



## Donor Funded Staffing Program

<b>TOR No:</b>	<b>2020-037</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Agricultural Specialist</b>
<b>Grade:</b>	<b>GF</b>
<b>Division/VPU:</b>	Agriculture and Food Global Practice, Latin America and Caribbean Region (SLCAG)
<b>Duty Location:</b>	Washington
<b>Appointment Type and Duration:</b>	Two-year Term Appointment

### **BACKGROUND**

Agriculture is an essential pathway to meeting the World Bank Group’s (WBG) twin goals—eliminating extreme poverty by 2030 and promoting shared prosperity. Food production must increase by at least 35 percent to meet the needs of the rising global population. Thus, ending extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity cannot be achieved without more and better investment in agriculture, food security, and nutrition. Meeting today’s challenges on the food and agriculture agenda will require major strides in agricultural innovation and climate smart agriculture, efficiency in food production and distribution systems, promoting environmentally and socially sustainable production practices, strengthening agricultural policy and institutions, supporting agribusiness value chains, and joint private- and public- sector action. The Agriculture and Food Global Practice (GP) of the WBG, working closely with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), supports a Global Vision for Food and Agriculture with agriculture able to feed every person, every day, in every country with a safe, nutritious and affordable diet, and where jobs and income gains in the food system are sufficient to meet poverty reduction targets.

To help the achievement of the twin goals, the strategic focus of the Agriculture GP, as reflected in the Agriculture Action Plan, is to help client countries on the issues mentioned above. Our current work program (150+ operations) consists of engagement in policy dialogue, investment, and forging partnerships across the globe seeking to (i) raise agricultural productivity, (ii) link farmers to markets and strengthen value chains, (iii) support rural non-farm income, (iv) reduce risk, vulnerability, and gender inequality, and (v) enhance environmental services and sustainability.

The Agriculture GP works with and across multiple sectors, in recognition of the fact that Agriculture outcomes often depend on actions that lie outside the Practice, and the GP actively

contributes to work managed by other Global Practices. Accordingly, a capacity to work across GP boundaries, forge coalitions and influence multi-practice solutions is essential for achieving the major objectives of improving agriculture outcomes.

In the Latin America and the Caribbean Region (LCR), the Agriculture and Food Global Practice consists of about 26 staff (6 of whom are in Country Offices) and carries one of the largest programs of all GPs, spread in all seven Country Management Units (CMUs) of the Region. It has an active and diversified portfolio of about 30 investment projects (IBRD/IDA) for a total commitment of about \$2.40 billion, with annual disbursements of over \$200 million. These investment operations comprise mostly of: (i) agricultural/rural development projects with a poverty alleviation focus, but also with a strong emphasis in strengthening competitiveness and maintaining profitable market access, where special attention is paid to special actions for inclusion of indigenous populations; (ii) establishing and developing modern business productive alliances between agricultural producers, exporters/agro-industrial buyers and financial/technical services providers; (iii) promoting the development and adoption of new climate smart agricultural and nutrition-sensitive practices that would achieve sustained increases in productivity ensuring at the same time adequate management of natural resources and reduced vulnerability to climate changes; (iv) developing new innovative environmentally-sound technologies to strengthen all stages of key value chains; and (v) promoting skills development and gender equality and increasing prospects for farm and non-farm incomes.

The unit is responsible for all of the operational and analytical work in the Agriculture and Food Global Practice for the LAC Region. The unit has a large projects portfolio across LAC, including in Mexico, Guatemala, Brazil, Honduras, Brazil, Bolivia, Ecuador, Argentina and Uruguay, among others, and is working to develop new entry points for a robust, value adding lending program across the Region. The unit manages some recipient-executed trust funds in Honduras, Mexico, among others. The unit is also responsible for country-focused analytical work, as well as regional analytical work focused on Agriculture and Food.

The successful candidate will be working in the Agriculture and Food Global Practice focused in the Latin America and Caribbean Region (LAC), which falls within the Sustainable Development and the Latin America Vice Presidencies. The focus will be entirely on Agriculture and Food systems in the LAC Region.

#### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The overall responsibilities of the candidate will focus on writing, research and economic analysis and evaluation. Specifically, the candidate will contribute to the design of monitoring and evaluation frameworks, impact evaluations, and undertake economic and financial analyses at the project design and closing stages.

Some of the specific tasks of the successful candidate are expected to include, but remain subject to adjustments based on client needs and Bank senior management directions:

- Support the unit in the implementation of a Bank-executed trust fund to link agricultural producers to the new school feeding law in Guatemala. Specific responsibilities will

include: contributing to an impact evaluation, writing project documents, coordinating field work aspects, participating in missions, overseeing production of video content, inputs to design of investments in women entrepreneurship, among others.

- Support the Guatemala team in a broader engagement to develop a potential operation with the Government of Guatemala focused on modernizing the Agriculture sector in Guatemala through investments in human capital, post-harvest processing and information systems. Specific tasks will include research on Guatemala's Ag sector, written inputs into project documents, participating in missions, project design, approval and supervision, among others.
- Support teams in Mexico, Uruguay, Paraguay and Chile to contribute to preparation of lending projects, undertaking related research, and contributing to analytical work related to grain storage, post-harvest processing and milk value-chains (Mexico), human capital and labor productivity in agriculture, agriculture insurance products, livestock pest prevention and management (Uruguay). In Paraguay, the work could focus on research and contributions to a potential engagement on traceability in the livestock sector. Other value chains could also be included. There may be interest in expansion of this work to focus on sanitary and phytosanitary challenges and responses in select value chains. In Chile the work could be focused on helping the team advice and support to the Ministry of Agriculture on the design and implementation of a comprehensive regional platform (PLACA) bringing together several countries focused on finding sectoral solutions to climate change. Specific tasks will include research, drafting project documents, analysis, participation in client meetings, participating in missions, project or analytical design and implementation support, among others.
- Overall support to the unit to undertake the design of results frameworks (indicators and objectives) for project preparation, financial and economic analysis for project preparation and closing.
- Overall support to PM on specific key assignments (e.g., preparation of strategic briefing notes or presentations on relevant topics, under the PM's guidance.)

**Note:**

The selected candidate will not be assigned to programs involving his/her own government such as donor coordination and trust fund management.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

- Educational Degree: PhD or master's degree in economics, agricultural economics, irrigation engineering or related field.
- Relevant Experience: At least 5 years of relevant experience (or a PhD plus 3 years of work experience) working in the field of agriculture, agricultural logistics, post-harvest processing, digital agriculture, climate smart agriculture solutions, donor-funded agriculture projects, or similar fields.
- Strong economics/quantitative background with experience in economic analysis and impact evaluation.

- Well-honed ability to write clearly and concisely in English and desirably in Spanish and/or Portuguese
- Generally excellent oral and written communication skills. Spanish fluency required.
- Strong organizational, research, and presentation skills.
- Strong work ethics and commitment to the development agenda
- Ability to work well in teams, take direction, and demonstrate leadership.
- Experience working in Latin America preferred. Field experience in developing countries valued.