

International - Africa



The programs below were taken from *TRANSITIONSABROAD.COM*. For options check out this robust website at www.transitionsabroad.com. Also, see reserve copies of the Transitions Abroad Magazine and various international program binders at Career Services Career Employment Area.

Cross-Cultural Solutions: Intern Abroad for the Experience of a Lifetime!

Gain international work experience and possibly academic credit in health, education, or social services. In-country staff welcome you to the CCS Home-Base and ensure that all of your needs are met – from safety and lodging to perspectives and insight about the local culture. Programs available in Ghana and Tanzania.

Dates Offered: Choose from start dates year-round and lengths-of-stay from 4-12 weeks.

Email: info@crossculturalsolutions.org

Web: www.crossculturalsolutions.org

Global Routes

Teaching Internships and Community Service Programs in Africa

Places volunteers 17 years and older with families in rural communities in Kenya and Ghana. Training, support, and adventure travel are integral parts of the program. Information on scholarships, fundraising, and academic credit is available.

Dates: 7-12 weeks year round **Cost:** \$4,250 - \$4,950

Email: mail@globalroutes.org

Website: www.globalroutes.org

AIIESEC U.S. - Intern Abroad in Morocco!

The summer camps give the youth the opportunity to live an experience out of the family environment which we believe is a valuable experience to contribute to their personal development, especially as most of them are coming from underprivileged areas. The activities are divided into two parts per day. During the morning the trainees will be teaching English and/or Spanish and in the afternoon they will be driving workshops and activities in the language they will be teaching. The duration of each summer camp is 15 days; the trainee will be part of 4 camps in total. The trainees will get 3-4 days off before each summer camp end but this will need to be done in a rotation with the other interns available on the camp.

Contact: internshipsabroad@aiesecus.org, www.aiesecus.org

Connect-123 Internships in South Africa

Connect-123 creates tailor-made internships in Cape Town, South Africa for students, graduates, and professionals. Internships are available in a wide range of fields, including business, medicine / health care, and human rights / public policy. Let us know your interests and we'll find an internship opportunity to match your requirements. Work, learn, and explore in one of the world's most beautiful cities.

Engineering: Civil, mechanical, and structural engineering areas

Business: Business consulting, venture capital, finance, and entrepreneurship

Contact: info@connect-123.com, www.connect-123.com

CRESP

(Centre de Ressources pour l'Emergence Sociale Participative) program provides orientation in Senegalese culture and places candidates in mentored internships in areas of their interest, including IT, sustainable agriculture, education, health/nutrition, NGO program design, etc. A knowledge of French is essential in most cases. Negotiable inclusive fee of \$30 a day for up to three months, covers stipend for a Senegalese work partner/translator.

Contact: crezp@crezp.sn or mzeitlin@refer.sn, www.cresp.sn/internship.htm.

Emperor Scuba Schools

Six schools on the Red Sea: Hurghada, Sharm El Sheikh, Nuweiba, Dahab, Soma Bay and Marsa Alam. Career-development program for divers who want to gain instructor status. Assistance given with job-finding.

Contact: www.emperordivers.com/less_career_packages.php.

Ghana Health and Education Initiative

Education Intern is responsible for teaching middle school students English and life skills classes, as well as helping tutor students. Reproductive Health Intern is responsible for various programs addressing reproductive health in the community including peer education and family planning. The Project Coordinator works as an education or repro. health intern while managing programs through positions of secretary or financial officer in the community.

Contact: emilywei02@gmail.com, www.ifmsa-usa.org/ghana

Global Service Corps (GSC)

Serve local communities. Learn new skills in our volunteer programs in Thailand and Tanzania. Live with generous families! Choose from projects in health, environment and/or education year-round - from two weeks to six months. International Internships in all areas including International Healthcare.

Contact: gsc@earthisland.org, www.globalservicecorps.org

Living Routes -Senegal: Ecotourism and Sustainable Development

Engage with ecovillagers and indigenous peoples on topics of sustainable development and ecotourism. Partner with Senegalese university students and travel to West African villages to pursue service learning projects protecting natural resources, creating livelihoods, improving education and health, and celebrating cultural diversity. Enjoy tropical beaches and explore Goree Island's Slave House Museum. Learn French or Wolof. Earn 16 transferable credits.

Contact: info@LivingRoutes.org; www.LivingRoutes.org

Magister Student Placement Organisation

Internship opportunities in Cape Town, South Africa
With our well-established and wide network of contacts and range of skills we strive to ensure that your experience abroad remains an unforgettable one. Internships are offered in all fields.

Contact: www.magister.co.zalen_home.phtml

Projects Abroad Internships in Ghana

Business: Work at an accounting and consulting firm in Accra, Ghana.
Medical: Shadow and Work with Doctors in and around Cape Coast, Ghana.

Contact: info@projects-abroad.org, www.projects-abroad.org

Volunteer in Africa: Internships and Volunteer Work in Ghana

Participants are placed on worthwhile and meaningful projects that includes orphanage projects, street children projects, HIV/AIDS education projects, hospitals and clinics (health), schools, tree planting projects, churches, computer training projects etc. Participants stay with carefully selected, respectable and dedicated host families. We also organize 3-day and 9-day group tours for our volunteers, interns and visitors.

Contact: ghanaprograms@yahoo.com,
www.volunteeringinafrica.org/programs.htm

...The best places to start looking for Microfinance internships in

Microfinance Internships(MFI) in Africa

Africa will be regional or national network organizations that act as umbrellas for small MFIs. Network organizations serve a variety of functions in their countries or regions. Services include advocacy on behalf of member organizations, best practice sharing among organizations, technical assistance and training for members' staff and management, and even some more complex operations such as credit bureau services.

But it is the regular communication that network organizations maintain with their members that makes them ideal starting places for internships. Some network organizations send regular email newsletters; others, in poorer countries, send drivers to distribute notes to their members. Regardless, these communications can easily include internship inquiries from a foreigner. To catch the attention of member MFIs, internship-seekers should consider offering to work without pay.

Even without pay, the experiences are sure to be rich. In Africa, network organizations count a broad diversity of MFIs among their members. More sophisticated members may include the local affiliates of large international NGOs, but smaller members—which would probably benefit more from interns—may include tiny grassroots revolving loan organizations or small fishing, farming, and artisan cooperatives.

Microfinance internships in Africa might include working with an MFI on its strategic plan, on its outreach program, or on its internal systems improvement. MFIs, many with several thousand borrowers, process massive amounts of information every day. An intern who can help optimize such information processing will be a prized addition to an MFI.

Interns in Africa might find themselves bouncing along dusty roads in old jeeps to visit loan group meetings in outlying urban neighborhoods or even in remote rural regions. They might even find themselves in air-conditioned offices lobbying donors or government officials on behalf of their MFI.

National network organizations themselves may also offer internships. Duties at the network level might include strategic planning, training materials development, or website development.

If finding national network organizations proves difficult, internship seekers might consider contacting a regional network organization, such as the **African Microfinance Network in Abidjan** (www.afmin-ci.org); or even a global alliance, such as **Women's World Banking** (www.wwb.org), in New York, or **Planet Finance** (www.planetfinance.org), in Paris. Another good information source for MFIs in general is the **Microfinance Gateway** (www.microfinancegateway.org).

Sample African Microfinance Networks

Benin: Consortium Alafia, Benin
www.alafiamicrofin.org, alafia.network@intnet.bj

Ethiopia: Ethiopia Microenterprise Alliance,
aemfi@ethionet.et

Ghana: Ghana Microfinance Institutions Network,
mfinet@ghana.com

Kenya: Association of Microfinance Institutions,
amfikenya@wananchi.com

South Africa: Microenterprise Alliance
www.mea.org.za, takalani@mea.org.za

A more comprehensive list of African microfinance networks can be found at the following website:
www.swwb.org/English/1000/afmin/afmin_members.htm.

Michael D. Kerlin was an intern at the Rwanda Microfinance Forum in 2003. His writing has appeared in The Christian Science Monitor and other publications in the U.S. and abroad.