Development Gateway Job Description:
Urban Planning / Transit Specialist (Consultant)

The Organization You Want to Work For
Development Gateway (DG) is an international nonprofit organization that creates innovative information management and data visualization technology, implements data-focused programs, and conducts research and evaluation to further sustainable development: developmentgateway.org

We are a creative and dynamic group of people based around the globe. We value hard work, innovative thinking, a commitment to teamwork, and a good sense of humor. Our core focus areas are Resource Management (open contracting and procurement, aid management, and extractives); Effective Service Delivery (agriculture, health, data management systems, monitoring/evaluation/learning); and Data Strategy & Policy (including results data, data standards, data governance, and open data advocacy).

While this position could be based anywhere the applicant is legally able to live and work, a preference will be given to candidates based in Nairobi. Travel within Nairobi may be suggested, depending upon COVID-19 conditions and restrictions.

The Elevator Pitch
The Urban Planning / Transit Specialist (Consultant) will contribute their expertise to an assessment of Kenya’s data and innovation ecosystem, with a focus on addressing Nairobi’s urbanization and transit challenges using improved information, technology, and collaboration. DG is working with the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), which is interested in supporting solutions to issues of poor planning, traffic and congestion, and high transport costs that undermine connectivity, fragment the Nairobi metropolitan area, and likely limit the productivity of Nairobi’s manufacturing sector. This assessment seeks to:

- Understand the baseline strengths and weaknesses of Nairobi’s transit sector, including government policies and strategies that govern transit investments (approvals, environmental assessments, displacement policies, etc.) and that promote or hinder the adoption of digital technology and innovation for improved planning and implementation
- Identify prior related investments and opportunities for collaboration, including government agencies and development partners who would most benefit from greater coordination and entrepreneurs who would most benefit from investment
- Identify datasets, technologies (apps, social media, etc.), and other services that are providing information to key stakeholders, including users of Nairobi’s commuter rail system and paratransit vehicles (PSVs), transport operators, urban planners, and potential entrepreneurs
- Analyze and recommend alternatives for strategic interventions that could improve data and information use by key stakeholders working in urban planning and mass transit, including
monitoring and evaluation strategies for government, e-government opportunities to engage Nairobi residents, and investment opportunities for the private sector

Working with a tightly-knit project team, the consultant will:

- Support desk review and provide inputs to the assessment analytical framework
- Support key informant interviews with relevant stakeholders in Kenya
- Support the analysis and synthesis of findings into a formal report deliverable for MCC and partner consumption, incorporating feedback and revisions

The outputs of this work will inform foundational investments in Kenya’s urban planning, mass transit, and entrepreneurship landscape.

The Education and Experience You Have and We Need

- 7+ years experience in mass transit design, transportation planning, urban planning, traffic engineering, transport economics, or informal public transportation/paratransit research required. Experience in data for international development or supporting digital entrepreneurs would be a plus.
- Bachelor’s degree required, Master’s degree a plus.
- Fluency in English and Kiswahili required.
- Experience living or working in Kenya required.
- Experience working with bilateral or multilateral development agencies is a plus; experience working with the US Millennium Challenge Corporation or other US government agencies a huge plus.

Gourmet chefs welcome, but more importantly:

- You have strong research, writing, analysis, and problem solving skills, and enjoy getting things done.
- You can work effectively both autonomously and as a great teammate, maintaining good communication with our geographically dispersed team.

To apply, please send a CV and cover letter to jobs@developmentgateway.org. Please mention “Urban Planning / Transit Specialist (Consultant)” in the subject line. Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

The projected pay range for this position is between $40 and $55/hour for an anticipated 61 to 84 days of work, between May and September 2021.

We are an equal opportunity employer and value diversity and lived experience. We strongly encourage applications from people whose identities are underrepresented in the sectors where DG works. DG does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, color, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, marital status, veteran status, or disability status.