Voice of America

ENGLISH TV to Africa

2016 INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
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http://www.voanews.com
https://www.facebook.com/voaAfrica54
http://www.facebook.com/VOAStraightTalkAfrica

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For More Information
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Introduction

The Television Branch of the Voice of America’s Africa Division is responsible for all television initiatives targeted to viewers in sub-Saharan Africa. Viewers of affiliate stations in approximately 40 countries receive our programming.

Current programming includes weekly production of two television programs and other special projects.

Africa 54 – Africa 54, is our newest TV offering from VOA’s English to Africa service. Airing Monday through Friday, this 30 minute program takes a closer look at the stories Africans are talking about, with reports from VOA correspondents, and interviews with top experts and analysts. Africa 54 also serves viewers with timely information about health, education, business and technology. And for the young and young at heart, Africa 54 provides a daily dose of pop culture, including music, fashion and entertainment. (Monday-Fridays, crew call for fall daylight savings time 11:00 a.m., show 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; crew call for spring daylight savings time 12:00 p.m., show 12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m., Studio 52, basement)

Straight Talk Africa – A live one-hour call-in TV/radio/web tri-cast talk show focusing on the latest news and events on the continent. (Wednesdays, crew call for fall daylight savings time 12:30 p.m., show 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.; crew call for spring daylight savings time 1:30 p.m., show 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., Studio 52, basement)

The VOA Africa Division also provides comprehensive radio news broadcasting in 13 languages to the continent. English, Somali, French, Swahili, Hausa, Portuguese, Kirundi, Kinyarwanda, Shona, Ndbele, Amharic, Tigrinia, and Afan Oromo broadcasts cover news all over the continent throughout the day and night.
Your Internship Experience

Interns help advance our organizational goals to provide quality and informative programming to African viewers. Interns also gain valuable and relevant television production experience in an interesting and exciting environment.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
With our guidance and direction, and your own initiative, during your internship you should and will ...

- Learn a general overview of the political situation in Africa
- Learn the roles and responsibilities of TV producers and other staff
- Learn TV to Africa products and programming goals
- Learn how studio programs are produced
- Learn how video packages are constructed

ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES

- Research the web daily to be kept abreast of headlines around the world and in Africa
- Shadow video producers, radio producers, videographers, and editors
- Learn studio positions and assignments
- Answer e-mail or postal mail from viewers
- Research show topics to write factoids to air on the shows
- Greet studio guests / escort guests to and from studio
- Write TV blurbs on Africa 54 Facebook wall & reply to friends
- Attend editorial meetings with Executive Producers
- Perform miscellaneous duties [photocopying, dubbing, video searches, etc.]
- Work on TV to Africa show databases
- Upload show packages to YouTube
- Suggest topics for shows
- Conduct professional interviews with TV to Africa Team
- Produce a final TV package (optional)
- VOA classes offered for free to interns:
  - VOA’s Copyright and Trademarks: News Feeds Rights Usage
  - VOA’s DaletPlus Editing Class
YOUR FINAL PROJECT

You should select a final project within the first month of your internship, if interested. However, before proceeding, discuss your topic with the internship manager and executive producer (EP) for approval. Choose one of the following:

- Produce a TV promo
- Produce a TV short story
- Produce a “profile” piece of an African advocate in the DC metro area

Guidelines for producing a PROFILE segment

Find an advocate for Africa in the Washington, DC area. He or she should be working on an African cause that benefits people on the continent. You may choose an NGO head, ambassador, African professor, or someone else with impressive credentials.

I will work along with you to schedule the crew to cover your event, show you where to research b-roll and provide other resources you may need. You’ll need to think about what footage you might want to get – the person sitting at his/her desk, interacting with coworkers, driving, reading, working, etc.

After the shoot, log your tapes, decide the clips you want, and transcribe them. Put them into script format, with the b-roll on the left side of the page [Paul can send you a template.] Seek approval.

Questions to ask your subject along with a few other questions:

- WHAT IS YOUR NAME, TITLE, AND ORGANIZATION NAME?
- WHAT DOES YOUR JOB ENTAIL?
- WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES?
- WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST CHALLENGE?
- IS THIS JOB SATISFYING?
- WHY IS AFRICA IMPORTANT?
- IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO ADD?
INGREDIENTS IN A SUCCESSFUL INTERNSHIP AT VOA ENGLISH TV AFRICA

- Proactive Approach and Initiative
- Positive Attitude
- Regular Meetings/progress checks with internship manager and executive producer