

# Engagement & Partnerships Manager, Nairobi

Development Initiatives (DI)'s vision is a world without poverty that invests in human security and where everyone shares the benefits of opportunity and growth. Our mission is to ensure that decisions about the allocation of finance and resources result in the end of poverty, increase resilience and the security of the world's most vulnerable people, and ensure no one is left behind. We work to make sure these decisions are underpinned by objective and transparent data and evidence, and lead to increased accountability and sustainable long-term outcomes.

DI works to increase and improve data quality, to make data and information accessible and relevant to inform decision-making. We work alongside partners and policymakers to identify sustainable solutions to the problems of poverty, insecurity and crisis. We provide technical expertise to increase individual and organisational capacity to use data. We work to ensure that the standard of data collection, publication and use is continuously improved to make it accurate, disaggregated and forward-looking.

DI's Africa Hub was established in 2011 to provide a regional perspective on the organisation's work. Hub staff are based in Nairobi, Kenya, and Kampala, Uganda.

## Role and content

This position is part of DI's Engagement & Partnerships team. The post-holder will be line managed in East Africa by the Director of Poverty Research and will report to the Lead on Data Use. The Engagement & Partnerships Manager will be based in our Nairobi office, with some international and regional travel required. At a time of significant opportunity for the organisation, the successful candidate will play a key role in forging and nurturing strategic partnerships – particularly with government, civil society and development actors – to ensure that better data on poverty and resources is available and used to drive policy, development decisions and practice that improves the lives of the poorest people. The post-holder will be well grounded in developing effective partnerships at sub-national and national levels, and play a key role communicating analysis and learning to policy audiences nationally and internationally.

The post holder will have a background in development policy and practice across multiple sectors and a keen interest in data for development. They will have a good understanding of the political economy context in East Africa, and ideally the regional and global trends in development processes, policy and practice. The post-holder will combine strategic thinking with an ability to identify and develop effective partnerships and engagement opportunities to increase the availability and use of data to drive sustainable development.

Internally, the post holder will be a key member of the Engagement & Partnership team, which brings together DI staff leading work in Brazil, Uganda, Kenya and Nepal. She or he will also contribute to the delivery of DI's international engagement strategy to increase the use of data.

## **Person specification**

### **Education/qualifications**

#### **Essential**

- A Bachelor and/or Masters degree in development, political science or a similarly relevant subject
- At least 5 years' experience in the development or governance sectors, working across different thematic areas with a track record of building and nurturing successful partnerships, and developing and implementing successful projects
- Strong interest in the data for development agenda, and familiarity with a broad range of data types and their application in decision-making, policy development and practice

### **Knowledge/technical skills**

#### **Essential**

- Track record identifying, establishing and nurturing successful strategic and project partnerships with government and non-government actors
- Demonstrable understanding of influencing strategies, government and development-partner policy and practice
- Experience working on development and poverty reduction at national and/or regional level, in particular on policy engagement
- Knowledge of national development planning- and resource-allocation processes, and familiarity with the sustainable development agenda
- Ability to communicate complex issues in compelling ways to policy stakeholders
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills (in English) and ability to produce briefings, project reports and donor funding proposals as required
- Ability to provide cross-functional support across different thematic areas and teams
- Strong presentation skills
- Financial literacy and organisational skills

#### **Desirable**

- Experience of engaging with regional and global development policy processes
- Familiarity with the governance, transparency and accountability agenda
- Data literacy
- Familiarity with technological trends, especially the intersection of technology and development and the use of social media to communicate key messages

- Experience and interest in preparing donor proposals and reports
- Experience of working in a matrix organisation

### **Personal skills/qualities**

- Creative and self-motivated
- Able to work effectively in distributed teams
- Strong communicator
- Political acumen and diplomacy
- Personal integrity

### **Duties/responsibilities**

- Identify, develop and nurture effective partnerships to support the implementation of DI's country plan in Kenya, as well as wider regional engagement efforts
- Support policy engagement with key government audiences to advance DI's priorities on improvement and use of data in sustainable development
- Produce materials (regular briefings, reports, visualisations) that highlight the challenges of using data and how these can be overcome through technical, financial and political changes
- Work with all DI thematic area leads to ensure the data DI produces is presented in an accessible way that is useful to the local data community and meets its needs
- Identify, document and communicate learning and impact from the country and regional level to influence policy and practice of international actors
- Contribute to developing and mainstreaming best practice approaches for strategic partnerships across the organisation
- Represent DI in public fora alongside key partners from the local to the global level
- Collaborate proactively with team members across other thematic and expertise areas
- Keep theme and expertise leads proactively appraised of learning, implementation and progress

### **Contractual details**

Start date: ASAP  
 Location: Nairobi, Kenya

Salary: to be agreed  
 Hours: 35 hours per week  
 Probation: 3 months

Leave: 25 days plus all bank/public holidays (as appropriate for country)

Benefits: See <http://devinit.org/working-with-us/working-for-us/>

## Application details

Your CV (no more than 3 pages) and covering letter – which should detail your skills and evidence of experience, and how they relate to the role profile – should be emailed to: [HR.Africa@devinit.org](mailto:HR.Africa@devinit.org), quoting ref: EngPartMan in the email subject line. Your letter should also include your salary expectations, notice period/available start date and where you saw the job advert.

Closing date: 28 February 2017

1st Interviews: TBC

2nd Interviews: TBC

## Other

Initial interviews will be conducted by Skype. Candidates shortlisted for second interviews should expect to attend an interview in Nairobi, Kenya.

We welcome applications from all sections of the community.

We have a duty to prevent illegal working by checking potential employees' documents, before employing them, to ensure they have the right to work in the country in which this post is based.

We are unable to offer sponsorship for a work permit/Visa application. Evidence of right to work will be requested.

Due to the volume of applicants that we receive, we regret to say that we will be unable to acknowledge receipt of your application and if you do not hear from us within 4 weeks of the closing date, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

DI is an equal opportunities employer and in line with our policies we aim to ensure that no job applicant receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of race, colour, nationality, religion, ethnic or national origin, age, gender, marital status, sexual orientation or disability.

We find it helpful for all applicants to complete our Diversity Monitoring Form, see <http://devinit.org/working-with-us/vacancies/>