



SMEFUNDS Graduate Fellowship Program: OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

End Black Out Program Description and Benefits

More about SMEFUNDS

SMEFUNDS is an International Non Profit Organization fighting to end poverty through the promotion of sustainable enterprise development in Africa. SMEFUNDS promotes the creation of sustainable new business ventures; to encourage poor people typically from disadvantaged backgrounds to get involved in enterprise. The way we do this is not through Grants, Handouts or Lectures but through real world support and investing in start-up and early stage businesses as they grow and become economically viable, self sustaining and profitable.

End Black Out Objective

Our objective is to contribute towards the development of Small & Medium sized Entrepreneurs businesses by providing them with access to much needed electricity to run their businesses, funds and skills to initiate and grow their businesses. In line with this, End Black Out is set to; (a) improve the lives of those in the rural areas through the use of renewable energy. (b) Educate individuals, organizations and corporate executives' ways to invest in renewable energy as alternatives to the burning of fossil fuel thereby helping to save the earth, save cost, reduce environmental pollution and decrease the depletion of the ozone layer.

Co-Founder FemiOye applied the concept of micro credit to the renewable energy sector to prove that the rural poor could afford the cost of solar powered lighting systems. The avoided cost of kerosene the most common source of energy, and the ability to extend productive working hours would provide income to pay for the lighting systems.

Outcome/Impact

The average kerosene lamp, used widely across the country, creates heavy tons of carbon over the years. Replacing these lamps with solar lanterns will lead to significant reductions in the emissions carbon. SMEFUNDS will give a revolving loan to the active poor in the rural villages by providing them with the required knowledge, skills and business management skills that would place them on a better economic platform.

This project is estimated to create a million jobs in 1 year of massive production of various products injected into the Nigerian market and economy. The strategy here is moving into a wide-open market in Tier 4 rather than trying to force their technology prematurely into applications for the developed markets, where incumbents and institutions stand in their way. With several billion potential customers around the world, investments in this innovative market sector should be worth it.

To execute this project, SMEFUNDS will partner with both International and local PV distribution companies to provide technical and strategic support for its seamless operation and application with an office in Lagos and distribution capabilities

throughout Nigeria/Africa.
Benefits/Opportunities
SMEFUNDS Graduate Fellowship Program connects passionate and talented professionals with one of the world's leading social enterprises. Fellows will be able to use their unique skills and experiences to contribute in a significant way to our mission of providing quality solutions for families without access to reliable electricity. As an organization that strives for excellence and innovation, we are committed to providing our Fellows with a uniquely invigorating, challenging and life-changing experience.
The length of the fellowship will vary from 3 months to 9 months. Fellows will be supervised by one of our senior managers and partner with our diverse team across the countries we operate in.
Fellows will contribute in areas as diverse as product design, business development, engineering, and graphic design.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small living allowance may be provided. • Be a team member of one of the world's leading social enterprises • Hands-on experience in a quickly growing start-up organization. • Oversee key projects that are strategically significant for the organization. • Be supervised and mentored by one of SMEFUNDS' managers • Work closely and collaboratively with staff and diverse team • Join the fast-growing network of talented SMEFUNDS Fellows alumni • Experience a new opportunity and culture • Grow professionally and personally
Who Qualifies
SMEFUNDS is seeking talented professionals who are passionate about SMEFUNDS' mission to develop high quality solutions for families living without adequate electricity. Qualified candidates should have at least a bachelor's degree (graduate degree preferred) and a minimum of 3-5 years of professional experience in a related field. SMEFUNDS expects all fellows to be fully committed to their responsibilities during the program term.
Candidates must be willing to live in the location of their fellowship; remote fellowships are not possible unless specifically stated.
The ideal candidate will also thrive in a fast-paced work environment; have experience working in a diverse, multicultural team; be bilingual or multi-lingual; enjoy new cultures and environments; and be flexible as the needs of the company grow and evolve.
How to Apply
Step One – Written Application
Visit www.smefunds.com to view the Fellowship Positions for which we are recruiting. If you qualify, complete the program application and the fellowship-specific questions. Submit these along with your most recent CV/resume (and, if

appropriate, samples of your work) to fellows@smefunds.com on or prior to the application deadline. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

Each Fellowship Position may have different requirements, so please read the position descriptions carefully prior to submission.

Step Two – Interview Process

Qualified applicants will be contacted to schedule an initial interview with the HR Manager or Hiring Manager within 2-3 weeks of the application deadline. Unless you are located in the state of the position, this will most likely be a one on one interview

Step Three – Selection

Candidates who complete the interview process will be notified within 1 week about the status of their application. Selection of Fellows will be based on all components of the application process, including the written application, interviews, and reference checks.

For inquiries or additional information, please contact fellows@smefunds.com.