



POSITION: South Africa Country Lead
REPORTING TO: Innovate UK KTN Africa Regional Lead
REMUNERATION: Negotiable
LOCATION: Johannesburg, South Africa
START DATE: ASAP



Background

Innovate UK KTN exists to connect innovators with new partners and new opportunities beyond their existing thinking – accelerating ambitious ideas into real-world solutions. We connect ideas, people, and communities to respond to these challenges and drive positive change through innovation. We have wide-ranging expertise and convene the expertise of others. Through our network of experts, we ensure ideas are shared across diverse sectors and communities so that opportunities are identified for innovation. We create powerful connections, with business at the heart of everything we do. We source and create powerful connections with potential partners, ensuring that the benefits of your new ideas are felt locally as well as nationally and globally. We shape the innovation communities of the future. We actively build communities around emerging innovations and sectors to prepare markets for the global opportunities and challenges ahead.

Innovate UK KTN Global Alliance Africa

In 2019, Innovate UK KTN embarked on an exciting six year project, the Global Alliance Africa, aiming to strengthen a shared innovation ecosystem spanning South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria and the UK. The project aligns with the UK's Official Development Assistance (ODA) objectives by forging strategic partnerships amongst innovation stakeholders to enable more effective knowledge transfer and collaboration for stronger local innovation and business environments, helping to achieve long-term ambitions in job creation, inclusive growth and poverty reduction.

Context

The South Africa Country Lead is accountable for:

- Leading the country team to ensure the successful and timely delivery of Global Alliance Africa activities in South Africa to achieve their objectives and impacts.
- Working actively within the Innovate UK KTN Global Alliance Management Team to grow the Global Alliance Africa's prominence in South Africa as a trusted innovation network aligned to the KTN 2025 Strategy.
- Working in effective partnerships with the Global Alliance Africa counterpart teams in Kenya and Nigeria, as well as UK Government and country-level stakeholders in meeting the above objectives.
- Responsible for country-level Global Alliance Africa project KPIs, reporting and financial expenditure.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Lead the country team effectively in managing country-level delivery plan targeting new opportunities and high impact for the Global Alliance Africa in South Africa.
- Work actively as part of the Innovate UK KTN Global Alliance Management Team to develop a coherent project strategy and objectives and taking the delivery responsibility in South Africa against defined workplans, intervention mechanisms and outcomes.
- Direct delivery of the Global Alliance Africa interventions in South Africa in line with the agreed Country Level Work Plans.
- Identify and lead the high integrity and effective country-level stakeholder engagement and relationships, including with UK Government teams, South African public sector agencies, businesses, funders, investors and other innovation stakeholders.
- Ensure efficient forward planning and budgeting of all activities to be undertaken in South Africa and the timely identification of issues that are delaying or could delay project implementation and develop solutions to address bottlenecks.
- Provide timely country-level quarterly and annual workplans and budgets to the Innovate UK KTN Global Alliance Management Team.
- Co-develop and implement effective communication and growth plans for Innovate UK KTN Global Alliance in South Africa and across Africa.
- Travel regularly to engage with key stakeholders and partners in South Africa, across the continent and in the UK as required.
- Track implementation of the Global Alliance Africa project logical framework outputs related to activities in South Africa to ensure effective monitoring and evaluation.

Qualifications and Experience

- Degree qualified or equivalent in engineering, science, business or policy, with a strong ability in written and verbal communication skills in English and local languages.
- Demonstrable experience in leading a diverse team in a fast-paced, multi-stakeholder programme environment across different sectors and international cultures.
- In-depth understanding of the South Africa and international innovation landscape, ideally cross sectorial, with direct experience in innovation commercialisation, policy implementation, business growth and/or international development.
- Experience and aptitude in building effective engagements and maintaining trusted partnerships with business and public sector stakeholder at all levels, with a good professional profile and network.
- Ideally a Project Management qualification, with direct experience in the delivery major national or international programmes.
- Experience in implementing and leading international donor funded programmes desired.

Skills and Competencies

- A highly motivated, self-starting and results oriented individual with a strong desire to deliver socioeconomic impacts through equitable partnerships, innovation collaboration and social inclusion.
- Strong leadership capability with the ability to effectively lead and motivate a team working in a complex, inclusive and challenging environment, including the need to effectively balance short and long-term priorities. An effective and inclusive inter-personal communicator experienced in engaging and building relationships at all levels in English and local languages.
- Ability to operate autonomously and effectively as a team leader and equally as contributing team

member when required.

- Highly numerate and analytical, with the ability to think and plan strategically.
- Able to manage a team and external relationships effectively in a fast-paced environment.
- Willingness and ability to undertake regular domestic and international travel.
- High level of IT literacy and organisational skills.

How to apply

Interested applicants should submit the following by e-mail to **loba@ngorecruit.com** quoting reference number **NKT001**:

- A CV in word or PDF format (please include 3 references)
- A 1-page cover letter outlining how your skills and experience align with Innovate UK KTN's mission and the unique qualities you will bring to this role

Application Deadline: 23rd May 2022

Interested applicants are encouraged to **apply ASAP**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

For more information about Innovate UK KTN, visit their [website](#) and social media pages: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).