

World Bank Vienna Internship Program

Summer 2025

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

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. The WBG's presence in Vienna has grown significantly in recent years; in total, there are more than 350 staff from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank) which is the largest global development institution supporting 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 the World Bank to a diverse group of qualified graduate students from universities based in Austria by offering hands-on opportunities to contribute to the development work supported by the World Bank 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) working closely with development professionals from their field of interest;
- (ii) opportunities for onboarding and training;
- (iii) networking, mentoring, and coaching from World Bank staff; and
- (iv) being part of one of the most reputable development institutions in the world.

The VIEIP is targeted to highly motivated and exceptional individuals enrolled at Austrian universities.

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, digital development, health, transport, and other related fields.

Interns will be hosted by the various World Bank units in the Vienna office. The selected candidates will be offered short-term temporary contracts for the period specified by each hiring unit. Call for applications will commence in December 2024 and following interviews, selections will be finalized by March 2025.

Vacant Positions

1. [VIEIP#1 - Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment \(MTI\)](#)
2. [VIEIP#2 - Financial Sector Advisory Centre \(FinSAC\)](#)
3. [VIEIP#3 - Centre for Financial Reporting Reform \(CFRR\)](#)
4. [VIEIP#4 - Danube Water Program \(DWP\)](#)
5. [VIEIP#5 - Energy and Extractives](#)
6. [VIEIP#6 - Social Sustainability and Inclusion](#)
7. [VIEIP#7 - Digital Development](#)
8. [VIEIP#8 - Health](#)
9. [VIEIP#9 - Transport](#)

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 16 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 2025.

Please send your resume (max. 1 page), cover letter (max. 1 page), and proof of enrollment in a graduate program to wbinternshipvienna@worldbank.org with “World Bank Vienna Office Internship Program - VIEP# [Position Number] - [Applicant’s Name]” in the email subject line. Be sure to reference the specific position you are applying for. If you are applying for multiple positions, please submit a separate application for each position.

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 covers a wide range of topics, including increasing the efficiency and service delivery impact of public expenditures, raising public revenues and debt sustainability, improving public financial management, and 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 will include a special focus on investment in human capital development in the region. The recent spotlight looked at the topic of migration, while future editions will tackle health and education. Other opportunities may include, for example, supporting the technical assistance program to Strengthen Fiscal Governance in the Western Balkans. This may include organizing the learning events for macro and budget departments of the Western Balkan ministries of finance and delivering 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 learning events.

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 technical unit of the World Bank's Europe and Central Asia (ECA) Region Finance and Private Sector Development Division, based in Vienna. FinSAC provides technical advice and implementation support to client countries across the ECA region, with the financial support from the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance. Our mission is to help client countries develop resilient financial systems by working closely with regulatory authorities on thematic areas such as macroprudential policy frameworks, banking supervision, recovery and resolution planning, management of non-performing loans, deposit insurance, and crisis preparedness. Our work involves legislative, regulatory, and institution-building initiatives, complemented by a robust knowledge-sharing agenda to promote international best practices and foster cross-country learning.

The FinSAC team is seeking an intern to support its ongoing technical assistance initiatives and the development of knowledge products. This internship provides a unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience in financial stability and policy development within the practical context of FinSAC client countries. The role involves applying your legal and analytical research skills to compile case studies on how authorities in the ECA region and selected benchmark countries have addressed failing banks, including associated legal challenges and jurisprudence. Another key focus will be analyzing regulatory frameworks and gathering data on deposit insurance and bank resolution funds, including mechanisms for government backstop financing. You will synthesize findings into reports and presentations, leveraging strong writing and communication skills in a policy research setting.

Duties and Accountabilities

Over the course of 6 to 8 weeks, the intern will collaborate with the FinSAC team on the following tasks:

- Contributed to technical assistance projects supporting bank resolution and deposit insurance agencies in FinSAC client countries.
- Conduct research on bank resolution and liquidation case studies, including related jurisprudence in the EU and FinSAC client countries.
- Examine the legal and institutional frameworks as well as financial data of bank resolution and deposit insurance funds in EU and FinSAC client countries
- Draft and edit reports and prepare presentations summarizing findings.

Qualifications

The ideal candidate should meet the following criteria:

- A bachelor's degree in law, economics, or finance, or enrollment in a master's or PhD program in these fields.
- A foundational understanding of financial sector issues, with a willingness to learn new technical topics. Familiarity with international standards on bank resolution, liquidation and deposit insurance is an asset.
- Strong research skills, including experience with EU legal databases and jurisprudence.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Excel and PowerPoint.
- Demonstrated ability to take initiative and collaborate effectively in a multidisciplinary environment.

VIEIP#3: Centre for Financial Reporting Reform (CFRR)

Background

The [Centre for Financial and Sustainability Reporting Reform](#) (CFRR)'s mission is to “Build strong institutional frameworks and develop capacity in financial and sustainability reporting to support private and financial sector development, public sector performance and accountability, sustainable growth, and shared prosperity on a livable planet.” CFRR team is looking for an intern to contribute to the ongoing regional programs that support the introduction of sustainability reporting in line with EU requirements and good international practices.

Duties and Accountabilities

For a duration of 3 months between May and September 2025, the intern will work with the CFRR team to:

- Undertake research and summarize good practices on institutional and governance reforms to support the implementation of European Sustainability Reporting Standards, covering various EU Member States, using publicly available information.
- Undertake research and summarize the legal provisions on sustainability reporting by small and micro entities in various EU Member States.
- Assist the team in creating a database of key stakeholders in the Sustainability Reporting field in the ECA region.
- Contribute to other relevant CFRR activities and events, as needed.

Qualifications

The intern must have an undergraduate degree and be enrolled in a full-time graduate study program at an Austria-based university (pursuing a master's degree or PhD) in economics, finance, accounting, corporate financial or sustainability reporting. The intern is required to have a good awareness of environmental issues and policy debates in Europe and an interest in corporate sustainability reporting. Good oral and written communication skills in English are required.

VIIP#4: 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#5: Energy and Extractives

Background

Access to affordable infrastructure is vital for economic opportunities in developing economies. The World Bank's Energy & Extractives Global Practice (EEX GP) focuses on developing affordable, reliable and sustainable energy. In Europe and Central Asia (ECA), the EEX GP supports governments to achieve their development objectives while meeting their climate goals through infrastructure development projects and contributing to policy dialogue and research. Successful interns will join the ECA Energy Unit (IECE1) based in Vienna, supporting projects on the scale up of energy efficiency investments, the development of national and regional electricity markets, energy infrastructure modernization, renewable energy projects, and regulatory reforms.

Duties and Accountabilities

The intern will support activities focused on the Western Balkans and South Caucasus regions, including:

- Advisory services and analytics (ASA) projects in the Western Balkans region to design and implement decarbonization strategies for the energy sector. This will involve data collection, background research, and participating in stakeholder meetings.
- Analysis regarding the introduction of carbon pricing, including the impact of the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM).
- Preparation of corporate presentations on the energy transition, clean energy and other relevant topics.
- Activities surrounding the operationalization and implementation of the World Bank's Country Climate and Development Reports (CCDRs).

Qualifications

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

VIEIP#6: 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.

Duties and Accountabilities

The intern will support a range of activities by working as part of the ECA Social Development team. The tasks may cover any of the social development 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.
- Review of international frameworks and indicators on sustainable finance and national social risk management system development.
- 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.

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#7: Digital Development

Background

The Digital Transformation Unit (Digital) 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 Digital 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 Transformation Unit'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.

VIEIP#8: Health

Background

The Health, Nutrition, and Population (HNP) unit in the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region aims to enhance health outcomes by strengthening health systems, reducing inequities, and improving service quality and accessibility. Key activities include reducing noncommunicable diseases, enabling healthy aging, and ensuring sustainable health financing. The unit also focuses on enhancing governance, transparency, and capacity building within health ministries. By adopting multisectoral approaches and robust monitoring and evaluation systems, the HNP unit strives to create resilient health systems capable of addressing current and future health challenges in the ECA region.

Duties and Accountabilities

The Vienna-based ECA HNP team is seeking 1-2 interns to support its support for governments in the areas of health and long-term care financing and delivery. The selected intern(s) would assist with:

- **Data Analysis and Visualization:** Collecting, cleaning, and analyzing quantitative and qualitative data, and creating visualizations to support team projects.
- **Policy and Research Support:** Conducting literature reviews, synthesizing findings from academic and policy reports, and contributing to analytical notes, presentations, reports, and/or meeting summaries to inform policy recommendations.
- **Event Coordination:** Supporting the logistics and preparation of workshops, seminars, and webinars, including drafting materials and ensuring smooth execution.
- **Knowledge Management:** Organizing and maintaining resources, reports, and datasets to facilitate efficient team workflows and knowledge sharing.
- **General Support:** Assisting with other tasks aligned with the unit's strategic goals.

The internship, lasting 8-12 weeks, will be guided and mentored by experienced staff to provide a comprehensive learning experience.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in data science or economics
- Experience with data collection, analysis, and visualization
- Proficiency in the use of Stata, proficiency in R and/or Python are a plus
- Experience with researching and synthesizing information from relevant literature, including academic journals and policy reports.
- Interest in healthy aging, and healthcare and long-term care financing and delivery in low- and middle-income countries
- Ability to work flexibly and independently
- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work as part of a team
- Fluency in spoken and written English is required, knowledge of languages spoken in the ECA region is a plus

VIEIP#9: Transport

Background

The Europe and Central Asia (ECA) transport unit is supporting governments in the region in their efforts to: (i) improve regional connectivity and freight logistics to enhance trade opportunities, (ii) enhance national connectivity and urban mobility; (iii) strengthen their capacity to plan and implement transport interventions through policy and institutional reforms; (iv) leverage resources through strong partnerships, including increasing commercial and domestic financing for transport and logistics, and (v) ensure sustainability by improving governance and efficiency in the sector, and increasing resilience of transport infrastructure and supporting a low carbon path. The World Bank engagement in these areas includes a strong component of analytical work that complements the lending portfolio.

Duties and Accountabilities

The ECA Transport Unit seeks a highly motivated intern to support its Vienna based team. Working closely with transport and policy specialists, the intern is expected to:

- Support the preparation of analytical activities (technical advisory and research), and related presentations, documentation, and proposals. Analytical tasks may cover transport modelling and planning, transport decarbonization, logistics, transport system governance issues, demand management and NMT, financing, and impact evaluation.
- Participate and support in the preparation of knowledge-sharing initiatives within the Bank, as well as in the dialogue with client governments and partner organizations.
- Support project teams working on operational assignments in the ECA region.

Qualifications

The intern is expected to be a master's or PhD student in transport engineering, economics, transport/urban planning, or similar. In addition, the intern is required to have:

- Research experience, including literature reviews and data collection/analysis.
- Strong quantitative analytical skills and ability to work both in teams and independently.
- Excellent writing, communication, and presentational skills in English, and ability to synthesize large amounts of material into crisp briefing memos and presentations

Basic knowledge of big data analysis and programming skills, as well as basic knowledge of transport modelling techniques will be considered a plus.