### *8.3 Hybrid Research Assistant-Field Coordinators*

For more details on these positions, please see [this link](#).

- *Evaluation of the RNP-RSU program in Morocco*
- *Rwanda Tax, Trade, & Informality*
- *Food Security of In-transit Migrants in Peru*

### *8.4 Other*

For more details on these positions, please see [this link](#).

- *Data Engineer (Consultant) - Data-driven Financial Management Storytelling -*
- *Research Assistant/Program Coordinator - DIME-ID4D Collaboration*