

Employer: Village Enterprise

Industry: Nonprofit/International Development/Social Entrepreneurship/Conservation

Duration: 3-6 Months

Points of contact: Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operations Officer, Director of Technology Solutions

Start Date: ASAP

Contact: info@villageenterprise.org

Background:

Village Enterprise has supported people living in extreme poverty to set up successful microenterprises in East Africa for 30+ years, impacting the lives of over one million individuals. Our 'poverty graduation' approach consists of a sequenced set of activities over a 12-month period: targeting (to identify those living in extreme poverty), establishing savings groups, training in savings, loans, and business, seed capital grants, and mentoring.

Village Enterprise has been at the forefront of supporting technology solutions for the extreme poor. During our current strategic period we are looking to leverage our implementation experience and networks to provide transformative digital solutions for our entrepreneurs. Although we have had many successes, this next pathway is designed to be aggressive and catalytic in its ability to see widespread adoption of contextually valuable tools and resources for our entrepreneurs.

Objectives:

The objective the consultancy is to answer the below questions, and develop a practical 3-year technology plan along with the supporting framework of processes and plans for successfully executing it. The VE team has created an initial plan to serve as a starting point. A successful engagement would involve working closely with the existing team to fully develop the plan and begin the process of executing on it. :

What strategic pathways across the technology solutions space should Village Enterprise be defining and pursuing over the next 3 years?

Which technological innovations VE should prioritize pursuing in the next 3 years that will help us achieve greater scalable impact and/or increased cost efficiency?

Which technology software and tools should we review and consider for use in VE solutions.

Which strategic partnerships should VE cultivate to make progress on prioritized technological innovations?

Does the Village Enterprise current structure allow for achieving these goals? What roles and responsibilities can our current staff cover, and what positions should we consider adding?

Does Village Enterprise currently have the Information and Technology support systems to support scaling digital solutions?

Deliverables:

The consultant will develop her/his own deliverables in line with the objectives set and these will be approved by Village Enterprise at the start of the consultancy. Suggested deliverables include comprehensive technology strategy, digital opportunities, and potential networks. The consultant will be required to submit regular progress reports that advise on project progress and the delivery of the tasks against a project work plan.

Skills and Experience:

- A strategic orientation to technology solutions
- Experience managing technical teams and successfully meeting deliverables on time and budget
- Ability to evaluate and understand digital journey's impacting rural communities in Africa, and approaches that have been proven successful.
- Experience analyzing organizational technology architecture and information technology support systems.
- Demonstrated ability to transfer knowledge and efforts in a seamless way to the Village Enterprise team as a whole, with a specific focus on our Technology Solutions team

How to apply:

To apply, please send your CV and a 5-page maximum proposal for how you would propose to answer the questions outlined in the objectives.

Send application documents to info@villageenterprise.org

Deadline: Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the consultancy position is filled.

