



Donor Funded Staffing Program

TOR No:	<u>2023-004</u>
Title:	Junior Professional Officer
Grade:	UC
Division/VPU:	The Development Impact Evaluation (DIME3)/ Development Economics (DEC) Vice Presidency
Duty Location:	Washington, D.C
Appointment Type and Duration:	Two-year Term Appointment

BACKGROUND

The Development Impact Evaluation (DIME) Department is part of the World Bank's Development Economics Vice Presidency. DIME's purpose is to increase the use of impact evaluation (IE) in the design and implementation of public policy and to develop institutional capacity and motivation for evidence-based policy. DIME's work focuses on three areas:

- Evaluating programs at scale to answer policy-relevant questions
- Building capacity to strengthen country institutions for evidence-based policymaking
- Building theory on mechanisms in strategic development areas based on high-quality evidence

DIME aims to overcome the challenge of identifying true cause-and-effect relations in policy programs. By linking researchers to policymakers and feeding results back into policies, DIME fosters systematic use of evidence, which informs adoption, mid-course corrections, and scale-up of policies. Through workshops and clinics with operational staff and government clients, joint research teams, active field coordination, as well as research products such as seminars, papers, and policy briefs, DIME builds capacity while forming a wider community of practice.

With a portfolio of more than 220 impact evaluations, DIME operates across all sectors in about 60 countries spanning the globe. The IEs test a variety of interventions and mechanisms to understand why policy succeeds or fails and how to improve policy design and implementation to obtain better results. By working proactively in collaboration with clients, DIME employs experimental methods to infer causality whenever possible (79% of the portfolio). 17% of DIME IEs utilize non-experimental methods, while 4% use a combination of the two.

DIME is structured into 4 units:

- DIME 1 "Economic Growth and Structural Transformation"
- DIME 2 "Gender, Economic Opportunity, and Fragility"
- DIME 3 "Governance and Institution Building"
- DIME 4 "Infrastructure and Climate Change"

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

The DIME Analytics team creates tools that improve the quality of impact evaluation research for all. We take advantage of the concentration and scale of research at DIME to develop and test solutions to ensure data work quality across our portfolio, and to make public training and tools available to the larger community of development researchers who might not have the same capabilities. We aim to ensure that DIME's analytical work is high-quality, transferable, and replicable.

DIME Analytics primary portfolio includes: the [Development Research in Practice](#) handbook, a guide to reproducible data work; the [DIME Wiki](#), a one-stop shop for practical guidance and research resources; open-source software tools such as the [ietoolkit](#) and [iefieldkit](#) Stata packages; and open-access courses, such as [Manage Successful Impact Evaluation Surveys](#). More details can be found at <https://www.worldbank.org/en/research/dime/data-and-analytics>.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

DIME seeks a Junior Professional Officer to work with DIME Analytics. The JPO will support DIME Analytics efforts to foster reproducible, transparent, and high-quality research. S/he will contribute to DIME Analytics flagship resources, open-source tools, and open-access courses, which draw global interest.

We seek a candidate with a background in development economics and a strong interest in reproducible research. The candidate will join a vibrant team of technical specialists who are passionate about improving the quality and credibility of development economics research.

The specific roles and responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Develop and maintain DIME Analytics open-source tools for development economics research, such as the `ietoolkit` and `iefieldkit` Stata packages, data visualization libraries, and the DIME Wiki
- Contribute to the open data agenda by preparing data and code for publication to the Microdata library and the World Bank GitHub repositories
- Co-organize and develop materials for DIME Analytics flagship courses, such as R for Stata Users and Manage Successful Impact Evaluations
- Implement reproducibility checks for research papers
- Assist with the preparation and rollout of a survey on reproducible research practices
- Contribute to other core activities of DIME Analytics

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

- A Masters' degree in Economics, Computer Science, Mathematics, or a related field required
- At least three years of experience in development economics research and/or impact evaluation required. Field research experience. Experience developing or delivering technical trainings is a plus.
- Advanced proficiency with Stata and/or R required. Expertise with Git and Python or other programming languages are desirable. Familiarity with electronic survey software preferred
- Demonstrated interest in reproducible and transparent research is a significant plus
- 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 oral and written communication skills in English required. Fluency in French, Spanish, or other working language of the World Bank is desirable.

- Enthusiasm for, and commitment to development work