Advisor, Right-Fit Evidence Unit

Position Summary

IPA Colombia is currently seeking an experienced and dedicated Advisor for the Right-Fit Evidence Unit (Advisor, RFE). In this role, you will play a crucial part in providing evidence- and data-driven technical assistance to our valued implementation partner, Fundación de las Américas (FUDELA), as they work on the "Aprendiendo Desde Niños (ADN)" program. The program is generously supported by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation in Ecuador.

The RFE Advisor will report to an RFE Manager. The role is open to Colombian as well as other international applicants. We also encourage those with the following profiles to apply as these skills and interests are a particularly strong fit:

- Management consultants with some international development experience who would be excited in a career shift to an entrepreneurial and impact-focused environment leveraging their skillset.

- Education/early childhood development project managers who have experience managing large scale education programs in developing countries, interested in a role that focuses on innovation/early piloting/large-scale monitoring and evaluation.

- Migration project managers with proven experience working in migration programs in Latin America, interested in a role that focuses on innovation/early piloting/large-scale monitoring and evaluation.

- M&E practitioners who are interested in broadening their scope and impact on the field by advising organizations on state-of-the-art M&E practices.

- Research professionals in international development who enjoy working closely with practitioners and are interested in broadening their scope to all the types of data and evidence that can inform decisions.

Irrespective of their background, RFE staff tend to learn through their work, and this position
is a great fit for anyone with a growth-oriented mindset.

**Responsibilities**

- Collaborate with partners to develop and strengthen their theories of change (ToCs), prioritize key learning questions, and create detailed plans for Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) by conducting interactive workshops and working sessions.

- Offer continuous technical guidance, coaching, and training to partners on designing effective data collection methods, creating survey instruments, managing data, conducting analysis, and integrating evidence-based decision-making into their management processes and organizational routines.

- Facilitate various external MEL-related workshops to enhance partners' capacity in utilizing insights from their MEL activities, fostering ownership, and promoting data-driven decision-making.

- Take ownership of preparing and presenting advisory and analytical deliverables, ensuring clear and efficient communication while maintaining the highest standards of quality.

- Establish and maintain strong communication and partnerships with key stakeholders, including direct stakeholder management with leadership staff from partner organizations.

- Work closely with the RFE Manager and IPA Colombia research staff to lead the design and documentation of independent process evaluations, as and when required by IPA.

- Contribute actively to the development of new RFE engagements, including participating in scoping meetings, contributing to the design of methodologies, and crafting concept notes or proposal documents.

**Qualifications**
Required

• Education and Experience:
  
  ◦ A Bachelor’s or Master's degree in economics, public policy, education, early childhood development, international development, or related fields and;
  
  ◦ 2-5 years of relevant work experience, including experience in M&E, education-migration policy or program management (public/non-profit/private sectors), organizational performance/R&D/operational research (private sector), or experience in management consulting/other professional services. Exceptions may be made for excellent candidates who do not meet these criteria.

• Technical Skills:
  
  ◦ Superior analytical and conceptual thinking skills
  
  ◦ Familiarity with statistics and data analysis (including strong command of Excel)
  
  ◦ Strong client-facing and presentation skills. Ability to present information in a structured and insightful way, both in writing and orally
  
  ◦ Familiarity with the concepts surrounding the Theory of Change and the core tools of M&E (both quantitative and qualitative research methods)
  
  ◦ Familiarity with randomized controlled trials

• Stakeholder Management Skills:
  
  ◦ Demonstrated ability to manage relationships with partner organizations.
  
  ◦ Self-starter, entrepreneurial mindset, versatility, and ability to learn at a fast pace.

• Project Management Skills:
○ Ability to manage and organize various work streams efficiently.

• Other:

○ Working proficiency in English and Spanish.

○ Willingness to travel within Latin America and to other regions.

○ Passion for making data-driven decisions a reality in the international development sector.

Preferred

• Master’s degree in economics, public policy, education, social sciences, or a related field

• Experience working with implementing partners on large scale Early Childhood or Migration programs

• Experience living and working in developing countries, particularly in Spanish-speaking Latin America

• Familiarity with key global education indicators, particularly for early childhood development

• Familiarity with the global literature in early childhood education and migration

• Familiarity with migration policy and trends in Latin America

• Familiarity with SurveyCTO, Open Data Kit or similar survey software

• Proficiency in mixed methods research
- Ability to use Stata, R or similar statistical software

Reports to
Manager, Right-Fit Evidence

Deadline to Apply
September 15, 2023

Location
Colombia

Application Instructions
Apply Now

About IPA

Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) is a research and policy nonprofit that discovers and promotes effective solutions to global poverty problems. IPA brings together researchers and decision-makers to design, rigorously evaluate, and refine these solutions and their applications, ensuring that the evidence created is used to improve the lives of the world’s poor. In recent decades, trillions of dollars have been spent on programs designed to reduce global poverty, but clear evidence of which programs succeed is rare, and when evidence does exist, decision-makers often do not know about it. IPA exists to bring together leading researchers and these decision-makers to ensure that the evidence we create leads to a tangible impact on the world. Since its founding in 2002, IPA has worked with over 600 leading academics to conduct over 900 evaluations in 52 countries. This research has informed hundreds of successful programs that now impact millions of individuals worldwide.

IPA's Commitment to Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI)

As an organization, IPA is dedicated to improving the lives of the world's most vulnerable populations through evidence and policy. We also recognize how important it is for our staff to reflect the diversity of the places where we work and the communities we work with. As such, IPA is committed to hiring from a diverse pool of candidates, from a range of backgrounds, beliefs, experiences, and perspectives. We know that this makes our work
stronger and more responsive to the challenges faced by those we work with and for and we encourage people from historically underrepresented groups to apply. Click here to learn more about IPA’s commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Innovations for Poverty Action is an affirmative action-equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, protected veteran status, or any other protected class. IPA will endeavor to make a reasonable accommodation to a qualified applicant with a disability unless the accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the operation of our business. If you believe you require such assistance to complete this form or to participate in an interview, please contact us at jobs@poverty-action.org or via phone at 1-202-386-6200. The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of the work to be performed by the specified position. The statements are not intended to be an exhaustive list of all possible duties, tasks, and responsibilities. Management reserves the right to amend and change responsibilities to meet organizational needs as necessary. Please note that IPA will never request any form of payment from an applicant. Applicants are encouraged to confirm the information listed above with IPA prior to releasing any extensive personal information to the organization. Please direct questions to jobs@poverty-action.org. Please note that only qualified applicants will be contacted by the hiring manager.