

Climate Consultant (HGNWE)

Posted On	View(s)	Status	Start Date
Jan 02, 2025	64	Open	Jan 27, 2025
Duration	Expressed Interest By	ST Grade	
90 Days	Jan 17, 2025	STC3 ⓘ	

Candidate Details

Topic	Business Function	Skills	Language Skill
Gender; Access to Finance; Climate Finance	Knowledge and Learning; Engaging with Development Partners	Skills not specified	English

Location and Contact

Assignment Location	Institution	VPU	Contact Person
United States	IBRD	People VPU	Sofia Azelmad

Task Details

Brief description

Background/General description

The World Bank Group plays a key role in the global effort to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity. It consists of five institutions: the World Bank, including the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA); the International Finance Corporation (IFC); the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA); and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID). Working together in more than 100 countries, these institutions provide financing, advice, and other solutions that enable countries to address the most urgent challenges of development. For more information, please visit www.worldbank.org, www.miga.org, and ifc.org.

The Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi), which is housed at the World Bank, was created in 2017 in recognition of the critical role played by women's entrepreneurship in empowering women, creating jobs, boosting inclusive economic growth, and ending poverty. Starting and growing a business is one of the most powerful tools for women to build a better future for themselves and their communities. While women are increasingly harnessing their entrepreneurial spirit, their business growth is stunted by outmoded policies, business practices, and attitudes. Women business owners are undercut by limited training opportunities, scarce access to finance and markets, biased legal and cultural barriers, and inadequate support systems like mentors and business networks.

We-Fi is a collaborative partnership among governments, multilateral development banks, and other stakeholders focused on unlocking financing for women-led/owned businesses in developing countries, including in the most challenging environments. The Initiative hosted by the World Bank Group has 14 donors who have, to date, collectively committed over USD380 million to We-Fi. For more information: <https://we-fi.org/>.

We-Fi allocates its funds to seven Implementing Partners (IPs), including the World Bank, IFC, ADB, AfDB, EBRD, IDB and IsDB through a call-for-proposal process. To date, there have been five calls for proposals, resulting in about 24 separate allocations. With these funds, IPs have rolled out activities in 67 countries as well as some global activities. They are partnering with around 400 public and private sector partners to achieve sustainable, systematic, scalable solutions to:

- **Increase Access to Finance.** We-Fi provides capital, risk mitigation, and capacity building to enable financial intermediaries to expand women entrepreneurs' access to debt, equity, venture capital, and insurance.
- **Provide Access to Training, Mentoring, and Networks.** We-Fi builds the capacity of women entrepreneurs and connects them to mentors and networks to take their businesses to the next level.
- **Increase Access to Markets.** We-Fi creates linkages for WSMEs to access new markets and works with corporations to include WSMEs in domestic and global supply chains.
- **Improve the Enabling Environment.** We-Fi works with public and private sector actors to break down gender biases and legal and regulatory constraints that women entrepreneurs face in running their businesses.

We-Fi supports these activities by funding blended finance, technical assistance, capacity building, grants and research activities. Implementing Partners report on their results annually based on results and risk frameworks.

The We-Fi Secretariat is responsible for the day-to-day operations of We-Fi, including preparing and supporting decisions of the Governing Committee; preparing governance documents, managing the call-for-proposal process; managing the reporting process, guiding the IPs on We-Fi processes or requirements, managing relations with contributors, IPs and other partners, and communications and advocacy related to We-Fi.

The Secretariat is recruiting an STC to support the work related to We-Fi's upcoming call on Women Entrepreneurs addressing Climate Challenges. The Climate Call aims to support programs that will get finance and other support to women entrepreneurs who are developing and deploying climate solutions in their markets, and for women who are investing in the resilience of their businesses in the fact of climate change. The White Paper on Women Climate Entrepreneurs provides a framework for the call (<https://we-fi.org/climate-paper/>). The effort is also linked to ongoing discussions with UNFCCC and COP on Gender Responsive Climate Action. The STC will support We-Fi Secretariat discussions with donors, climate finance partners, Implementing Partners and other stakeholders to strengthen the framework and increase the funding pool available for the upcoming call. They will also help the Secretariat to organize one or two events focused on gender-responsive climate finance and participate in others.

Duties and Accountabilities

The successful candidate will be expected to carry out the following duties and responsibilities:

- Engage with We-Fi's Implementing Partners to better understand financing opportunities and pipeline that can be developed under the upcoming call, and strengthen the framing of the call.
- Engage with key Climate Finance platforms like the CIFs, GCF, Adaptation Fund, Global Environment Facility, Coalition of Climate Finance Ministers to identify opportunities to collaborate and co-finance activities supporting women entrepreneurs
- Identify new opportunities for collaboration and innovative structures that We-Fi may be able to support that would advance gender responsive climate finance for women entrepreneurs.
- Engage with We-Fi's donors and other bilateral donors and philanthropies to expand the pool of funds available for the upcoming call as part of the FIF or in parallel.
- Support 1-2 events (e.g., at CSW and World Bank Spring Meetings) focused on increasing gender-responsive climate finance, with a focus on financing for women entrepreneurs.
- Support We-Fi's upcoming work with women leaders in the financial sector to build consensus and commitment to address financing gaps for women entrepreneurs in the climate space.

Selection criteria

- Possesses master's degree in economics, finance, business, or similar field relevant to the Bank's mission.
- Minimum of 8 years of relevant experience engaging with international organizations, financial institutions and policy agencies.
- Demonstrates extensive experience in managing effective relations with a wide range of stakeholders (Governments, international organizations, multilateral and bilateral development agencies).
- Ability to address a range of issues related to climate change, women's economic empowerment and entrepreneurship and its relationship to economic development.

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- Demonstrates ability and the necessary organizational skills to take initiative, personal ownership, and accountability to meet deadlines, work under pressure, balance competing demands and achieve agreed-upon results.
- Sound knowledge of the operating model of multilateral development banks and the ecosystem supporting gender equity and women entrepreneurs
- Demonstrated political awareness and ability to diplomatically handle sensitive situations with target audiences and to otherwise cultivate effective, productive client relationships/partnerships.
- Excellent oral and written communications and editing skills; strong command of English; knowledge of other languages would be desirable, especially French and Spanish.
- Ability to deal sensitively in multi-cultural environments and build effective working relations with clients and colleagues.

The World Bank Group values diversity and encourages all qualified candidates who are nationals of World Bank Group member countries to apply, regardless of gender, gender identity, religion, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or disability. Sub-Saharan African nationals, Caribbean nationals, and female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

Attachment(s)

- [We-Fi Climate Consultant TOR 2024.docx](#)

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