

Senior Researcher (Full Time)

Harvard Business School (HBS) Africa Research Office

Location: Johannesburg, South Africa

Background:

The Africa Research Office is one of nine global research centers and five regional offices, established by the HBS Global Initiative to assist the school's faculty in connecting to business leaders in various strategic regions for research and preparation of case studies. The Africa Research Office is in Johannesburg, South Africa and covers sub-Saharan Africa. The Senior Researcher will serve as a key source of new research and curriculum content in a wide range of fields including finance, technology, marketing, accounting and control, strategy and entrepreneurship.

Duties & Responsibilities:

Reporting to the Director of the Africa Research Office based in Johannesburg, the Senior Researcher will work closely with HBS faculty managing research projects, performing in-depth field and secondary source research and supporting other HBS-wide activities, including admissions, external and alumni relations. While this position is based in South Africa, additional travel throughout other parts of Africa, and to Boston, is required.

Working in close collaboration with the Director of the Africa Research Office, the Senior Researcher will be responsible for developing case studies about sub-Saharan African companies for the HBS MBA and Executive Education programs.

The Senior Researcher will be responsible for:

- Identifying potential case study subjects for proposal to the Director of the Africa Research Office and presenting case leads to HBS faculty.
- Maintaining and extending relationships within the candidate's existing knowledge/country/sector networks which can contribute immediately to the development of intellectual capital at HBS.
- Conducting on-site interviews with senior company and government officials alongside HBS faculty.
- Gathering and synthesizing data from a variety of sources leveraging online resources, statistical and financial reports.
- Writing high-impact, well-documented and compelling case studies.
- Supporting other HBS-wide activities, including admissions, alumni and external relations.

Experience & Requirements:

Bachelor's degree and two to five years business experience required, MBA preferred (HBS strongly preferred), with outstanding academic record.

Strong knowledge of sub-Saharan Africa is required; work experience on the continent preferred. Experience of delivering a range of research outputs, including reports, articles, presentations and summaries is required.

Strong skills in written and spoken English required; proficiency in French or Portuguese beneficial.

Excellent communication, analytical, and organizational skills required. Candidate must (i) demonstrate an ability to work independently while establishing strong, collaborative working relationships and (ii) take direction from a project leader to meet the highest standards of academic rigor.

Other desired skills include proven effectiveness in a consultative role and strong proficiency in

developing contacts with academics and business leaders on behalf of an academic institution.

Candidate should have a high proficiency in developing contacts with academics and business leaders on behalf of an educational institution.

Compensation and benefits will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews. Short-listed candidates will be required to submit two writing samples, and finalists required to take an HBS-directed writing assessment.

Interested applicants should send their cover letter and resume with the subject line: Africa Research Office - Senior Researcher to:
Brittney Frazier at Global@hbs.edu