International Learning Opportunities: Guidance

Developing Leadership, Developing World, Developing Wales

Funded by the Welsh Government’s Wales for Africa Programme
The International Learning Opportunities (ILO) programme provides a unique opportunity to spend eight weeks in sub-Saharan Africa working on development projects that are designed to enhance your leadership skills.

In addition to the information found on our website, the following information should be considered when deciding if the ILO programme is right for you. www.llyw.cymru/academiwales / www.gov.wales/academiwales

1. Application Process

**Important dates**

Before making an application, it is essential that you commit to all of the dates for the current recruitment round – these can be found on our website. www.llyw.cymru/academiwales / www.gov.wales/academiwales

If you have any concerns about these dates, please contact us before making an application. Interviews and assessments will be held in Cardiff.

**Placement Skills**

ILO placements have been identified by talking to our African partners and understanding the organisational challenges they are facing. Placements are designed to support these organisations and to add value to their existing programmes in a long term and sustainable way.

We are pleased to offer a selection of tailored placements which have been specifically identified to support our African partners’ needs. In addition to a set of core skills, these placements require more specialist skills and expertise which cannot be sourced locally or would be too costly for our partners to afford.

In addition to our tailored placements, we also encourage general applications from all leaders who are committed to their personal and professional development and who have skills and experience they feel could benefit the programme.

When submitting your application, please mark clearly if you are applying for one of our tailored placements or if you are making a general application.

**What we require from you**

Applications will only be considered if the following documents have been completed and submitted to AcademiWalesTalentManagement@wales.gsi.gov.uk by the closing date:

- Covering letter
- CV
- Line manager endorsement

Templates and application dates can be found on our website. www.llyw.cymru/academiwales / www.gov.wales/academiwales

**What we will do**

Applications are received and processed by Academi Wales and information is shared with the Wales for Africa team.

- Assessment of applications is conducted by Academi Wales and Wales for Africa.
- Academi Wales notify outcome of applications and invite successful applicants to interview and assessment.
• Outcome will be confirmed in writing to each applicant within 1 week of the interview and assessment day.

The interview and assessment dates can be found on our website. www.llyw.cymru/academiwales / www.gov.wales/academiwales

Successful applicants – what happens next

The Wales for Africa team, together with their approved supplier, will work with you to plan and set up your placement.

A guideline of departure dates can be found on our website, however, as a general rule, we would expect successful applicants to begin their placement within 3 months of their application. www.llyw.cymru/academiwales / www.gov.wales/academiwales

2. Personal Considerations

Health considerations

If you have a significant current or past medical condition and/or you have general concerns about staying healthy on an ILO, please use this information to assess whether this placement will be suitable for you. All applicants must have a medical clearance before taking up a placement.

Access to medical care and support

The standard and quality of local medical care and support available on placement will depend on its location within the country. Health facilities are likely to be more poorly resourced in rural areas in terms of medical expertise, equipment, infrastructure and regular supplies of medication. However, this may not be the case in the capital city or in a larger town, where in some countries there may be a reasonable standard of medical care. You should consider this in relation to your personal circumstances before applying.

3. Commitment

Your Commitment (if selected for placement)

• Visit your GP to seek medical advice about your time in sub-Saharan Africa:
  - Arrange vaccinations and anti malarial treatments;
  - Discuss pre-existing medical conditions and medications;
  - Obtain a letter from your GP to confirm that you are fit to travel.
• Attend pre-departure training.
• Attend meetings with Wales for Africa before and after your placement.
• Complete programme evaluation process.
• Commit to preparing fully and gaining as much additional information about the organisation you are placed with and the country you are visiting before departure.
• Commit to working in a sustainable way considering the long term impact of your time in Africa.
• Commit to working with your host organisation to develop a series of recommendations for next steps and future placements.
• Commit to applying the learning in your current role, and sharing your learning across your organisation.
• Become an ambassador for the programme.
4. What’s Provided

What we provide

ILO placements are funded by the Wales for Africa programme, this includes:

- Pre-departure training delivered through our approved supplier.
- A comprehensive insurance policy for your placement.
- Vaccinations and anti-malarial treatment (via your GP, costs reimbursed by the programme).
- A first aid kit.
- Transport to and from the airport, both in the UK and Africa.
- Flights.
- Visa.
- Accommodation whilst on placement.
- Support from our in-country programme manager.
- 24 hour emergency support whilst on placement.
- Some additional costs associated with your placement (costs must be approved by the Wales for Africa team in advance).

What we do not provide

- The programme does not cover salary costs.
- The programme does not cover costs associated with travel to meetings, interviews and workshops in Wales.
- With the exception of those listed above, the programme does not cover any other living costs i.e. food, drinks, laundry, social life, etc.

We reserve the right to withdraw or amend placements at any time.

Contacts

If you have any questions about any of the information provided, please get in touch. We look forward to receiving your application!

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