Climate Change Specialist (WBG Young Professionals Program)

What if you could help solve the most pressing challenges in international development?

For 60 years, top talent with diverse personal, academic and professional backgrounds have joined the Young Professionals Program to contribute to the vision and mission of the World Bank Group by working at the World Bank, IFC and MIGA. We are looking for applicants who demonstrate a passion for international development, have relevant graduate education, applicable professional experience, and the potential to grow into impactful leadership roles across our institutions. Learn more here: Young Professionals Program.

The World Bank Group works in every major area of development. With 189 member countries, staff from more than 170 countries, and offices in over 130 locations, the World Bank Group is a unique global partnership consisting of five institutions working for sustainable solutions that reduce poverty and build shared prosperity.

Economists, Climate Change Specialists, and Climate Finance Specialists who possess the qualifications specified for the Young Professionals Program are encouraged to submit their applications between July 3 and July 31, 2023, through our official website at www.worldbank.org/ypp.

Description

The WBG is more committed than ever to helping countries meet the challenge of climate change and has made substantial progress in rapidly increasing its climate financing, aligning with the objectives outlined in the World Bank Group's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) for 2021-2025. The CCAP aims to allocate an average of 35% of WBG’s financing to climate-related initiatives, with at least 50% of World Bank climate finance supporting adaptation.

In fiscal year 2022 (FY22), the World Bank reached new milestones in climate finance. The total climate finance commitments reached a record-breaking $26 billion, accounting for 37% of the Bank’s overall commitments. This represents a significant 83% increase from the $14.2 billion recorded in FY19. Notably, the FY22 adaptation share amounted to $12.8 billion, nearly reaching the 50% target and establishing a new all-time high in dollar amount for adaptation finance.

The Climate Change Group (CCG) within the World Bank plays a crucial role in assisting client countries in recognizing, preparing for, and responding to the risks
associated with climate change. Through CCG’s support, the World Bank mobilizes public and private finance, provides technical assistance, and utilizes its convening power to facilitate countries’ transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development pathways. By leveraging financial resources, sharing expertise, and fostering collaboration among diverse stakeholders, CCG helps WBG empower nations to address climate change effectively and promote sustainable development on a global scale.

YPP Selection Criteria

- Born on or after October 1, 1991
- Relevant Master’s by September 2023 OR PhD by September 2024
- 3+ years of relevant experience OR continued study at the doctoral level
- Fluency in English

Desired Qualifications:

- Advanced degree in Economics, Public Policy, or a technical discipline related to climate change (adaptation or mitigation), energy, environment, or disaster risk management.
- Demonstrates knowledge of climate change economics, either on adaptation or mitigation, and including various sources of costs and benefits from climate change impacts to climate policies.
- Demonstrates knowledge of current global climate policy issues and trends. Some knowledge of UNFCCC and/or national climate policy debates is helpful.
- In-depth knowledge of a range of analytical methods, with demonstrated record of working in an interdisciplinary environment linking economics approaches with other disciplines (e.g., engineering, hydrology, planning, decision-making under uncertainty)
- Good understanding of the role and operation of carbon markets, with knowledge of approaches to carbon pricing and/or taxation policies and systems
- Good understanding of the global climate finance landscape and architecture. Ability to conceptualize and structure financing solutions for specific adaptation/mitigation projects is helpful.

World Bank Group Core Competencies

- Knowledge and Experience in Development Arena - Translates technical and cross-country knowledge into practical applications and contributions to country and sector strategies; interacts with clients at the policy level.
• Policy Dialogue Skills - Anticipates needs and requests in the field and conducts independent policy discussions with representatives of the government and non-government partners.
• Integrative Skills - Understands relevant cross-sectoral areas how they are interrelated; able to undertake cross-sectoral work in lending and non-lending operations.
• Project Design for Impact and Sustainability - Contributes to the design of projects and programs based on an understanding of the country and sector context.
• Sector Dialogue - Able to conduct a dialogue with the client including on complex issues, based on a solid understanding of the sector.
• Client Orientation - Maintains client relationships in the face of conflicting demands or directions, and provides evidence-based advice and solutions based on sound diagnosis and knowledge.
• Drive for Results - Identifies the needed resources to accomplish results involving multiple stakeholders and finds solutions to obstacles affecting key deliverables.
• Teamwork (Collaboration) and Inclusion - Shows leadership in ensuring the team stays organized and focused, and actively seeks and considers diverse ideas and approaches.
• Knowledge, Learning, and Communication - Leads in the sharing of best practice, trends, knowledge and lessons learned across units and with clients and partners, articulating ideas verbally and in writing in a clear and compelling way across audiences of varied levels.
• Business Judgment and Analytical Decision Making - Gathers inputs, assesses risk, considers impact and articulates benefits of decisions for internal and external stakeholders over the long term.

The World Bank Group offers comprehensive benefits, including a retirement plan; medical, life and disability insurance; and paid leave, including parental leave, as well as reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities.

We are proud to be an equal opportunity and inclusive employer with a dedicated and committed workforce, and do not discriminate based on gender, gender identity, religion, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or disability.

Learn more about working at the World Bank, IFC and MIGA including our values and inspiring stories.