

## Internship Opportunity – “Meet Your Future” Project

### The research team

We are a group of researchers from University of California Berkeley (PhD student), Brown University (PhD student) and BRAC Uganda (Field Manager), with interest in the field of economic development and managerial experience in conducting RCT. We collaborate intensively with the Research and Evaluation Unit at BRAC Uganda.

### Organization and Unit Description:

BRAC is the largest development NGO in the world by staff and individuals supported. The Global Journal ranked BRAC #1 out of the top 100 NGOs in the world in 2013.

Organizing the poor using communities’ own human and material resources, BRAC catalyzes lasting change, creating an ecosystem in which the poor have the chance to seize control of their own lives. They do this with a holistic development approach geared toward inclusion, using tools like microfinance, education, vocational training, healthcare, legal services, community empowerment and more. Their work now touches the lives of an estimated 126 million people, with staff and BRAC-trained entrepreneurs numbering in the hundreds of thousands, a global movement bringing change to 11 countries in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean.

The Research and Evaluation Unit is a dynamic, multi-disciplinary and interactive team of researchers from around the world, working in close contact with faculty members and PhD students from leading Economics departments such as Stanford University, LSE, UCL, Stockholm University and Bocconi University. Interns have the opportunity to take on substantial responsibility in program design, implementation, monitoring, research and evaluation. Individuals who perform well will be considered for permanent positions within BRAC. In the past, interns have also been very successful at obtaining positions in other institutions such as the World Bank or Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA).

To learn more about BRAC Uganda's Research and Evaluation Unit see: <http://uganda.brac.net/research-and-evaluation>.

### Job description

Positions for the winter are remote. The intern will primarily work on the “Meet Your Future” project. This is a Randomized Control Trial that seeks to investigate how career-coaching and job search assistance for young jobseekers entering job market can (i) increase the effectiveness of the job search process and entrepreneurial efforts, (ii) influence their aspirations and self-confidence while at school, (iii) reduce information gaps, (iv) align expectations with labor market conditions and (v) improve labor market performance. The experimental setting is that of Vocational Training Institutes (VTI) in Uganda. Vocational training is a common route through which young Ugandans acquire skills, and a common tool used by NGOs and governments to support disadvantaged youth by providing them skills demanded on the labor market. The coaching is operated by the “the future you”, an alumnus of the VTI, who successfully entered the labor market after receiving the training.

Main duties and responsibilities of the intern will include:

1. Participate to the data collection activities, such as:
  - a. Contribute to the design of quantitative survey instruments
  - b. Lead the programming of the survey instruments on tablets
  - c. Manage the field implementation of the surveys – this will involve monitoring the central server as well as the activities of enumerators in the field to ensure maximum data quality
  - d. Manage and organize the data coming in from the field to the central server
2. Support data cleaning and data management activities and assist the research team in data analysis as needed.
3. Support the implementation of the intervention (treatment).
4. Contribute to report writing on the progress of fieldwork and data analysis activities.

### Other Requirements

BRAC needs a person who can easily adapt to the African social context. The intern should be proactive, autonomous and able to communicate effectively.

### Timing

January 18<sup>th</sup> to April 17<sup>th</sup> (one opening).

The dates are *slightly* flexible, but a minimum availability of 10 weeks full time is required.

### Desired Background

- MSc in Economics, Econometrics, Statistics or related quantitative discipline. First year students in a two-year MSc program will be considered.
- Good knowledge of STATA.
- Excellent knowledge of Development Economics and Econometrics.
- Very good command of English.

### Compensation

Compensation: This is an UNPAID internship.

### Value of the internship for MSc/MA students

- First-hand managerial experience of how RCTs are concretely carried out in the field of development economics;
- Application of all the theoretical concepts learnt in class to reality (attrition, spillovers, internal validity, randomization are just few examples of the things we deal every day with);
- Training in the use of STATA and other survey softwares (Survey Solutions CAPI, Qualtrics);
- Understanding of what type of research PhD-level students do in the field of development economics;
- Contact with a different culture.

### Application details

To apply, please send a CV, a short cover letter (one-page max) and a recently written sample STATA .do file to: [livia.alfonsi@berkeley.edu](mailto:livia.alfonsi@berkeley.edu) and [sara\\_spaziani@brown.edu](mailto:sara_spaziani@brown.edu).

Please write "MYF-internship application" followed by your last name in the subject of your application email.