

Convergence Program

SPI Regional Operations Director

Terms of Reference

[WB Job Posting: This will be advertised as Operations Officer]

Context

The "Convergence Program" (Convergence) has been set up to promote the build-up of analytical capabilities in financial economics, banking and finance and legal and regulatory matters within the civil society of its seven countries of operations in South-East Europe.

To fulfill its mandate, Convergence has designed a Special Projects Initiative (SPI) in support of country financial sector modernization programs placed under the oversight of a public-private partnership. It carries out regulatory change proposals designed by public-private working groups, under the auspices of a high-level public-private steering committee (the SPI Committee), supported by a program management unit called SPI Secretariat. The first SPI program was launched in Romania (SPI Romania). SPI Romania is currently migrating to local stakeholders' ownership. Other South-East European countries are ready to launch SPI platforms e.g., SPI Albania. There are plans to expand this activity to other neighbouring countries under the auspices of a Convergence-sponsored initiative called SPI Adriatic. SPI Adriatic aims to create a network of SPI country platforms, organized along the successful SPI Romania model.

The Position

The SPI Regional Operations Director (respectively the Operations Officer) will be responsible to launch and support SPI country platforms that the Convergence Program will promote as part of SPI Adriatic. The SPI Regional Operations Director will be also responsible to provide, upon SPI Romania's request, assistance for applying the EU Better Regulation concept to the SPI projects.

General Duties & Responsibilities

His/Her role consists of the following responsibilities:

A. For SPI Adriatic:

- To support the Head of the Convergence Program in promoting the public-private partnership to launch an SPI country platform.
- To coordinate the process of recruiting, selecting and hiring the SPI Secretariat staff.
- To negotiate SPI Secretariat office premises with local stakeholders..
- To launch the SPI Program build-up, in consultation with public and private stakeholders.
- To prepare the initial SPI Committee meeting to launch officially the program.

- To provide continuous professional support to SPI Secretariat staff, in the capacity as Head of the SPI Secretariat.
 - To set up a plan and implement it for the purpose of ensuring the sustainability of the SPI Secretariat functions and the overall SPI activities after the end of the professional support period.
 - To foster operational synergies between SPI country platforms with a view to run an effective regional modernization program.
 - To contribute to the development of institutional relationships, both regionally and Europe-wide, with a view to increasing the visibility and legitimacy of SPI Adriatic as a factor of regional and European integration.
- B. For SPI Romania: to provide, upon SPI Romania's request, assistance for applying the EU Better Regulation concept to the SPI projects.

Reporting

The SPI Regional Operations Director will report to the Head of the Convergence Program.

Support

The SPI Regional Operations Director will be located in the World Bank Bucharest Office where he/she will have a general administrative support. For the accomplishment of his/her SPI Adriatic responsibilities, the SPI Regional Operations Director will get Convergence Program Office Manager's support.

Selection Criteria

This position requires managerial and organizational skills to be effective in an unstructured and evolving work environment. It also requires an ability to interface with tact and decisiveness with senior authorities, the local banking community and international organizations, as demonstrated having operated on an SPI country platform.

It is unlikely that a work experience of less than 12-15 years would have exposed the candidate to the variety of situations that are necessary to gain maturity and sound judgment. The candidate should also have demonstrated aptitude to work with public authorities, business counterparts and academics.

Additional requirements are as follows:

- MBA or Masters (or equivalent) in Finance/Economics or any other relevant field.
- Knowledge of and experience in development work, multi-sectoral policies and Romanian financial sector.
- Strong familiarity with EU Better Regulation concept and with regulatory impact assessment or quantitative techniques.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Proven experience with demand-driven and participatory approaches.

- Excellent communication and facilitator skills, ability to address the institutional complexity and multi-disciplinary environment of the Project.
- Excellent interpersonal and teamwork skills, with the ability to establish and develop relationships and work under tight deadlines to meet objectives.
- Fluency in English.

Appointment

The candidate will be selected from a short list of experts drawn up by a Selection Committee. His/Her appointment will be for an initial 12-month term, according to WB guidelines for term staff positions.