



**Terms of Reference**  
**Innovation and Competitiveness Programmatic ASA**  
**FY 2024**

Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation Global Practice - East Asia and Pacific  
World Bank Group

*Korea-based Consultancy for Research and Operations Support*

---

**Context:**

The World Bank Group's Finance, Competitiveness & Innovation Global Practice (FCI GP) combines expertise in the financial sector with expertise in private sector development to foster private sector led growth and help create markets in client countries. The practice is focused on identifying firm- and industry-level constraints to deliver reforms that can drive growth and accelerate job creation. Boosting firm-level efficiency and productivity centers on adopting better technologies, including digital ones.

To support the EAP region along the lines of FCI's objectives and work program mentioned above, the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MoEF) of the Republic of Korea and the World Bank agreed to a partnership in 2011 to create the Seoul Center for Finance and Innovation. A Korean Trust Fund (KTF) was established in 2012 with an objective of improving and developing financial and private sectors in the EAP Region by delivering better technical assistance and advisory services through the Seoul Center and FCI GP. The Seoul Center leverages the rich expertise and experience of Korea's financial and private sector institutions to transfer knowledge and lessons from Korea and to add value to FCI's country engagements and global knowledge.

The Seoul Center is looking for a Korea-based researcher who can contribute to knowledge generation and analytics in areas related to private sector development, innovation, and entrepreneurship policy (policy briefs, case studies, data analysis, benchmarking, etc.). Among the two work programs of the Seoul Center, (i) financial sector development and (ii) innovation & competitiveness (I&C), the consultant will work closely with the I&C team. More information about the Seoul Center can be found [here](#).

## **Scope of Work:**

The consultant is expected to provide support in the following areas.

- 1) Research support (80%): Carry out research and analytical tasks to identify and distill findings and policy recommendation on private sector development issues, innovation , and entrepreneurship policy. Based on the research and analytical outputs, prepare policy notes, analytical papers, and presentations under the guidance of the Task Team Leader. Support, monitor, and review of research outputs to ensure the quality of deliverables.
- 2) Operations support (20%): Support business and operational needs of the Seoul Center as they relate to knowledge dissemination and technical assistance. Given the small size of the Seoul Center team, other need-based and ad-hoc support may be required during the assignment period.

## **Qualification and Selection Criteria:**

### Educational and Professional Experience

- A master’s degree or PhD in economics, public policy, technology management, business, social science, or related
- Familiarity with the literature related to private sector development, firm, market, and industry productivity dynamics, science, technology, and innovation (STI) policy, entrepreneurship policy, firm upgrading and technology adoption, etc.
- Research background and writing experience in the topics listed above are highly desirable (policy briefs, case studies, analytics, benchmarking)
- Familiarity with the innovation policy challenges and ambitions of catching up economies in the East Asia region is a plus

### Skills

- Proven qualitative research and quantitative analytical skills as demonstrated by contributions to policy/strategy papers and reports
- Fluent verbal and written communication skills in English and Korean
- Ability to work independently, proactively, and work in a multi-disciplinary environment with strong teamwork skills

**Reporting:**

The consultant will primarily report to Anwar Aridi (Senior Private Sector Specialist) of Seoul Center and is expected to work closely with the Innovation & Competitiveness (I&C) team.

**Duration and Compensation:**

The assignment will be for 20-50 working days over the period of December 2023 to June 2024. The starting date can be adjusted if needed, and the assignment duration and days may be extended based on need, performance, and mutual agreement.

Compensation will be determined based on the candidate's academic and professional backgrounds and the remuneration guidelines for Short-Term Consultants of the World Bank Group (WBG daily rate is based on CV).

Interested candidates should share their resumes and related writing samples with Kibum Kim (Private Sector Specialist) at [kkim12@worldbank.org](mailto:kkim12@worldbank.org) by December 10, 2023.