



Job posting:

Title: Research Fellow

Division: Tujenge Africa Institute

Location: Bujumbura, Burundi

Term: Summer 2019

**Application Deadline: April 8th, 2019**

### **The Foundation**

The Tujenge Africa Foundation (TAF) is a U.S.-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with operations in Africa's Great Lakes region. "Tujenge" comes from a Swahili verb meaning to build or construct. Our goal is to build African capacity through quality, innovative, and boundary-pushing education. TAF will help boost the potential of the poorest and most marginalized in the African Great Lakes region through development initiatives that focus on education, dialogue, and economic advancement. TAF has begun its initial phase of operations in Burundi, while maintaining a long-term vision of providing the same opportunities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, as well as in other conflict-ridden nations in Africa.

### **Vision**

Our vision at the Tujenge Africa Foundation is an African continent where nation-building efforts, especially in post-conflict states, champions quality, affordable education—as well as training in leadership, entrepreneurship, and peace-building—for all youth.

### **Mission**

Through its diverse portfolio of initiatives, Tujenge Africa Foundation strives to create thriving educational centers of thought and inspiration to transform post-conflict youth into innovators, leaders, entrepreneurs, and peace agents in their communities.

We seek to create empathetic institutions that truly understand the plight of impoverished people, as well as anyone who might experience discrimination or marginalization based on ethnicity, gender, sexuality, ability, religion or creed, and area of residence.

## **Tujenge Africa Institute**

The Tujenge Africa Institute is a Burundi-based think-tank that operates under the umbrella of the Tujenge Africa Foundation. The mission of the Institute is to sponsor research that investigates key areas of Burundian politics, economy, history, and society, providing a deeper understanding of the Burundian context and independent analysis that will provide critical insight that contributes to both academic and policy discourse. The research sponsored by the Tujenge Africa Institute is made available to governmental officials and policy-makers, as well as the broader academic community. In sponsoring critical research initiatives, the Institute strives to enable research-based policy decisions and to expand the range of academic papers that directly address Burundi.

The Institute sponsors independent researchers and targeted research in:

- Peace-building and conflict resolution,
- Education,
- Youth opportunities and outcomes,
- Public health,
- Gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, or ability,
- Economic policy,
- Poverty reduction,
- Forestry or environmental studies,
- Agriculture,
- Art and music,
- Media and journalism, and
- Religion.

Visiting researchers are invited to use Tujenge Africa Institute as a jumping-off point for research in a historically under-studied country. With an extensive network of connections and a comprehensive understanding of the Burundian social context, the Institute is well positioned to support researchers in conducting successful field research.

## **Position**

This posting is for a Research Fellowship based in Bujumbura, Burundi. Research fellows will conduct fieldwork for an independent research project of their choosing, based on their field of study or expertise. The disciplinary approach can be anything from economics to ethnography. This research should address, broadly, an aspect of Burundian politics, economy, history, or society. The Fellowship is suggested to be approximately three months long, between mid-May and mid-August. Alternative timeline proposals are of course welcomed.

Fellows are expected to publish the results of their research within eighteen months of the end of the Fellowship. Publication can be with an external journal, or directly with the Institute. Data collected during this Fellowship will be owned by the Fellow and can be used for a thesis or any other publication.

The Institute will support fellows throughout the duration of their project with coordinating and funding all logistical aspects of the research, including accommodation, meals and in-country transportation. The Institute does not provide financial support to Research Fellows beyond these logistics items. Airfare to and from Burundi is not provided by the Institute. Research proposals should include information about how Fellows will fund their stay and detail the logistical support required.

## **Proposal Details**

Successful proposals will identify an area of research, proposed methodological approaches and a detailed plan for acquiring data. The four documents you should submit with your proposal are:

- Cover letter describing your interest in conducting research in Burundi
- Current CV
- Project proposal
- Project budget

While not required, past experience with research in sub-Saharan Africa and language skills in Swahili or Kirundi/Kinyarwanda will be considered an advantage. The Institute conducts all operations in English, however its publications may be in other languages.



The Research Fellow should be fluent in either French or English, but is not required to be fluent in both. Applications may be submitted in English or French.

All documents should be submitted by email to [institute@tujenge.org](mailto:institute@tujenge.org) by April 8th, 2019.

Questions about the Fellowship should be directed to Tujenge Africa Foundation Executive Director Etienne Mashuli ([etienne@tujenge.org](mailto:etienne@tujenge.org)) or Program Director Benjamin Dickensheets ([ben@tujenge.org](mailto:ben@tujenge.org)).