We are very proud to welcome the nineteenth cohort of the World Bank Group Voice Secondment (VSP) who joined the WBG on January 8, 2024. Launched by Executive Directors in 2004, the VSP is managed by the Corporate Secretariat. Each year, the Program attracts about 30 government officials from low and middle-income countries, especially from fragile and conflict-affected countries and small island states. Following a competitive selection process, the Voice Secondees are invited to spend 6 months at the WBG in Washington, D.C and are integrated into various units across the WBG, getting a firsthand exposure to our knowledge and operational work.

The VSP provides indeed a unique opportunity for our direct counterparts and government agencies such as ministries of finance and development in our member countries to gain a better understanding of WBG operational policies, procedures and financing instruments, a strengthened capacity and hence a stronger voice and representation in our institutions.

In doing so, the Program also enables Bank staff to hear directly from our client countries on their experience in dealing with the WBG, offering a critical knowledge exchange platform to enhance country engagement, promote operational efficiency and
effectiveness of the WBG and foster partnerships for impact with our WBG client countries, fully in line with the Evolution Roadmap.

As it celebrates its 20th anniversary, the VSP now counts 380 alumni, and is very proud to count many VSP alumni serving in key leadership roles in their home governments, sometimes joining our Board, and thereby further facilitating and enriching our dialogue with our client countries. As they bring their WBG experience back home, many VSP alumni become key counterparts for Bank operational teams.

Each year, the VSP continues to attract a sustained demand to participate in the Program from our member countries. Over the years, the VSP has become a very sought after, competitive Program, drawing interest of candidates from all over the world. For more details on the VSP, please visit the VSP page by clicking here.