

Role Profile

Senior Manager: Strategic Partnerships and Data Use (Nairobi or Kampala)

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 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 and insecurity, the causes of crisis and impact of the environment. 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

Reporting to DI's lead for our **Data Use** thematic area, the Senior Manager: Strategic Partnerships and Data Use will be based in our Nairobi or Kampala office and travel extensively in the region and internationally. At a time of significant opportunity for the organisation, s/he will play a leadership role in forging and nurturing strategic partnerships in particular with government, civil society and development actors to ensure that better data 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, national and regional levels that make a concrete contribution to harnessing the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development. They will play a key role in shaping international stakeholders' actions to promote availability and use of better data for sustainable development.

The post holder will have a strong background in development policy and practice across multiple sectors and a keen interest in data for development. They will have good understanding of the political economy context in Africa, and the regional and global trends in development processes, policy and practice. The Senior Manager will combine strategic thinking with an ability to provide leadership internally at DI and externally to partners from multiple sectors. They will come with strong networks in the governance and development sectors, and the ability and confidence to reach out and engage with government and development partners. The post-holder will develop and implement projects to increase availability and use of data on poverty, people, and the allocations of finance and other resources with partner organisations from government officials, parliamentarians and civil society organisations. In this work, they will manage and nurture existing partnerships, build

new partnerships, and lead DI's engagement in key processes from the sub-national to the international level to further our objective of increasing the use of data to reduce poverty.

Internally, the Senior Manager will be a key member of the Strategic Partnerships expertise team, which brings together DI staff leading work in Brazil, Uganda, Kenya and Nepal. S/he will also contribute to the delivery of DI's international engagement strategy to increase the use of data, and will oversee a team based in East Africa who contribute to the delivery of Data Use work.

Person specification

Education/qualifications

- Bachelor / Masters degree in development, political science (or similarly relevant area)
- At least 5 years' experience in a senior role in the development or governance sectors working across different thematic areas with a proven track record of building and nurturing successful partnerships, developing and implementing projects to successful conclusions, and managing staff
- 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

- Experience working on development and poverty reduction at national and regional level
- Knowledge of national development planning and resource allocation processes
- Familiarity with the sustainable development agenda (especially the Sustainable Development Goals and their relevance to the national level)
- Track record identifying, establishing and nurturing successful strategic and project partnerships with government and non-government actors
- Demonstrated ability to influence government and development partner policy and practice at senior level
- Ability to communicate complex issues in compelling ways to policy stakeholders
- Demonstrated ability to develop projects and oversee successful delivery of the whole project cycle in East Africa
- Proven leadership experience with the ability to manage teams internally and represent them externally (leading development of sub-area of work)
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills (in English) and ability to produce briefings, project reports and donor funding proposals as required
- Strong network of contacts spanning government, the donor community and other key actors in development in East Africa
- Ability to provide cross-functional support for other organisational thematic areas and research teams
- Strong presentation skills for speaking at forums and international conferences
- Financial literacy and strong organisational skills

Desirable

- Experience of engaging with regional and global development policy processes
- Familiarity with the governance, transparency and accountability agenda
- Data literacy and experience of presenting development data at conferences and other meetings
- 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 fundraising

- Experience of working in a matrix organisation
- Familiarity with different project management methodologies
- Experience with implementing monitoring and evaluation systems into projects

Personal skills/qualities

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

Duties/responsibilities

- In East Africa, lead on developing a DI approach to improving use of data by multiple stakeholders, particularly government officials at all levels to ensure better development outcomes – policies that reduce poverty and vulnerability, and develop a framework for increasing use of data to share with the global sustainable development data community.
- Lead development and implementation of data availability and use interventions at national and regional levels in East Africa, and effectively engage to support pan-African processes and projects.
- Produce material (regular briefings, reports, visualisations) with support from the team 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.
- Forge and nurture partnerships to influence and deliver changes for increased use of better data in pro-poor policy and practice at sub-national, national and regional level.
- Develop, maintain and engage a network of partners and other stakeholders at sub-national, national and regional level.
- 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 apprised of learning, implementation and progress.

Contractual details

Start date: ASAP
Location: Nairobi, Kenya or Kampala, Uganda
Salary: to be agreed
Hours: 35 hours per week
Probation: 3 months
Leave: 30 days plus all bank/public holidays (as appropriate for country)
Benefits: See <http://devinit.org/#!/about/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 it relates to the role profile, should be emailed to: HR.Africa@devinit.org, quoting ref: SnrManSP 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: Sunday 3 January 2016
1st Interviews: week commencing 11 January 2016
2nd Interviews: week commencing 18 January 2016

Other

Initial interviews will be conducted by Skype. Shortlisted candidates for the 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/#!/about/vacancies>