CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES

THE CDA FELLOWSHIP

Location: Home-based / remote
Period: 3 - 6 months
Start Date: rolling / negotiable
Time commitment: 20h (half-time) – 40h (full-time) / week (negotiable)
Stipend: USD 1,000 / month (adjusted pro rata in line with agreed time commitment)

THE ORGANISATION

The Centre for Development Alternatives (CDA) is an independent think-and-do-tank. We work with public and private stakeholders to craft homegrown, future-oriented strategies for the inclusive and sustainable transformation of African economies.

Since our formation in 2016, we have been challenging dominant narratives and business-as-usual approaches to African economic development, starting in our home country Uganda. 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. Based on this approach, we work with governments, development agencies, philanthropies, NGOs, impact investors, and companies design policies, programmes, and business models that drive economic transformation in the region.

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 works with up to two Fellows at any given time, depending on the human resource needs of our activities. Fellows 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 (quantitative and qualitative), strategy, and project management responsibilities on one or more of CDA's ongoing 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.

Communication: You will help 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 heterodox discourses on African economic development
- Highly analytical research and lateral thinking skills
- Experience in successfully working in small teams
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Ability to work in a highly entrepreneurial environment
- Creative, organised, responsible, dependable, and results-oriented
- Fully committed to the highest levels of integrity

DESIRED SKILLS & ATTRIBUTES

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

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 you have attained and demonstrated the required and desired skills and attributes;
- Two **pieces of written work** that demonstrate your ability to analyse and effectively communicate about complex economic and/or political issues.

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