

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

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| JOB TITLE | **CAFCN Regional Lead for SSA** | | **GRADE** |  |
| PILLAR | CAFCN | | | |
| ABOUT THE ORGANISATION | **A unique collaboration to strengthening Africa’s financial markets.**  Established in 2012 and supported by UK aid, FSD Africa is a specialist development agency working to build and strengthen financial markets across sub-Saharan Africa. FSD Africa works to reduce poverty through a ‘market systems development’ approach, which means we aim to address the structural, underlying causes of poverty by improving how financial market systems function. FSD Africa is part of a family of 9 financial sector deepening programmes across 8 countries, operating throughout sub-Saharan Africa, comprising a staff of over 250 financial sector experts. As a team we work alongside governments, business leaders, regulators and policy makers to design and build ambitious programmes that make financial markets work better for everyone.  The Cambridge Centre for Alternative Finance (CCAF) is an interdisciplinary academic research institute at the University of Cambridge Judge Business School, dedicated to the study of alternative finance, which includes technology-enabled financial instruments, channels and systems that emerge outside of the traditional financial system. The CCAF is establishing a global knowledge network that accelerates the creation and transfer of knowledge relating to FinTech: the Cambridge Alternative Finance Collaboration Network (CAFCN). As a cross-sectoral and cross-regional network, the CAFCN can facilitate FinTech market development and effect evidence-based regulatory changes in economies seeking to promote the sustainable growth of FinTech industries. For the first stage of activation, the CAFCN will be operating regional research collaborations in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and the Asia-Pacific Region (APAC).    FSD Africa and CCAF have agreed to join forces and establish the CAFCN operations in the SSA. FSD Africa will recruit a team consisting of a Regional Lead and specialist researchers working on both FinTech market and regulatory research, which will be directly supervised by the University of Cambridge’s Centre for Alternative Finance. This embedded team will accelerate the creation, dissemination and adoption of FinTech-related knowledge across the SSA in three ways. First, the embedded research team will effectively collect and analyse high-fidelity FinTech market and regulatory data across key markets within the SSA. Second, by working with a diverse group of stakeholders and leveraging existing networks within the region (e.g. FSD Network), the team will engage in more research dissemination, knowledge transfer and capacity building activities. Third, through CAFCN’s global network and by working together with other regional research collaborations, the team can facilitate cross-regional creation and transfer of FinTech knowledge, best industry practices, regulatory lessons and learning, as well as human capital. | | | |
| REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS | REPORTS DIRECTLY TO | CCAF | | |
| REPORTS INDIRECTLY TO | FSD AFRICA | | |
| JOB PURPOSE | The purpose of this role is to activate and hold the overall responsibility for the Regional Collaboration Network in the Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) region. This will require: (1) a good sense of business and operational acumen; as well as (2) a deep understanding and curiosity in the research of alternative finance and forms of technology enabled financial innovation. The role will have both a regional and global focus.    This position is a seconded position and will be based in FSD Africa Nairobi, the hosting organisation of CAFCN in SSA. Frequent travel within the region as well as to the UK will be required. | | | |

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| **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES AND ROLE REQUIREMENTS**   1. **Regional network leadership and management**   Managing a collaborative research network across key markets in the region, ensuring an effective operational model and the timely delivery of high-quality outputs related to the CAFCN objectives. This includes, but is not limited to, the generation of, and reporting on, research projects, knowledge transfer and stakeholder management.   1. **Business development and revenue generation**   Identify and support revenue generation opportunities, particularly in the area of Capacity Building and Educations.   1. **Staff supervision**   Supervise the embedded regulatory and market researches, create an enabling working atmosphere where the researchers can excel and provide first class research as well as positive collaboration with third parties.   1. **Research agenda management**   Collaborate with Cambridge-based CAFCN research leads on the regional research agenda. Participate and contribute to research activities as appropriate.   1. **Stakeholder management**   Maintain existing and develop new relationships critical to the delivery of the CAFCN’s knowledge creation and transfer objectives. This will involve engaging and negotiating with development banks, multilaterals, corporate partners, start-ups, universities, regulators, policy makers, and philanthropic donors   1. **Communications**   Effectively communicate the outputs and impact of the CAFCN, ensuring dissemination of FinTech knowledge across both the region and the wider CAFN  **Carry out any other duties or special assignments as assigned by the Management**. |

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| **PERSON SPECIFICATIONS**  **Essential Experience**   * Relevant experience in an executive or senior management capacity within an appropriate organisation. This includes: (1) regionally influential private sector institutions; (2) regulatory and policymaking authorities; (3) international and regional multilateral institutions and/or; (4) leading universities or academic institutions * Proven thought leadership in the field of alternative finance/FinTech, with the ability to advocate foundational changes in the field of modern finance through methods, processes and best practices * Experience in business development and operations in the Sub-Saharan Africa region, with a proven track record of leading teams, forging collaborative relationships and fundraising   **Essential Skills**   * Sound understanding of financial services and FinTech * Strong stakeholder management skills * Strong people management skills * Effective project management skills * Excellent communication and negotiating skills * Ability to function effectively in an international, intercultural and interdisciplinary environment     **Desirable Experience**   * Demonstratable managerial or entrepreneurial experience with results of impact * Direct experience within FinTech industry or the regulation/policymaking of FinTech activities * Experience in sourcing, securing and managing grant/donation/philanthropic funding * Experience in managing a collaborative research programme and/or experience in conducting FinTech related research for industry, government or academia   **Desirable Skills**   * Understanding of effective global knowledge creation and transfer in FinTech and financial innovation research * Insights into the major global financial system market participants, donor and philanthropic ecosystem * Language skills in addition to fluent written and speaking English, especially relevant for the SSA region |

**Application arrangements**

For further inquiries and details on how to apply please contact David Kruijff ([d.kruijff@jbs.cam.ac.uk](mailto:d.kruijff@jbs.cam.ac.uk)) and Hunter Sims ([h.sims@jbs.cam.ac.uk](mailto:h.sims@jbs.cam.ac.uk)). Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.