

## **World Bank Vienna Internship Program**

**Summer 2024**

### **Background**

The World Bank Group (WBG) is one of the largest sources of funding and knowledge for developing countries; a unique global partnership of five institutions dedicated to ending extreme poverty, increasing shared prosperity, and promoting sustainable development. With 189 member countries and more than 120 offices worldwide, we work with public and private sector partners, investing in groundbreaking projects and using data, research, and technology to develop solutions to the most urgent global challenges. For more information, visit [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)

The WBG's office in Vienna started in 2004 with a small investment climate program and led to the establishment of an office in 2007. Our presence in Vienna has been growing significantly in recent years to currently about 250 staff from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank) which is the largest global development institution to support the public sector, and our sister organization, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) focused exclusively on the private sector.

### **World Bank Vienna Internship Program**

The World Bank in Vienna is offering qualified students the opportunity to participate in the World Bank Vienna Internship Program (VIEIP). The Program is designed to introduce a diverse group of qualified graduate students from universities based in Austria to the World Bank (WB) by offering hands-on opportunities to contribute to the development work that is being supported from the WB Vienna Office. Selected candidates will be able to improve their own skills in a diverse environment dedicated to ending extreme poverty and boosting prosperity and will benefit from:

- (i) opportunities for onboarding and training;
- (ii) networking, mentoring, and coaching from WB staff; and
- (iii) being a part of one of the most reputable development banks in the world.

The VIEIP is targeted to highly motivated and qualified individuals enrolled at Austrian universities. The program will partner with key stakeholders and academic institutions in Austria to attract a talented pool of candidates and to help build the program.

The starting date and length of the internships will vary depending on the position. Specific Terms of Reference for the assignments cover the fields of economics, finance, energy, water and the environment, digital development, and other related fields.

Interns will be hosted by the various WB units in the Vienna office. The selected candidates will be offered short-term temporary contracts with the WB for the period specified by each hiring unit. Call for internships will launch in December 2023 and selections will be finalized by latest March 2024.

## Vacant Positions

1. [VIEIP#1 – Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment \(MTI\)](#)
2. [VIEIP#2 – Financial Sector Advisory Centre \(FinSAC\)](#)
3. [VIEIP#3 – Danube Water Program](#)
4. [VIEIP#4 – Investment Climate Unit](#)
5. [VIEIP#5 – Energy and Extractives](#)
6. [VIEIP#6 – Environment and Climate](#)
7. [VIEIP#7 – Social Sustainability and Inclusion](#)
8. [VIEIP#8 – Digital Development](#)

Please see the Annex for a detailed description of each position.

## Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for an internship, candidates must have an undergraduate degree and be enrolled in a full-time graduate study program (pursuing a master's degree or PhD with plans to return to school full-time) at a university based in Austria. The internship has no nationality requirement and no age limit.

Fluency in English is required.

We value diversity in our workplace, and encourage all qualified individuals, particularly women, with diverse professional and academic backgrounds to apply. Our aim is to attract and recruit the best talent in the world.

## Application Process

**We accept applications through email from December 11 until February 9.** Applications will be reviewed by the individual hiring unit to short-list based on their business needs. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews. Hiring decisions by the hiring department(s) expect to be concluded by end March 2024.

Please send a resume (1 page max.), cover letter (1 page max.), and proof of enrollment of graduate program to [wbinternshipvienna@worldbank.org](mailto:wbinternshipvienna@worldbank.org) with “World Bank Vienna Office Internship Program - VIEP# and applicant’s name” in the email subject line. Please make sure to reference the specific position you are applying for.

## VIEIP#1: Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment (MTI)

### **Background**

The Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment (MTI) team in the Vienna office is supporting the governments of the EU, Western Balkans, and Eastern Europe countries in identifying and implementing policies to strengthen their fiscal policy and economic growth. The work contains a wide area of topics including increasing the efficiency and service delivery impact of public expenditures, raising public revenues and debt sustainability, improving public financial management, addressing structural reforms to promote more inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

The intern would work with 1-2 task team leaders on a sub-set of these topics, contributing to World Bank reports and/or technical assistance projects. Below, two examples of potential work areas are highlighted, but the assignment may include other tasks within the specified areas of MTI work.

One potential area is support to the teams preparing the semi-annual Regional Economic Reports (RER). The Western Balkans RER, for instance, foresees to have spotlights highlighting the benefits of climate change mitigation or adaptation policies in the region. The recent spotlights looked at topics such as green transition in agriculture, carbon pricing, climate policies and growth, inclusion, and sustainability tradeoffs. Other opportunities may include, for example, supporting the technical assistance program to Strengthen Fiscal Governance in the Western Balkans. This may include organizing the conference on spending reviews for the Western Balkan ministries of finance and delivering the pilot spending reviews in countries.

### **Duties and Accountabilities**

- Supporting the team in building relevant databases.
- Conducting literature reviews.
- Contributing to empirical analyses using a variety of quantitative techniques.
- Drafting notes to summarize the data and results.
- Supporting the team in organizing the conference on spending reviews.

### **Qualifications**

The intern should have a bachelor's degree in economics or a related field. The optimal target group maximizing the learning opportunity of the intern and their impact on the work are typically PhD students.

## VIEIP#2: Financial Sector Advisory Centre (FinSAC)

### **Background**

The Financial Sector Advisory Centre (FinSAC) is a dedicated Vienna-based technical unit of the World Bank's Europe and Central Asia (ECA) Region Finance and Private Sector Development Division. FinSAC delivers technical advice and implementation assistance to client countries in the ECA region, with the financial support from the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance. We help client countries build resilient financial systems by working with regulatory authorities in thematic areas including macroprudential policy framework, banking supervision, recovery and resolution, management of nonperforming loans, deposit insurance, cybersecurity, and crisis preparedness. In practice, our work encompasses legislative, regulatory, institution-building initiatives as well as a knowledge agenda that disseminates good international practices and cross-fertilize country reforms.

The FinSAC team is looking for an intern to contribute to its analytical agenda in support of ongoing technical assistance engagements. During your internship with the FinSAC team, you will be introduced to specialized policy topics in financial stability with a practical and hands-on approach. You are expected to apply your skills in statistics and financial modelling to help organize quantitative and qualitative information, including in developing and testing models applied by central banks and supervisory authorities for macro- and micro-prudential purposes. You will apply your writing and presentation skills to synthesize and disseminate findings in an applied/policy research setting. Such an experience can be beneficial for developing a career in public administration and related industries in the private sector, as well as for preparing for further studies in the area of financial regulation.

### **Scope of work**

For a duration of 8 weeks, the intern is expected to work with the FinSAC team on one or multiple of the following tasks:

- Work on climate stress testing.
- Participate in technical assistance projects to support deposit insurance agencies in regard to the determination of design features and regulatory developments to support legislative implementations.
- Facilitate in the drafting and editing of reports and preparation of presentations.

### **Qualifications**

The intern is expected to have at least a bachelor's degree in economics, finance, statistic, or law and/or to be a master or PhD student in these fields. In addition, the intern is required to have:

- An understanding of financial sector issues as well as readiness to learn about new technical topics. In this regard, familiarity with 1) supervisory approaches towards stress testing, 2) international standards concerning bank resolution and deposit insurance, and 3) financial regulations in the climate risk context is an advantage.
- Good knowledge of statistics. Knowledge in macroeconomics modeling is an advantage.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Excel and PowerPoint. Practical experience in data analysis using R, Python, and/or Stata.
- Good self-initiatives and teamwork skills in a multi-disciplinary environment.
- Good oral and written communication skills in English, with attention to details.

### VIEIP#3: Danube Water Program (DWP)

#### **Background**

Implemented by the World Bank and the International Association of Water Service Companies in the Danube River Catchment Area (IAWD), the Danube Water Program (DWP) supports smart policies, strong utilities and sustainable water services in the Danube region by partnering with regional, national and local stakeholder, promoting informed policy dialogue around the sector's challenges and strengthening the technical and managerial capacity of the sector's utilities and institutions. The DWP has become a well-known resource for capacity building, knowledge sharing, analytical and advisory services for the water supply and sanitation sector and the broader water security agenda in the Danube region.

#### **Duties and Accountabilities**

- Assist the DWP team in delivering the overall work program, particularly regarding policy, analytical and capacity building activities under guidance from team members
- Contribute to the preparation of economic and sector work in water and sanitation services and water security topics through desk reviews, on-line research, data collection and processing
- Support organizing institutional and policy capacity development activities and events, including study tours, exchanges, conferences, workshops, trainings and other similar knowledge events
- Contribute to the Program's knowledge generation, dissemination and documentation through the preparation of knowledge/learning briefs, blogs, brochures, notes, papers and presentations

#### **Qualifications**

- In pursuit of, or recently completed, an advanced degree in the fields of WRM, WiA, WSS, natural resources management, environmental policy, international relations, law, engineering or economics
- Familiarity and interest with the water sector, international cooperation, and development topics
- Excellent writing, communication, and presentational skills in English, and ability to synthesize large amounts of material into crisp briefing memos and Power Point presentations
- High degree of dedication, flexibility, and commitment to results

## VIEIP#4: Investment Climate Unit

### **Background**

The development of a vibrant private sector is central to creating jobs, promoting economic growth, and facilitating poverty reduction. Research and experience suggest that encouraging firms to invest, improve productivity, and create jobs requires a sound investment climate.

The World Bank Group's global Investment Climate unit works with clients to create a better enabling environment for businesses, boost trade and investment, foster entrepreneurship, improve productivity and enhance investment competitiveness at the national and industry levels. With the goal of promoting sustainable and inclusive growth, the unit provides analytical, advisory, and lending support to client governments to enact business climate reforms that lead to increased investment, growth, jobs and climate change mitigation. The unit's portfolio of work focuses on three thematic areas: (1) Investment Policy and Promotion, (2) Business Regulation, and (3) Firm Dynamics.

### **Duties and Accountabilities**

The Investment Climate Unit seeks a highly motivated intern to support its Vienna based team. Working closely with policy specialists and under the supervision of senior staff based in Vienna and Washington DC, the intern will contribute to the unit's global research and knowledge generation agenda and support operational work with a focus on the ECA region.

Specifically, the intern will contribute to the development and refinement of diagnostic tools and advisory approaches to assess key drivers and binding constraints to sustainable and inclusive private sector investments in developing economies with a particular focus on 'green investments' and climate change.

This will be achieved by:

- (i) analyzing data across various datasets, including FDI markets, World Development Indicators, Doing Business, Enterprise Surveys, etc.;
- (ii) researching and synthesizing information from relevant literature, including academic journals, business periodicals, policy reports of development partners, digital readiness indices, etc.;
- (iii) summarizing the main conclusions from this research to inform the unit's current advisory approach and future knowledge outputs; and
- (iv) providing support to project teams working on operational assignments in the ECA region.

### **Qualifications**

- Highly motivated individual with interest in research and analytical work
- Strong writing and analytical skills
- Economics, legal, public policy, international development background or similar
- Knowledge related to trade, investment and competitiveness topics
- Basic knowledge of and/or practical experience working in development economics is a plus
- Proficiency in English language
- Proficiency with MS Office applications

## VIEIP#5: Energy and Extractives

### Background

Access to basic and affordable infrastructure services is critical for creating economic opportunities for the poor. The Infrastructure Practice Group is charged with developing sustainable solutions to help close infrastructure gaps in developing and emerging economies. As part of the Infrastructure Practice Group, the Energy & Extractives (EEX) Global Practice (GP) focuses on providing affordable, reliable and sustainable energy to meet the needs of fast-growing economies, ensure universal access to modern energy services for people in client countries, strengthen policy and institutional frameworks to promote transparent and equitable growth of the extractives sectors for public benefit. There is a strong emphasis on private sector resource mobilization and catalyzing financing from commercial and other sources of development and climate finance.

The EEX GP has a strong engagement in development projects and policy dialogue in the Europe and Central Asia (ECA), which is facing the challenge to transition to clean energy, and where energy related reforms are key components of the economic growth agenda. Recent geopolitical events have led to an increased focus on energy security and intensifying discussions of the trade-offs involved in phasing out fossil fuels. Building resilience, facilitating service delivery, and achieving the net zero climate targets by mobilizing private sector and harnessing technological innovation are part of the agenda for the region. Overall, ECA covers 31 client countries with a total population of about 916 million, with a majority living in middle-income economies.

### Recruitment for internship

The position is to intern with the Vienna-based members of the ECA Energy Unit (IECE1). As a member of the team, the candidate will work closely on select projects under the leadership of task team leaders (TTLs). Management reporting will be to the Practice Manager of IECE1 who oversees a large and diverse portfolio of active projects, including investments and advisory services supporting the:

- (a) scale-up of energy efficiency investments through a range of programs such as credit lines, energy efficiency revolving funds for public and municipal investments, development of energy service companies and support for residential programs;
- (b) development of national and regional electricity markets in Europe and Central Asia;
- (c) rehabilitation and modernizations of power system infrastructure, hydropower generation, district heating networks, gas networks;
- (d) support to decarbonize the energy sector and enhance energy security, with a focus on renewable energy development with accompanying regulatory and transaction support and application of innovative and smart technologies (storage, hydrogen, distributed renewables, smart grid);
- (e) integrated assessment, planning and development of energy and water sectors, particularly at the sub-regional level in Southeast Europe and Central Asia.
- (f) implementation of reforms in the areas of achieving structural and regulatory consistency with the Energy Community Treaty (for countries that are signatories), sector governance and tariff transitions.

## **Duties and Accountabilities**

The selected intern will support activities focused primarily on the Western Balkans region, including:

1. Work on a regional electricity market integration initiative focused on the transposition and implementation of the new electricity package adopted by the Energy Community (EnC) Ministerial Council meeting on December 15, 2022. This will involve data collection, background research, and participating in stakeholder meetings.
2. Work on analysis regarding the introduction of carbon pricing in Western Balkan countries, including impact studies of CBAM.
3. Support country specific engagements, including investment project preparation in the area of renewable scale-up in Kosovo, North Macedonia and Bosnia&Herzegovina.
4. Support preparation of corporate presentations on energy transition, clean energy and other relevant topics.

Upon demand, the candidate may also be requested to carry out background research supporting documentation for energy projects in the Europe or Southern Caucasus country clusters.

## **Qualifications**

- Advanced degree (Masters level) in economics, engineering, finance, public policy or equivalent areas
- Research experience, including literature reviews and data collection/analysis
- Interest in at least one of the following areas: energy sector economics, energy efficiency, heating sector, energy sector policy and regulation, energy and climate policy, utility financial analysis and/or utility reform
- Strong quantitative analytical skills and ability to work independently are expected
- Strong visualization skills (PPT design) are an asset.



## VIEIP#6: Environment and Climate

### **Background**

The World Bank provides loans, guarantees, risk management products, and advisory services to middle- and low-income countries, and coordinates responses to regional and global challenges. In Europe and Central Asia (ECA) most countries are recipients of World Bank's knowledge and/or lending services. The Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy (ENB) Global Practice (GP) delivers on the opportunities, benefits and outcomes offered by enhanced management of the environment and land-based and marine natural resources. SCAEN, the ENB GP unit in ECA Sustainable Development department, also supports the region on climate action including upstream design activities as well as delivery of knowledge/trainings and fulfilling corporate commitments.

### **Duties and Accountabilities**

The intern will work closely with Vienna-based ECA ENB staff, and provide support in terms of:

- a) undertaking background research and provide written inputs to analytics on-going / emerging activities, in the areas of pollution management and green growth, including climate change;
- b) supporting mainstreaming climate in strategic country engagements as part of implementing the regional climate change action plan;
- c) providing portfolio management support to projects on Environmental and Social Standards/ safeguard Operational Policies/ as required; and
- d) planning and organization of meetings and workshops, preparation of presentations, undertaking data analytics, preparing short/summary notes, and undertake support activities as needed.

### **Qualifications**

- Graduate student in environmental / climate policy, environmental economics, natural sciences / resources, environmental engineering, or other relevant disciplines
- Strong qualitative and quantitative skills, ability to research and synthesize data and information
- Ability to follow up on multiple tasks simultaneously, and communicate clearly and confidently
- Enthusiasm and commitment to bringing about positive change in the areas of environmental sustainability and climate change.
- Good verbal and written English skills; fluency in other regional languages will be a plus
- Relevant work experience with Government, NGOs, Consulting, or Academia will be a plus

## VIEIP#7: Social Sustainability and Inclusion

### Background

The World Bank's mission is to help the Bank's clients in the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region to reduce poverty and achieve environmentally and socially sustainable development.

The work program for the Social Sustainability and Inclusion (SSI) Team includes providing technical input and advice to sector projects, programs, and analytical work on social development issues such as inclusion of vulnerable groups like Roma and youth, resettlement, social accountability through citizen and stakeholder engagement, gender, and community development. This includes ensuring that the World Bank's Environment and Social Framework are operationalized through World Bank financed sectoral projects and programs as well as analytical pieces and policy dialogue. The **Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience & Land Global Practice (GPURL)** helps countries address challenges related to urbanization, Disaster Risk Management (DRM), and land administration. The most pressing challenges include climate change mitigation and adaptation, building resilient and inclusive cities, enhancing land tenure security, managing land assets for the public interest and disaster risk management and recovery.

### Duties and Accountabilities

The intern will support a range of activities by working as part of the ECA SSI team. The tasks may cover any of the SSI issues in the Western Balkans or other countries covered by the ECA team. They can include:

- Review of international and local policy frameworks and requirements as they relate to aspects of social inclusion, including implications on EU regulations and WB requirements.
- Stocktaking of social issues in the areas of vulnerable groups, resettlement and land administration, stakeholder and community-based groups, green growth policy impacts and social impacts of mine closure.
- Assisting the team with any other project related or analytical research linked to the priority areas of SSI in the ECA region.
- Assisting with training or outreach activities, including to client counterparts or stakeholders in client countries.

### Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in anthropology, sociology, social geography, political science, or related fields
- Research experience, including literature reviews and data collection/analysis
- Interest/background in issues related to vulnerable groups like Roma, migrants, SOGI as pertains to Western Balkan countries covered in ECA region
- Interest/background in stakeholder and citizen engagement techniques
- Interest/background in social impacts of green growth policy, especially in the energy and/or mining sectors
- Ability to work flexibly and independently
- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work as part of a team
- Fluency in English is required, and knowledge of the Western Balkan languages is an advantage

## VIEIP#8: Digital Development

### **Background**

The Digital Development Global Practice (DD) is part of the Bank's Infrastructure Practice Group. It plays a critical role in enabling the achievements of the Twin goals and the Sustainable Development Goals. Collaborating across technical, geographic, and institutional boundaries, the DD team helps design and deliver ICT-enhanced solutions to a diverse range of clients. The team supports clients mainly (i) through advisory assistance to establish policy and regulatory environments that allow the widespread use of technology and create a trust environment; (ii) lending operations by building infrastructure to connect the unconnected and enabling digital government shared platforms (cloud, digital, identification, etc.).

### **Duties and Accountabilities**

The selected candidate will support the Digital Development Global Practice's activities in the ECA region on:

- Lending operations, policy dialogue, and advisory work: contribute to
  - i. policy dialogue and client engagement on digital development;
  - ii. participate to the design, preparation and/or supervision of digital development related programs;
  - iii. provide research to inform the design of new programs. The topics include potentially regulatory/policy reforms, investments in digital infrastructures, platforms and services, and digital skills and innovation.
- Analytical and knowledge exchange work: contribute to 'think pieces' and 'best practice' papers on a variety of subjects related to digital development.

### **Qualifications**

- Undergraduate degree in Science and pursuing a master's degree in telecommunications, engineering, computer science, economics or related field
- Demonstrated interest in Digital development and digital tools for development
- Strong understanding of digital technologies, digitally-enabled business model trends and digital public goods
- Excellent conceptual and analytical skills
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English
- Demonstrated experience in working effectively as a team member.