THE WORLD BANK/IFC/M.I.G.A.
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

POSITION: Short Term Consultant: GFDRR Labs - Open Data for Resilience Implementation Lead
Grade Level: STC2
Duration: 150 days, with possibility for extension
Starting Date: November 1, 2012

Background/General Description
The Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) is a partnership of the World Bank, United Nations, major donors and recipient countries under the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) system to support the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA). The HFA, endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly and ratified by 168 countries, is the primary international agreement for disaster reduction. HFA's principal goal is to effectively integrate, in a coherent manner, disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning, programming, and financing at all levels of government. Launched in September 2006, GFDRR provides technical and financial assistance to help disaster-prone countries decrease their vulnerability and adapt to climate change. GFDRR works closely with UN agencies, client governments, World Bank regional offices, and other partners.

The mission of the GFDRR Labs is to use science, technology, and innovation to better empower decision-makers in the developing world to increase their resilience to disasters in a changing climate. The Labs strategy is to build partnerships and communities that utilize open data and open source technology to assist decision-making. Labs activities are designed and implemented in partnership with the World Bank's regional Disaster Risk Management teams, which insures that these initiatives are developed to add value in operational environments.

In order to build resilient societies, policy-makers and the public must have access to the right data and information to inform good decisions. -- decisions such as where and how to build safer schools, how to insure farmers against drought, and how to protect coastal cities against future climate impacts. Sharing data and creating open systems promotes transparency, accountability, and ensures a wide range of actors are able to participate in the challenge of building resilience. The Open Data for Resilience Initiative (OpenDRI) aims to reduce the impact of disasters by empowering decisions-makers with better information and the tools to support their decisions.

OpenDRI implements the first policy recommendation of the joint World Bank / United Nations Flagship report, "Natural Hazards, UnNatural Disasters, the Economics of Effective Prevention," which establishes the importance of data sharing to reduce vulnerability to disasters. OpenDRI also builds upon the World Bank's broader Open Data Initiative. OpenDRI is currently implementing these ideas in 25 countries around the world to improve disaster and climate resilience.

The consultant will work with the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery's Labs and World Bank regional Disaster Risk Management Teams build OpenDRI partnerships and programs.

This is a full-time, position based in DC with significant (40%+) travel.

Duties and Accountabilities:
Under the supervision of Robert Soden, the OpenDRI Implementation Lead will report to Francis Ghesquiere. S/he will be responsible for:

- Direct support, including, client engagement, upon request of the regional World Bank disaster risk management teams, to national and subnational OpenDRI projects in Africa and South Asia.
- Conduct a review and analysis of existing OpenDRI projects and work with stakeholders to produce a recommendations report on next steps for the overall initiative.
- Assist regional regional open data focal points design, procure, and manage national and subnational OpenDRI engagements
- Collaborate with the distributed GFDRR Labs team and strategic open data partners within the World Bank to develop and disseminate standard language around open data licensing and spatial metadata
- Collaborate with the distributed GFDRR Labs and regional open data focal points to develop project highlights and knowledge notes that highlight OpenDRI engagements and share lessons learned.
- Support and shepherd the growth of regional and national communities of practice around OpenDRI engagements and tools.
- Represent OpenDRI to internal and external audiences
- Act as the GFDRR Labs focal point to the World Bank Open Data Working Group and Open Development Technology Alliance
- Provide ad hoc support to the GFDRR Labs team on an as needed basis.

Selection Criteria:

- Experience in leading projects and teams and delivering to tight deadlines.
- At least five years of experience working in the international development field desired.
- Strong communications skills, ability to lead trainings and give effective presentations
- Strong familiarity with and presence in the open data movement
- Strong experience with GIS tools and data management applications
- Solid understanding of open source software communities and development approaches
- Solid understanding of risk assessment and risk analysis
- Master's Degree in a related field
- Fluent in English, preferably also fluent in French or Spanish (strong preference for French language skills)
- Outstanding interpersonal skills, effective team member, capacity to work in a multi-cultural environment