

Job Announcement

International Youth Foundation Vice President for Education

(Posted: February 8, 2005)

The International Youth Foundation in Baltimore, Maryland, has retained Slesinger Management Services to recruit a seasoned leader and manager to serve as vice president for education. This is an exceptional opportunity for an individual with strong experience in formal and non-formal education to build and enhance initiatives serving children and youth around the world, and to serve as part of IYF's senior management team. Applications will be accepted until this search is completed.

The Organization

The International Youth Foundation is a nonprofit organization that seeks to improve the conditions and prospects of children and youth around the world. Half of the world's population is made up of people under the age of 25, and a significant number of these young people live in poverty. Over the next ten years, a billion children will be born, almost all in the developing world, where hunger, illiteracy, drug use, and economic exploitation of children persist.

To meet these challenges, IYF mobilizes global companies, foundations, governments, and non-governmental organizations to understand the importance of youth development, and to design and fund innovative programs that will give children and youth better prospects for living healthy, responsible, and successful lives.

IYF also works throughout the world to increase global awareness of children and youth issues, strengthen the organizational skills of youth program leaders, and increase international philanthropy in support of children and youth. Major projects in the Education Center include the Education and Livelihood Skills Alliance, a \$4.2 million program that will benefit young people ages 30 and under on the conflict-affected southern island of Mindanao, Philippines; the Global Fund for Youth Development, a \$2.8 million program funded by Lucent Technologies that will benefit young people in 14 countries through educational innovation and youth development programs; and the Education and Employment Alliance, a new project that has received \$11 million in lead funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development to benefit youth in Egypt, India, Indonesia, Morocco, Pakistan, and the Philippines.

A cornerstone of IYF's work is the partnerships it has developed with national foundations and NGOs in countries such as Mexico, Ecuador, Brazil, Ireland, Slovakia, Poland, Germany, South Africa, India, Thailand, the Philippines, and China. IYF and its partners identify, strengthen, and expand programs that have been proven effective in meeting young people's needs. IYF currently operates through such working relationships in more than 60 countries.

IYF was founded in 1990 with the largest commitment ever from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, providing \$67 million in support over ten years. IYF is now funded by a variety of private foundations, corporations, and governments. It currently has an operating budget of \$22 million (about half of which is disbursed as grants to its national partners), and a staff of 45 (who come

from 19 countries and speak 10 languages). The Education Center is one of four major thematic centers at IYF; the other three are Employability, Health Education and Awareness, and Leadership and Engagement.

For more information about IYF, please go to <http://www.iyfnet.org>.

The Position and its Principal Responsibilities

The vice president for education, who reports to William S. Reese, IYF's President and CEO, is an integral part of the senior management team as well as the key person in building the organization's education program.

Key responsibilities include:

1. Developing an overall strategy for the Education Center. Key issues include what types of programs to emphasize, e.g. formal education vs. non-formal education; which countries offer the best opportunities to make meaningful contributions to youth development; how best to measure results; and how to finance these projects.
2. Overseeing the successful delivery of each project within the Center. The vice president will work with Center staff to ensure solid program performance, the development and implementation of annual operating plans and budgets, and strong donor relationships.
3. Leading the effort to raise money for education projects. Although IYF has a business development department with fundraising specialists, the vice president is expected to take the lead in conceptualizing initiatives and marketing IYF's potential to global corporations, multilateral development institutions, governments, and private foundations committed to youth development around the world.
4. Building a strong team. The Center currently has 9 staff responsible for the delivery of its programs. The vice president will be expected to guide and mentor staff and insure that they have the resources needed to carry out their work, that they are working collaboratively with each other and with staff in other units at IYF, and that they have opportunities for career development.
5. As part of the IYF senior management team, contributing to the development and implementation of strategies that affect the entire organization. The senior management team is made up of the president and CEO, the vice presidents of the four program areas listed above, and the vice presidents for business development, finance and administration, and communications.

Desired Skills and Characteristics

The ideal vice president for education should be:

1. Genuinely interested in—if not passionate about—the work of IYF and highly supportive of its mission.
2. Deeply knowledgeable about proven methods to bring innovation and excellence to programs and systems that foster quality education to children and youth around the world, especially in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East. This is not an appropriate job for an international development generalist who does not have significant experience or credentials in education.
3. A strategic, dynamic, and creative thinker, who knows how to engage potential funding and programmatic partners in IYF's work. IYF's culture is well-suited for a person who is at heart an entrepreneur, capable of seeing opportunities before they are apparent to others, and

can then turn innovative ideas into successful activities that are based on new partnerships and support.

4. Fully comfortable in raising money of significant amounts, i.e. at least \$1 million per transaction, from global corporations, multilateral institutions, foundations, and government development agencies (such as the U.S. Agency for International Development and European agencies).
5. A skilled manager, capable of working effectively in an organization where close collaboration among department vice presidents and other senior staff is essential.
6. Capable of providing guidance, support, and leadership to the staff who report directly to this position.
7. A superb communicator, especially when explaining IYF's mission, programs, and accomplishments to current and potential funding and programmatic partners.
8. A person with the maturity, confidence, and presence to be able to work effectively with board members who come from significant leadership positions around the world.
9. Collegial. The vice president for education must have a personality and work style that ensures the internal atmosphere will remain open and collaborative.

Desired Experience

The ideal vice president for education will have the following experience:

1. A successful track record in conceiving and running education programs in multiple countries around the world. Experience as a teacher, education policy-maker, or administrator in an educational setting is highly desirable.
2. At least 10 years of senior management experience in international development.
3. Experience at rapidly-growing, entrepreneurially-oriented organizations with revenues of at least \$15 million.
4. Experience interacting with people from multiple countries and cultures as a result of significant work, study, residency, or travel opportunities. Fluency in at least one major language other than English is highly desirable.

Compensation

Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. IYF offers a generous benefits package.

To Apply

Please **e-mail** (or mail): 1) cover letter, 2) resume, 3) e-mail address, and 4) three-year salary history (which will be held in strict confidence) to:

Larry H. Slesinger

Slesinger Management Services

5016 Westpath Terrace

Bethesda, MD 20816

Tel.: 301-320-0680

E-mail: Larry@SlesingerManagement.com

(attached files in Microsoft Word only; please include IYF in subject line)

(This job announcement can also be found at <http://www.SlesingerManagement.com>.)

The International Youth Foundation is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Slesinger Management Services 301-320-0680 www.SlesingerManagement.com