

Deputy Director

Africa Check C.L.C. – Africa’s first non-partisan fact-checking organization

South Africa office
Private Bag 3
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South Africa

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Africa Check
15th Floor
200 Aldersgate
London EC1A 4HD
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ABOUT AFRICA CHECK

Africa Check C.I.C. was founded on 26 June 2012 as Africa’s first non-partisan fact-checking organisation, set up to promote honesty in public debate and the media across the continent. Its main office is in South Africa. It also has offices in Senegal and the UK. Offices are planned in Nigeria and Kenya in the coming months.

Africa Check is registered as a non-profit Community Interest Company, or C.I.C., in the UK and as a non-profit Trust in South Africa.

It works to promote accuracy in public debate and the media in Africa and thereby raise the quality of information available to the public across the continent.

To do this, Africa Check in October 2012 launched the continent’s first non-partisan fact-checking website – <https://africacheck.org/> – to check the accuracy of claims made in public debate and the media in South Africa and elsewhere across the continent. We publish reports that are republished and debated in mainstream print media, radio and television across Africa.

In April 2014 Africa Check set up an annual awards ceremony to inspire and support fact-checking by media in other countries around Africa. And in 2015, we launched a French-language version of the site, in Dakar, Senegal. <http://fr.africacheck.org/>

Africa Check’s growth

Since Africa Check was founded in 2012 with seed-funding of \$58,750 (£45,648), the organisation has grown rapidly. Today we have a staff of 11 full-time and part-time. This will grow to 15 full and part-time by the end of 2016, and a budget of £410,000.

Our funding partners in 2016 include the [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#), the [Millennium Trust](#), the [Omidyar Network](#), [OSF-SA](#), [OSIWA](#), the [Shuttleworth Foundation](#) and the [Social Justice Initiative](#). In addition to donor funding, we also earn revenue to support the organisation, providing training and research services through our commercial unit, [TRI Facts](#).

What the media says

Since we launched in 2012, Africa Check has won recognition for our work from many media organisations in Africa and around the world.

Read this review in [The New York Times](#) (2013)

Read this review in [The Guardian](#) (2014)

Read this review in [The Economist](#) (2013)

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“Africa Check is now an indispensable part of the media landscape. The reports you produce are useful in themselves and as examples to us all of how to do good journalism” – **Chris Roper, editor-in-chief of the Mail & Guardian, SA. 2015**

“The Africa Check initiative is critical for Nigeria. Having someone independent checking, and showing others how to check the facts is vital for democracy” – **Mannir Dan-Ali. Editor-in-chief of the Daily Trust – Nigeria. 2015**

Our organisation

Africa Check is managed by an Executive Director, Peter Cunliffe-Jones, based in London, where Africa Check C.I.C. was set up and is registered. He reports to a [seven-member board](#), and works in offices shared with the UK fact-checking website [Fullfact.org](#), alongside Africa Check Finance Manager Rajan Thevsagayam and Finance Officer Vino Peterson.

The Executive Director currently oversees work done by Africa Check in South Africa and Senegal and the planned opening of offices in Nigeria and Kenya. The new position of Deputy Director will be based in South Africa and the work currently done by the Executive Director will be split between the two posts.

In South Africa, we will from August have a team of five fact-checkers, headed by Editor Anim van Wyk. This team focuses on editorial work.

In addition, the office comprises a Fundraising & Business Development Manager, Nancy Chimhandamba, the Head of Training & Research, Nechama Brodie, and an Editorial & Marketing Assistant, Masutane Modjadji. We are currently recruiting a position of Community Outreach Officer, to be based also in South Africa.

In Senegal, we have a team of two fact-checkers, headed by editor Assane Diagne. And in Nigeria, we are planning to hire a full-time senior researcher in September. We plan to hire a full-time senior researcher in Kenya at the end of the year.

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Creation of Deputy Director post

The post of Deputy Director which is available from August 2016 onwards, is based in our office at the Journalism Department in the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The position will assist the Executive Director in the development of Africa Check's overall strategy and take responsibility for planning and implementation of key areas of the strategy.

KEY TERMS OF JOB

Job title	Deputy Director
Location	Braamfontein, Johannesburg
Reporting to	Executive Director
Days per week	5
Holiday allowance	20 working days per year + statutory days
Starting date	August onwards

JOB PURPOSE

The Deputy Director is employed in South Africa by Africa Check Trust. He/she deputises for the Executive Director, and assists the Executive Director in the development of Africa Check's overall strategy. He/she will be responsible for planning and managing implementation of key areas of the strategy.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The Deputy Director is responsible for

- **Deputising for the Executive Director**, as and when required.
- **Assisting the Executive Director in development of strategy** to be approved by the boards of Africa Check CIC & Trust
- **Planning and managing implementation** of the agreed strategy in key areas
- **Reporting to the Executive Director on progress in those areas**

The Deputy Director shall take responsibility for

1. Day-to-day guidance on editorial matters

The Deputy Director shall provide the editorial teams with day-to-day guidance on editorial matters, as and when they require this.

2. Development of Africa Check's overall strategy

The Deputy Director shall advise and assist the Executive Director in the development of the organisation's strategy in all areas.

3. Human resources and administration

The Deputy Director shall take responsibility for developing human resources policies for Africa Check staff and freelancers across Africa. These must be in line with both best practice in the sector, and legal requirements in those countries.

Once policies are agreed by the board, he/she will be responsible for implementing these policies, in liaison with the Africa Check Finance Manager and Executive Director.

The Deputy Director shall also be responsible for managing administration of the offices in Africa, from office rentals to ensuring that Africa Check is registered with appropriate authorities where it operates and complies with necessary regulations.

4. Fundraising and business development

The Deputy Director shall be responsible for developing Africa Check's fundraising and business development operation, overseeing and managing the work of the Fundraising and Business Development Manager, and the Head of Training & Research.

He/she will do this in a way consistent with overall strategy and in liaison with the Finance Manager and the Executive Director.

5. Deputising for the Executive Director

The Deputy Director shall deputise for the Executive Director when so required. This shall include representing Africa Check at events, as and when necessary.

QUALIFICATIONS

To be successful, candidates must be able to demonstrate

- A minimum of 15 years' work experience in the media, media-for-development, or development sector; with at least five of those years in a senior management position;
- An enthusiasm for and understanding of the work of fact-checking;
- A track record in the media or development sector focused on investigations, accountability and/or open information;

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- Experience of successfully managing the business/fundraising side of a media or development sector organisation
- Experience in and understanding of human resource issues in South Africa;
- Strong inter-personal and presentational skills; suitable to represent Africa Check at national and international events.



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