



African Leadership Academy

Developing the next generation of African leaders

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Internship Description: 16th June 2014- 29th August 2014

I had a rotational internship at the Omidyar Network, a philanthropic investment firm headquartered in Redwood City, California. Omidyar Network invests in entrepreneurs who are committed to advancing social good at the pace and scale the world needs today. The Omidyar Network focuses on five key areas being: Consumer Internet and Mobile, Education, Financial Inclusion, Government Transparency, and Property Rights. I spent two weeks with different departments, such as the investment team, financial inclusion, marketing & communications, network, human capital, and the legal team.

I worked on very valuable projects with the different teams. During my two weeks working with the investment team, I helped the team improve their investment strategy to better serve their investees. I collected, analysed and modelled data that I then presented it to the investment committee in a manner that would demonstrate trends of the investment duration process across various initiatives, geographies, and investment sizes.



With the Financial inclusion team and part of my time with the Human Capital team, I worked on developing an Internal Revenue Manual for a renewal grant proposal for African Leadership Academy. It was a great opportunity for me to share my experience as an ALA graduate and most importantly be on the other side of the table, advocating for investing in ALA. I also helped develop ON's Customer Relationship Management system, which will ultimately help connect all the investees and ON contacts to better serve their

customers and make a positive change.

I also helped the legal team collect and organise all the documents needed for the IRS taxation check. The team needed to get the documents ready and I was able to do some of the work that



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as postponed for more than a year in less than a week. Even under such pressure I was able to excel and learn about my own potential to deliver when necessary. The legal team was very happy with my work and gave me more responsibilities including developing next year's legal budget, which I was also able to do in a very short period of time. I learned new excel skills since I worked with lot of data during my internship. I also developed my critical thinking skills and investment skills by participating in the Investment Committee (IC) meeting. I have learned a lot about investment evaluation and measuring impact. And ultimately learned about the importance of customer experience and how to provide customers' needs.

My internship with ON introduced me to the amazing world of impact investing. My work with ON proved to me that the best way to tackle the complex social issues we face in this world, such as poverty and unemployment, is the use of market based solutions. Giving people opportunities to create their own ventures, employ more people, and have a scalable impact is the best way to give valuable and sustainable support. I agree with ON's philosophy that people have great potential and all they need is access to opportunities. After working at ON, my dream is to create a venture capital firm in Morocco that supports young entrepreneurs by giving them access to capital, network, knowledge and skills. I believe that by developing a strong community of young entrepreneurs in Morocco and throughout the continent, we will be able to develop a prosperous Africa.