

Apply today and you could be...

A Youth Volunteer Developer at the Buganda Youth Centre in Kampala, Uganda

What's the context and purpose of the role?

Over the past 15 years, Uganda has enjoyed stable government, economic growth and rapid social development. However, due to numerous constraints, Uganda remains one of the 25 poorest countries in the world. Education is a major tool to fighting poverty and has a high priority in the country's development strategy. In addition to quality education, cross-cultural exchanges and work experience programmes, in both local and international organizations, improve employment opportunities for young people and allow them to play an active part in Uganda's development. The Buganda Youth and Job Resource Centre was established a year ago and has so far developed some strong links with a number of organizations in Uganda and overseas for internship programmes and employment opportunities. It also offers a free internet service where graduates can search for jobs and volunteer opportunities. The Centre is looking for an experienced Volunteer Manager to support their strategic planning process and develop more effective strategies for placing young people in work placements.

What does the role involve?

- Working with local colleagues to develop and implement a strategic planning process for the Youth Centre
- Developing and maintaining links with local and international organisation to maximise volunteer and internship opportunities
- Expanding the organisation's training and mentorship programme for young people, in areas such as entrepreneurship



What skills, experience and personal qualities are needed for the role?

You'll need a degree-level qualification, ideally in a social science and have experience in strategic planning and developing management systems. You should have excellent communication skills and experience of working in the volunteering sector. Flexibility and patience are always important qualities as you'll be working with limited resources and will need to adapt to living and working in a different culture. An interest in the local culture and the willingness to learn some of the local language will help you to understand how things get done and get the most out of your volunteering experience.

And the rest...

Landlocked Uganda lies across the Equator, bordering Tanzania, Sudan, Congo, Kenya and Rwanda. It's a naturally fertile country with 25% of its area covered in rivers, lakes and swamps. Uganda's climate is pleasant and comfortable. The average temperature is around 26 degrees with a rainy season from March to May and again in October and November. During the rest of the year, the weather is dry and sunny. You'll be based in the capital city Kampala which is less crowded than many other African cities with a population of around 1 million people. There's a friendly and social atmosphere with a real mix of people from all social, religious and tribal groups. On the social scene, the city has a variety of good restaurants, bars and cinemas so you shouldn't have trouble keeping busy in your free time! Most foods are available in Kampala and markets are the best place to buy fresh vegetables, fruit, pulses and spices. There are also several good butchers and imported foods can be bought in supermarkets, although at a higher price.