

THE CDA FELLOWSHIP

Location: Kampala, Uganda (some remote work possible)

Timeline: 3 - 6 months full-time

Start Date: ASAP (negotiable)

Stipend: USD 1,000 / month (after tax)

THE ORGANISATION

The Centre for Development Alternatives (CDA) is an East African think-and-do-tank that fosters homegrown ideas for inclusive economic transformation in the region.

Since our formation in 2016, we have been challenging dominant narratives and business-as-usual approaches to economic development in East Africa. Applying a unique mix of local and global knowledge, we identify potential pathways for long-term economic development in the region, diagnose the binding constraints holding back progress, and explore opportunities to overcome those constraints. We then help change-makers design policies, programmes and business models that maximise impact by leveraging the most promising opportunities to tackle the most binding constraints.

CDA is a start-up. Our day-to-day is highly entrepreneurial and dynamic, constantly bringing new challenges and opportunities. While inspired by more established organisations, we are charting our own unique path towards becoming a high-impact organisation. Fellows will be intimately involved in every aspect of that journey.

THE FELLOWSHIP

CDA will select up to two Fellows, who will work closely with Co-founder and Executive Director Max Walter on the delivery of ongoing projects, new project acquisition, and external communication.

Project Delivery: Working with the Project Director, associate experts and partner organisations, you will fulfil research, strategy and project management responsibilities on one or more of CDA's ongoing projects (see annex for current confirmed projects).

New project acquisition: You will work with the Executive Director to bring in new projects by identifying grant and consultancy opportunities, engaging with potential partners, funders and clients, and developing project proposals (incl. budgeting, background research, building teams and consortia, developing and presenting pitch decks, and writing proposals).

Communication: You will iterate and implement CDA's external communications strategy through various channels including the website, social media, blog, mailing list, and events.



REQUIRED SKILLS & ATTRIBUTES

- Strong undergraduate and/or graduate background in development economics
- Familiarity with concepts in the political economy of development and/or public administration in developing countries
- Strong familiarity with and interest in East African economic development issues
- Highly analytical research and lateral thinking skills
- Experience in successfully working in small teams
- Experience in project management
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Ability to work in a highly entrepreneurial environment
- Creative, organised, responsible, dependable, and results-oriented

DESIRED SKILLS & ATTRIBUTES

- Previous experience working on East African development issues
- Familiarity with structural transformation, industrialisation, industrial policy, investment, SMEs and/or agricultural value chain development
- Previous experience working and/or living in East Africa
- Previous experience working in a development consultancy or think tank

APPLICATION

Please submit the following to contact@cda.co.ug:

- A **CV** (no more than 2 pages);
- A **cover letter** (up to 500 words) outlining (i) why you are interested in the fellowship and (ii) how your skills and experience make you a strong candidate;
- Two **writing samples** that demonstrate your ability to analyse and effectively communicate about complex economic and/or political problems.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview.



ANNEX: PROJECTS

Reality Check #12: Industrial Policy for Structural Transformation in Uganda (2019 - 2020)

Partners: Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung; TBD

This study will assess the state of industrial policy in Uganda, including (a) the political economy context, (b) existing policies and programmes designed to drive economic transformation and industrial upgrading, and (c) existing organizational delivery and coordination mechanisms for industrial policy. On the basis of this analysis, the study will make recommendations for strengthening Uganda's industrial policy for inclusive economic transformation. The first two policy papers are likely to focus on (1) reforming the tax code and administration to spur small business growth and formalisation and (2) selecting high-potential economic sectors for policies and programmes aimed at driving inclusive economic transformation.

Economic Policy Paper Series #2: Agricultural Transformation in Uganda (2020)

Partners: Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung; TBD

The second in a series of papers making concrete policy recommendations for driving inclusive economic transformation in Uganda. The paper will be written and presented in the first half of 2020. Each policy paper will be produced in partnership with a Ugandan research or practitioner organisation and delivered to a policymaking body whose interest in receiving and applying evidence-based recommendations will have been established before the work commences. This paper will focus on policy options for driving agricultural transformation and the focus topic is currently being discussed with CDA's senior agricultural advisors.

Economic Policy Paper Series #3: TBD (2020)

Partners: Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung; TBD

The third paper in the series, which will be produced in the first half of 2020. CDA is currently scoping for potential policy topics, research partner organisations, and partner policymaking bodies.

FSDU 2.0 (2019 - 2020)

Client: Financial Sector Deepening Uganda

CDA is working closely with Financial Sector Deepening Uganda (FSDU) to develop the organisation's new "FSD 2.0" strategy. This will broaden the scope of FSDU's work, strengthening the links between financial sector interventions and their impact on the real economy. The strategy will set FSDU's overall direction for the next five years and determine how tens of millions of GBP will be spent on systemic financial sector interventions to drive jobs and incomes, access to basic services, and economic sustainability, in Uganda.