



Terms of Reference

Civic tech fellowship for grantees' support in the framework of the African Union Civic Tech Fund (AUCTF)

Purpose of the call for application

The African Union Civic Tech Fund (hereafter: AUCTF) is offering fellowships for 5 civic tech professionals for a period of minimum 3 months to technically support and to advise beneficiaries awarded the grants for the development of their civic tech initiatives in 7 African countries - Mali, Nigeria, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Kenya, Morocco. The AUCTF is an initiative funded by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ).

Successful applicants will help a broad range of actors scaling up their civic technology initiatives that amplify citizen voices or help keep governments accountable.

Candidates will work with partner organisations selected through the African Civic Tech Fund to test, expand and boost digital tools and platforms empowering citizens. Applicants should have a strong commitment to using human-centred solutions, using open data and open source approaches that subscribe to global best practices.

Background

AUCTF's goal is to evaluate and sustain effective models in citizens' participation, support the scale up of initiatives, and influence policy in support of replicable and/or scalable civic tech initiatives and citizens led transformative action across the African continent.

The Fund has already awarded grants to 9 civil society organisations and companies across 6 African Union Member States, within the limits of capacity, to upscale their civic tech public services, initiatives and platforms.

Objectives/Structure of the Fellowship

The programme is an intensive learning and coaching opportunity for AUCTF grant beneficiaries, where fellows are required to deepen their technical understanding and capability within the civic tech field, to support them in platforms' development and to advise on the best mechanisms and business choices to make. The overall goal of the fellowship is to give AUCTF grantees the opportunity to gain first-hand insights, knowledge and skills in relation to developing and upscaling civic tech initiatives.

The selected fellows will work closely with the 9 grant beneficiaries, design with them an operational agenda, and support them with the implementation of the initiatives and operations with the programme’s providers in the beneficiaries’ best interests.

Fellowship programme

Fellows are intended to technically support grantees on how to make their innovations applicable and functional to the different local contexts and environmental constraints, embedding themselves into the working processes of the recipients (physically and/or virtually) as ‘Impact Fellows’ and ‘Innovation Fellows’ to help drive implementation for the above-defined period of time.

Fellows sign a consultancy contract over at least three months, with a total reimbursement of EUR 4000 per contract.

Support needed

Fellow’s role	Working language	Responsibilities
Cybersecurity expert	French	-Security of web, mobile and web services applications; -Network security and administration of servers and domains; -Security (cross-site scripting attacks) XSS.
Infrastructure engineer/Cloud infrastructure engineer	English	-Data and Cloud Infrastructure; -Upscale platform’s volumes without setbacks; -Oversee and monitor the deployment of the mobile applications and Web Apps; -Efficient and effective infrastructure across different countries.
Web designer/Website developer	English	-Design of inclusive technology for PWD; -Technical support and advice on the conduction of user experience research; -Development of the website.
Digital Marketing expert	English	-Design of an online community engagement strategy to promote the new functionalities of the website and boost users’ interest and engagement; -Support with the initiatives’ launch.
Data consultant	English	-Advise on the use of data to inform policy and the adoption of machine learning to design inclusive and efficient models for Civic tech.

Requirements

A successful candidate for the Fellowship Programme should:

- be based in Africa;
- have at least 3 years of work experience with civic tech implementation projects;
- be able to point to examples of their work in the civic data or civic technology space;
- understand the role of civil society and citizen based organisations in bringing about positive change through advocacy and campaigning;
- a demonstrable track-record for building and launching successful digital services/products, or shaping high impact digital campaigns;
- an understanding of human-centred design processes and rapid prototyping, and the importance of user experience (UX) approaches to designing digital products;
- experience at working in distributed multidisciplinary teams, in fast-paced multinational environments, in support of non-technical partners/clients;
- have facilitation skills and enjoy community-building (both online and offline);
- have sufficient command of English to be able to participate fully in the programme. French language is a plus;
- be available to attend the full duration of the programme;
- be expected to participate in various activities and to strictly follow the programme.

Participant's entitlement:

Fellows' spend and supporting documents.

How to Apply:

Nominated candidates are requested to submit the following documents:

- a Curriculum Vitae;
- a personal statement (maximum 500 words) in which the candidate will explain his/her motivation for applying, and how he/she will provide the expertise required by the fellowship and the specific role for which he/she is applying;
- a financial offer detailing a daily fee / the amount of time that can be made available with the available budget (EUR 4000 per fellowship).
- 2 references that can be contacted.

Deadline

Deadline to submit the application: 15th of June 2022.

Interested candidates should send a CV and the supporting documents listed above to info@civictechfund.africa. Please name the email heading as follows: "LAST NAME – FIRST NAME – Tech Fellowship - ROLE FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING."

Interviews will take place in the week of 27th of June 2022, with a possible start date on the the week of the 11th or 18th of July 2022.