



Donor Funded Staffing Program

TOR No:	2019 - 064
Title:	Disaster Risk Management Specialist
Grade:	GF
Division/VPU:	Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience (SURR) Global Practice, EAP Urban & DRM I Unit (GSU08)
Duty Location:	Singapore/Washington D.C. (to be confirmed)
Appointment Type and Duration:	Two-year Term Appointment

BACKGROUND

1. Natural hazards are a main source of risk for the poor and present a serious obstacle to achieving sustainable social and economic development. Disasters affect the poor most severely; measures taken to manage hazards and reduce their impact provide an effective vehicle to make substantial advances in the fight against poverty. East Asia and the Pacific (EAP) is one of the most disaster-stricken regions in the world. Due to accumulation of people and assets in hazardous places, many cities across the region are increasing their vulnerability to the impacts of natural hazards, particularly with different types of floods.
2. Based on demand from clients, disaster risk management (DRM) is a large and growing part of the World Bank's overall portfolio of lending and technical assistance. As part of World Bank's Global Practice Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience" (SURR), the DRM team in EAP works closely with clients to shift from post-disaster response to holistic risk reduction and mitigation. Through lending, technical assistance, advisory services, institutional capacity-building and knowledge-sharing, the team provides support to clients on issues of risk assessment, risk reduction (including flood management, urban drainage, coastal management, and retrofitting of infrastructure), disaster preparedness (including hydromet services, early warning systems, and civil defense), risk financing, and resilient reconstruction (including post-disaster damage and loss assessment). To enhance innovation and good practice in operations, foster knowledge-sharing and institutional capacity-building, the EAP DRM team supports a range of knowledge and learning activities with support from the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR). The team also contributes to a global community of practice focusing on urban floods.
3. With growing client demand for risk reduction, in the next 4-5 years the program is expected to significantly increase in emerging lines of activities including the scaling up of new risk financing products, urban flood risk management, multi-hazard risk mitigation for critical infrastructure, strengthening of hydro-meteorological services, etc. DRM is inherently a cross-sectoral discipline, and collaboration between sectors and other regions are key for optimal outcomes. The EAP teams are located in Washington DC as well as across different EAP countries. In 2015, the Bank established its Infrastructure and Urban Hub in Singapore to better connect Singapore's first-class expertise to Bank clients and teams and also to enhance our ability to deploy our best talent into country programs in EAP. The extended DRM practice is a vibrant network of practitioners striving to integrate disaster resilience into development investments.

4. Floods pose a serious challenge for cities around the world, including in East Asia and the Pacific, affecting lives and livelihoods of millions of urban dwellers. Urban areas are exposed to flooding which can include regular seasonal swell of a river, intense rainfall flash flooding, groundwater flooding, coastal storms, and coastal erosion and subsidence. Urban flooding is becoming increasingly costly and difficult to manage as low- and middle-income countries transition to largely urban societies, with a greater concentration of people and assets in urban centers, which are important hubs for economic activity and development. Climate change is expected to alter the seasonal distribution of runoff and soil water availability, likely increasing the number of such extreme events as floods and droughts, further exacerbating risks facing an increasing number of cities. Coastal cities are particularly exposed to the impacts of climate change.

5. The demand from client countries and cities across the region is growing in the area of urban flood risk management and improvement of drainage infrastructure, upgrading, maintenance and operation, and integrated urban water resources management. Therefore, there is a need to strengthen internal capacity of the DRM team through the operational and technical experience and solutions for advancing an integrated approach to urban flood risk management and leveraging the existing expertise and knowledge in the urban flood risk reduction.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This TOR is for a Mid-Career Professional to contribute and lead the DRM engagements in EAP, including providing technical inputs, supporting and leading policy dialogue, and analytics and knowledge agenda related to urban flood risk management. Specific responsibilities will include, but are not limited to:

- i. **Provide technical inputs and leadership** to the team's ongoing and planned technical assistance and lending projects related to issues/activities/investments focusing on integrated urban flood risk management, drainage and urban water resource management, mainstreaming of risk reduction in sectoral investment by: (i) preparing/reviewing Terms of Reference; (ii) reviewing proposals, technical reports/studies, master plans, feasibility studies, proposed scope of works, preliminary designs, cost estimates, bidding documents providing technical advice and inputs; (iii) supporting and leading conceptualization of/supervision of physical as well as non-structural investments; (iv) helping introduce innovative technical solutions and approaches, such as green infrastructure solutions, or nature-based solutions; etc.
- ii. **Provide operational support** by leading and supporting the identification, preparation, and implementation of lending and trust fund projects through (i) technical inputs for various-stage project documentation, (ii) support for quality review processes, monitoring and reporting; (iii) leading and participating in missions and draft mission preparation and monitoring documents; (iv) providing support to teams, as needed, in an event of a natural disaster affecting EAP countries, for example through participation in disaster recovery planning etc.
- iii. **Support and lead policy and knowledge agenda:** Contribute or lead the policy dialogue with clients as well as World Bank internal strategies, including contribution to Policy Notes, Country Notes, Country Partner Strategies, team strategies, etc.; and contribute to knowledge agenda of the EAP DRM team, including the Urban Flood community of practice (UFCOP), by (i) sharing of technical knowledge and good practice, and providing inputs or lead various analytical and knowledge products and activities, (ii) participating in peer-review processes, (iii) contributing or leading knowledge activities targeting external/internal clients; etc.

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: At least a Master's degree or equivalent in relevant technical field such as Hydrology, Hydro Engineering, Civil Engineering, Water Resources Management, etc.
- Relevant Experience: At least 5 years relevant experience in flood risk management, flood protection infrastructure, hydro-engineering, etc.
- Strong organizational, research, and oral presentation skills
- Proven ability to work in a team and intercultural environment, with minimal supervision
- Hands-on and action-oriented approach
- Excellent analytical and writing skills. Publications in professional or scientific journal are a plus.
- Enthusiasm for, and commitment to development work
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English
- Willing to travel within EAP region
- Field experience in developing countries a plus