

TECHNICAL LEAD FOR INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC & SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT



SWISS
FOUNDATION
FOR TECHNICAL
COOPERATION

Creating opportunities through collaboration

As a leading organization for the implementation of international development projects, Swisscontact works with partners and clients to promote inclusive economic, social, and ecological development, and to make an effective contribution towards sustainable and widespread prosperity in developing and emerging economies.

Swisscontact is an international development foundation headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland and represented in 38 countries with over 1,200 employees. In 2019, the foundation acquired Springfield Centre, which specializes in providing advisory, training, and research (ATR) services to diverse clients, from bilateral and multilateral donors to foundations, aid organizations, and private sector actors. After an in-depth strategy review conducted in early 2022, the full integration of Swisscontact and Springfield's ATR services has begun. From 2023 onwards, these global services will be provided seamlessly by a merged team.

We are seeking a **Technical Lead** to complement our **Inclusive Economic & Systems Development** team in managing the operational responsibility for technical staff providing ATR services, delivering global services for Swisscontact's internal and external clientele.

Employment start: March 2023
Contract duration: Permanent
Place of work: Zurich, Switzerland / Global

Working for Swisscontact

Guided by the strong belief that development should be transformative, all of Swisscontact's initiatives target the improvement of systems that help poor and disadvantaged people gain – and retain – access to the goods, services, jobs, and incomes needed to improve their lives and reduce their dependency on indefinite development assistance. This is the essence of sustainable development impact which underpins everything we do.

As a learning and sharing organization, we see our work as a joint effort in support of an agile organizational culture that is built on mutual respect, trust, and teamwork. Special emphasis is placed on using harvesting and learning measures to continuously improve our performance and collaboration, and to strengthen Swisscontact's role as a distinctive shaper and influencer of development policy and practice. In particular, Swisscontact is looking to reinforce our training and coaching services by building on the Making Markets Work for the Poor program, which is returning to Bangkok this year.

We offer attractive working conditions in an international and multicultural context that encourages open feedback and independent thinking, while providing strong internal support and research to drive quality and advance the relevance of our services.

Responsibilities

The primary function of this position is to lead on the technical delivery of ATR mandates by ensuring the availability and competencies of skilled resources through the technical development of Swisscontact advisors and trainers working to deliver ATR services.

Key tasks include:

- Managing the operational responsibility of deploying technical staff, who provide global ATR services to internal and external clientele
- Ensuring the technical development and progression of the team, including providing mentoring, thought leadership, and internal training on technical matters
- Promoting flexibility within the team to accommodate additional requests from internal sources for technical inputs needed to satisfy their own delivery requirements
- Defining and overseeing budgets for ATR projects, managing devolved budgets (from the Head of Inclusive Economic & Development Systems) relating to projects and training events, and reporting on expenditure/revenue against budget for specific advisory projects and training initiatives
- Enabling and ensuring consistent quality, evidenced by positive feedback from clients, partners, and other stakeholders, in the delivery of technical performance on projects against terms of reference and bid documents (including changing client needs)
- Initiating and maintaining strong stakeholder relationships with the aim of converting them into opportunities to win work as well as shape and influence future prospects
- Providing regular and effective reporting to the Head of Inclusive Economic & Systems Development on the team's objectives, progress, performance, and adapted plans in relation to all ATR activities

Qualifications

To demonstrate your skills as a technical leader in international development, we are looking for the following:

- A first (and preferably second) degree from a recognized institution, which illustrates independent and technical thinking skills and research abilities
 - 10 years of experience in international development as a technical advisor, business developer, trainer, and researcher, including at least 5 years as a technical team leader on ATR projects and/or acting as a lead technical consultant to official development aid organizations, foundations, and the private sector
 - Familiarity with the purpose, goals, methodologies, and approaches relating to systemic change (MSD/ISD/ISA) and proven experience in the design and delivery of coaching and technical training to project teams, clients, and the wider international aid community
 - Deep understanding of models, practices, and channels for influencing and shaping development thinking and agendas, including learning and sharing initiatives and managing information harvesting processes
 - Specific exposure to two or more relevant thematic areas, such as climate, food security, sustainable agriculture, private sector engagement, economic development, green cities, etc.
 - Proven ability in writing competitive technical proposals, identifying and recommending human resources (experts) to deliver projects, and building client relationships to win work in technical and thematic areas, which are core to the ATR services strategy
 - Proven experience in budget development, resource and performance management, and financial reporting insofar as it relates to the technical delivery of ATR projects
 - Strong communication skills, including presenting to large audiences, conducting webinars and trainings, and preparing ATR-related materials or technical publications to promote ATR services, generate future opportunities, and positively influence thinking in relevant thematic areas
 - Excellent oral and written English is a must, and good competency levels in any or all of German, French, and Spanish would also be valuable
 - Willingness to travel overseas for up to 120 days a year to engage in the personal delivery and oversight of other ATR service assignments
- We look forward to receiving your online application with the following documents: letter of motivation, curriculum vitae, and diplomas. Please apply exclusively via the [online application portal](#) by August 31, 2022. We particularly encourage women and candidates from developing and emerging economies to apply. For further information please visit www.swisscontact.org.