Consultant Opportunity – Python Developer

Summary

Publish What You Fund - the global campaign for aid and development finance transparency - is requesting proposals for a Python developer to provide technical support in the maintenance and operation of our Aid Transparency Tracker. The Tracker is a data collection and verification tool that runs automated tests on aid transparency XML data, alongside forms for manual data collection. This will be used for data collection first for a review of transparency levels among UK government departments spending overseas aid, and then for the 2020 Aid Transparency Index, our flagship product. The developer will make changes and adjustments to the Tracker, help to run the data analysis and trouble shoot errors, and provide information and technical explanations to aid donors being assessed.

About You

We are looking for a developer who can work in Python and is passionate about transparency and data, with an interest in international aid. There will also be a communication element to the role, particularly explaining some of the rules and tests to international aid donors and internally to colleagues. Nice-to-haves would be knowledge of the following:

- XPath
- Flask
- PostgreSQL
- Ansible
- Git

Required availability is for around 0.5 FTE from April 2019 to October 2019 (7 months) with a possible additional 7 months until May 2020 (14 months). There will be times during this period when more or less work is required (see timings of assessments below). Applicants must have the right to work in the UK during the consultancy period.

About us

Publish What You Fund is the global campaign for aid and development finance transparency. We envisage a world where aid and development information is **transparent, available** and **used** for effective decision-making, public accountability and lasting change for all citizens. We believe that this kind of data has the potential to be transformative and contribute to better development outcomes and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We encourage the publication of aid data to the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) Registry, which is an index of global aid data, published in a standardised, machine readable format (XML).

The Aid Transparency Index is the sector standard for assessing aid donors' levels of transparency. It provides a means for donors to benchmark their own progress over time and through our direct engagement with donor agencies, including through the Tracker, encourages improvements in donors' levels of aid transparency, both from year to year and during the data collection process. As well as carrying out another Index assessment in

2019/2020, Publish What You Fund has been asked to review the transparency of 10 UK government departments that deliver UK aid.

Both of these processes will use the Aid Transparency Tracker ("The Tracker") a bespoke data collection and verification tool. It has provided the data for five rounds of data collection (2013, 2014, 2016 and 2018 Indexes; 2015 EU and US Reviews). The software is written in Python and is open source, with the code available on Github: https://github.com/pwyf/aid-transparency-tracker

Focus of the role

UK Aid Transparency Review (April-October 2019)

For the UK Aid Transparency Review, the consultant will have two roles:
- First they will be required to make modifications to the Tracker so that it is better adapted to measure the transparency of government departments whose primary function is not aid delivery. This could include removing, modifying or adding indicators.
- Second, during the data collection phase, the consultant will run the different government departments' data through the Tracker, providing solutions where errors occur and ensuring that the Tracker runs smoothly and accurately.

2020 Aid Transparency Index (December 2019-June 2020)

For the 2020 Index responsibilities will include:
- Making any additional changes to the Tracker tests to reflect any changes to the Index methodology.
- Building any additional tests into the Tracker to reflect any new elements to the Index methodology, such as a new data visibility test which will measure the comprehensiveness of data provided by donor agencies vis a vis their aid portfolios.
- Running and maintenance of the Tracker.
- Making improvements to the Tracker, including back-end, front-end, UX etc.
- Helping to explain tests and results to donors being assessed by the Tracker.

How to apply

The final deadline for applications is Sunday 31st March at 11.59pm. We will be reviewing applications on a rolling basis during the application period. Please send your CV and a covering letter (max. 1 page, size 11 font) by email, with subject line <**your name**> **– Developer Consultancy**, to: recruitment@publishwhatyoufund.org, outlining:

- Relevant skills and experience
- Your interest in international aid, transparency and open data
- Your availability during the required period and location (remote working with some visits to our London office would be preferable)