

LGT Impact Fellowship

Profiles of the 2025 cohort



LGT Impact Fellows of the 2025 cohort:



1
Blessings Lihasi
5 years experience
 LGT VP Associate Fellow
 LGT Venture Philanthropy, Africa



5
Eric Githo Macharia
5 years experience
 Projects Accounts Fellow
 KWCA, Kenya



9
Kunal Dongre
10 years experience
 Financial Planning and
 Analysis Manager
 Educate Girls, India



2
Brian Owuor
7 years experience
 Fundraising Fellow
 MMWCA, Kenya



6
Gbenga Oyedele
8 years experience
 Budget and Reporting Manager
 Atreos Retail Platform, Nigeria



10
Senthil Balasubramanian
15+ years experience
 Resource Mobilisation Officer
 KWCA, USA



3
Chinedu George Nnawetanma
10+ years experience
 Project Manager – Fiscal
 Sponsorship Program
 FAH, Nigeria



7
Joyce Makau
15 years experience
 Monitoring & Evaluation Fellow
 MMWCA, Kenya



11
Teboho Moleko
5 years experience
 Research Specialist
 Harambee, South Africa



4
Enock Musaana
10+ years experience
 Senior Fellow – MERL
 FAH, Zambia



8
Kiana Sinclair
13 years experience
 Senior Fellow – Partnerships
 and Grants Management
 FAH, USA

1



Blessings Lihasi

Nationality:

Kenyan

Number of years of work experience:

5

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I found out about the program through...

A LinkedIn Post

My Fellowship role:

Investment Associate

Fellowship organization: LGT Venture Philanthropy (LGT VP)**Organization's mission:**

LGT Venture Philanthropy (LGT VP) strives to improve the quality of life for disadvantaged people, contribute to healthy ecosystems, and build resilient, inclusive, and prosperous communities.

My background:

I have worked in strategy consulting for over 5 years at Dalberg Advisors and Expertise Global, Prior to that I got a bachelor degree in Financial Economics at Strathmore University.

I joined the LGT Impact Fellowship because...

I wanted to pivot from developing strategies for impact at a high-level to contributing more directly to change at the grassroots. The LGT Impact Fellowship allows me to deepen my understanding of community-led conservation, learn about venture philanthropy, and apply my skills to support sustainable, locally driven change.

In my Fellowship role I will...

Support the establishment and structuring of an investment fund focused on community-led conservation in East Africa, source and evaluate high-impact investment opportunities, conduct due diligence, and provide post-investment support. I will also help refine investment processes and documentation, prepare fund updates and impact reports, and assist with investor-related communications and events.

I am very excited about...

Learning more about venture philanthropy, contributing to meaningful impact at the grassroots level, and connecting with a diverse group of people within my cohort, LGT VP, and other stakeholders I may interact with.

2



Brian Owuor

Nationality:

Kenyan

Number of years of work experience:

7

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I found out about the program through...

Friend Referral

My Fellowship role:

Fundraising Fellow

Fellowship organization: Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association (MMWCA)**Organization's mission:**

The Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association (MMWCA) is a membership organisation of all the Mara conservancies, open to any existing or upcoming wildlife conservancy whose land is part of or integral to the greater Maasai Mara ecosystem. MMWCA is one of the Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association's members, contributing to the growth and development of conservancies nationally.

My background:

Brian is a trained Program Management, Business Development and Resource Mobilization professional, with over 7 years of international experience with development organizations and think tanks. Brian has proven success designing, managing, and coordinating various programs with a focus on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, Agriculture, Youth engagement, WASH and resilience, among others. Brian has successfully raised over \$ 6M from strategic funding agencies such as IDRC, FCDO, Bill and Melinda Gates, GIZ, EU, Global Affairs Canada, ARA, Wellcome Trust among others for research and development initiatives across Africa. His extensive involvement in resource mobilization include identifying funding opportunities; proposal development (designing, writing, guiding, reviewing); developing RM strategies, policy and procedure development, networking with partners and funders; team leadership; and reporting. Brian holds a BSc. in Environmental Science, MSc. in Global Environmental Change and an MBA in Green Energy and Sustainable Business.

I joined the LGT Impact Fellowship because...

I wanted a platform to immerse myself in the realities of impact-driven organizations, to challenge conventional thinking, and to co-create solutions with local teams working at the frontlines of development.

In my Fellowship role I will...

Support the Fundraising & Partnerships Officer in diversification of the current donor base and stewardship of existing donors to drive fundraising efforts. I also assist in cultivating donor relationships, developing targeted campaigns, and contributing to the creation of proposals and concept notes.

I am very excited about...

Contributing to MMWCA fundraising goals for 2025/2026 and the opportunity to interact and learn from other fellows

3



Chinedu George Nnawetanma

Nationality:

Nigerian

Number of years of work experience:

10+

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I found out about the program through:

LinkedIn

My Fellowship role:

Project Manager – Fiscal Sponsorship Program

Fellowship organization: Financing Alliance for Health (FAH)**Organization's mission:**

The Financing Alliance for Health (FAH) is an Africa-based, African-led, and Africa-focused entity that convenes governments, funders, philanthropy, private-sector, and communities to address systemic financing challenges to scaling primary and community health systems for delivery of integrated primary healthcare services through country, regional and global partnerships.

My background:

I have over a decade of experience in social impact that cut across SME finance, entrepreneurship development, green finance, retail and value chain banking, and development advocacy. Prior to joining the Financing Alliance for Health, I led strategic partnerships with social enterprises and impact-driven tech startups at Sterling Bank (Nigeria). Before that, I led the SME advisory services and SME green finance teams at Wema Bank (Nigeria). My corporate career began in Fidelity Bank (Nigeria), where I served as an SME banking product manager and a value chain banking strategy officer. Beyond my paid work, I also advocate and volunteer for impact-related causes that resonate with me.

I joined the LGT Impact Fellowship because...

I am very passionate about the empowerment of people and organizations across Africa and the rest of the developing world to drive accelerated, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth and development within their communities. The LGT Impact Fellowship aligns perfectly with this. It will give me a lofty platform that I can leverage to make far-reaching impact, especially in the health sector, which is one of the most fundamental pillars of a prosperous society.

In my Fellowship role I will...

Lead the execution and expansion of the Fiscal Sponsorship Program at the Financing Alliance for Health (FAH), enabling strategic primary and community health projects across Africa to access catalytic funding.

I am very excited about...

The opportunity to meet leaders and organizations transforming the health sector in Africa and to be a part of the transformation. I am also excited about meeting other fellows in the program.

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Enock Joseph Musaana

Nationality:

Zambian

Number of years of work experience:

10+

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I found out about the program through...

An online job board called gozambia.com

My Fellowship role:

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (MERL)
Senior Fellow

Fellowship organization: Financing Alliance for Health (FAH)**Organization's mission:**

The Financing Alliance for Health (FAH) is an Africa-based, African-led, and Africa-focused entity that convenes governments, funders, philanthropy, private-sector, and communities to address systemic financing challenges to scaling primary and community health systems for delivery of integrated primary healthcare services through country, regional and global partnerships.

My background:

With over a decade of experience as MEL specialist, I've designed MERL systems for multi-sector African programs funded by leading donor agencies, specializing in third-party monitoring, data analysis, and adaptive management with a strong track record in health systems (e.g., digital health, nutrition, HIV) and cross-sectoral development (WASH, education, livelihoods). I've spearheaded data quality assessments, donor reporting, and capacity building for governments and partners.

I joined the LGT Impact Fellowship because...

... it aligns perfectly with my passion for merging evidence rigor with social impact. FAH's African-led approach to health financing resonates with my belief in locally rooted solutions, and I'm eager to collaborate with governments and partners to transform MERL systems. The LGT Impact Fellowship's emphasis on cohort learning and global networks will further amplify my ability to drive change.

In my Fellowship role I will...

... strengthen FAH's MERL systems by optimizing data collection, analysis, and visualization to track program impact effectively. I'll support adaptive management through evidence-based recommendations and foster knowledge-sharing via learning products. Additionally, I'll build capacity among teams to ensure data integrity and donor compliance.

I am very excited about...

... contributing to FAH's visionary work in shaping resilient primary health systems across Africa. I look forward to collaborating with diverse stakeholders, from ministries to communities, and turning data into actionable strategies. The chance to innovate within MERL while being part of a dynamic global Fellow cohort is truly inspiring.

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Eric Gaitho Macharia

Nationality:

Kenyan

Number of years of work experience:

5

Contact:

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I found out about the program through...

referral

My Fellowship role:

Projects Accounts Fellow

Fellowship organization: Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA)**Organization's mission:**

Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA) is the national leader and convener for conservancies, it works to create an enabling environment for conservancies to thrive by ensuring conservancy interests and plans are included in decision making; locally, regionally and internationally. It facilitates locals and landowners in conservancies participate in decision making and benefit sharing.

My background:

I am an experienced Dynamics 365 Business Central Consultant with expertise in implementing and optimizing it for businesses of all sizes. My proficiency spans across end-to-end implementation, configuration, customization, and integration. I have successfully supported development, customization and configuration of Dynamics 365 Business Central financial system to suit the financial, reporting and grants management for a number of organizations.

I joined the LGT Impact Fellowship because...

... I wanted to apply my professional skills to create meaningful social impact, while gaining hands-on experience working with innovative organizations in emerging markets. The Fellowship offered a unique opportunity to bridge my career in the private sector with my personal commitment to driving sustainable development and social change.

In my Fellowship role I will...

... support the financial management and operational efficiency of the host organization by strengthening budgeting processes, enhancing financial reporting systems, and ensuring compliance with donor and internal requirements.

I am very excited about...

... the opportunity to work closely with a mission-driven team, learn from diverse perspectives in the social impact space, and contribute to systems that enable greater financial transparency and accountability. I'm also looking forward to the personal and professional growth that comes with navigating complex challenges in a new context.

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Gbenga Oyedele

Nationality:

Nigerian

Number of years of work experience:

8

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I found out about the program through
LinkedIn

My Fellowship role:

Budget and Reporting Manager

Fellowship organization: Atreos Retail Platform**Organization's mission:**

Operates a hard discount retail chain that is grounded on simple management techniques that seek to eliminate complexity and generate efficiencies across all functions involved in the business. Hard discount stores differ from traditional supermarket chains or bargain stores by offering a limited selection of food and basic consumer goods

My background:

I have over five years of experience in the startup ecosystem. I led the finance team at a Nigerian fintech startup, where I partnered closely with the CEO to successfully raise \$16.5 million across three funding rounds. Prior to entering the startup space, I held roles at Bank of America, KPMG, Chapel Hill Denham, and Guaranty Trust Bank.

I also consult for early-stage companies, helping them design and implement finance structures, build teams, and develop processes. I actively supports founders in preparing for and executing capital raises.

I hold a Master's degree in Finance from EDHEC Business School and a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from the University of Lagos. Outside of work, I enjoy playing lead guitar, competing in chess, and trading gold.

I joined the LGT Impact Fellowship because....

of the impact the two portfolio companies in Nigeria (Atreos and MoniePoint) are having

In my Fellowship role I will...

be leading the FPA and Reporting of Atreos

I am very excited about...

the fellowship and my role because it is a critical time for the company considering the rate of expansion. My role is critical in ensuring the company achieve its long-term goals

7



Joyce Makau

Nationality:

Kenyan

Number of years of work experience:

15

Contact:

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I found out about the program through MMWCA

My Fellowship role:

Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Fellow

Fellowship organization: Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association (MMWCA)

Organization's mission:

The Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association (MMWCA) is a membership organisation of all the Mara conservancies, open to any existing or upcoming wildlife conservancy whose land is part of or integral to the greater Maasai Mara ecosystem. MMWCA is one of the Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association's members, contributing to the growth and development of conservancies nationally.

My background:

I am a seasoned Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Specialist with over 15 years of experience in designing and leading MEL systems for development, agriculture, environmental sustainability, and biodiversity programs. My expertise includes results-based management, adaptive learning, and performance monitoring across multi-country landscapes, with a strong command of digital data tools and donor-aligned frameworks. Have worked with organizations such as USAID Kenya and East Africa, ILRI, and Tegemeo Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development I hold a Master of Science degree in Agricultural and Applied Economics from the University of Nairobi and is currently pursuing a Master of Arts degree in Monitoring and Evaluation at Daystar University. I'm passionate about using data to drive evidence-based decision-making and continuous learning. Outside of my professional work, I volunteer in supporting small village groups to maintain simple financial records and I also enjoy listening to music across various genres, appreciating quality sound and storytelling regardless of style.

I joined the LGT Impact Fellowship because I am passionate about leveraging data and evidence to drive meaningful, lasting change in communities.

In my Fellowship role I will apply my expertise in MEL to strengthen data systems, enhance impact measurement, and support evidence-based decision-making within the host organization. I will work collaboratively with teams to build capacity, streamline reporting processes, and foster a culture of learning and accountability that drives sustainable outcomes

I am very excited about this opportunity to continue applying my MEL expertise to advance conservation efforts through data-informed strategies that protect ecosystems and enhance community resilience, which aligns well with MMWCA's vision.

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Kiana Sinclair

Nationality:
American

Number of years of work experience:
13

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I found out about the program through
Following LGT on LinkedIn

My Fellowship role:
Senior Fellow – Partnerships and Grants Management

Fellowship organization: Financing Alliance for Health (FAH)

Organization's mission:

The Financing Alliance for Health (FAH) is an Africa-based, African-led, and Africa-focused entity that convenes governments, funders, philanthropy, private-sector, and communities to address systemic financing challenges to scaling primary and community health systems for delivery of integrated primary healthcare services through country, regional and global partnerships.

My background:

I bring over a decade of experience in the Tech and Health industries within the private sector. Throughout my career so far, I've worked at startups and large-scale, global organizations primarily focused on business development and partnerships. I have a Bachelors degree in Journalism from Boston University however I am technically trained in digital and programmatic advertising formats. I recently completed my Executive MBA at Saïd Business School, and I hope to be able to share those learnings with my cohort.

I joined the LGT Impact Fellowship because I am in the early stages of breaking into the Impact space and I am looking forward to learning more about how organizations and work together to create a better future for our global society. I am especially excited to meet my fellow cohort members and work with them towards a shared goal.

In my Fellowship role I will be working with the fundraising and grants team to secure additional capital that would achieve (and hopefully exceed) their 2023-2027 goals.

I am very excited about...

I am most excited to learn from the FAH team and gain a better understanding of nuances of fundraising for health initiatives across various countries.

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Kunal Dongre

Nationality:

Indian

Number of years of work experience:

10

Contact:

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- LinkedIn: [Kunal Dongre](#)

I found out about the program through:

LinkedIn

My Fellowship role:

Financial Planning and Analysis Manager

Fellowship organization: Foundation to Educate Girl's Globally (Educate Girls)

Organization's mission:

Educate Girls is on a mission to change the future for millions of adolescent girls and young women in rural India. Established in 2007, Educate Girls is a non-profit organization dedicated to mobilizing communities for girls' education in India's rural and educationally backward areas. Strongly aligned with the 'Right to Education Act' (RTE), 'Samagra Shiksha,' and the National Education Policy 2020, Educate Girls is committed to advancing the government's vision of improving access to education for girls.

My background:

I began my career in the tech and manufacturing sectors, working across analytics, operations and finance. But it was my lived experience as a queer person, socially inclined family background which, while accessing and questioning the spaces and systems that often felt inaccessible and non-inclusive that, made me pivot toward the social impact space. Over time, I've worked with nonprofits on finance and strategy, and co-founded Piravi, a queer-led arts collective that creates safe, expressive spaces through poetry and storytelling.

I joined the LGT Impact Fellowship because... ...

It offers a unique platform that aligns with my skills, strengths, and aspirations — combining strategic finance work with local impact. I was drawn to LGT Venture Philanthropy's focus on partnering with mission-driven organizations in education, health, and environment, and fostering peer-based, cross-cultural learning. My role with Educate Girls allows me to apply my financial planning expertise toward a cause I care deeply about — education equity, which holds the potential to unlock broader systemic change.

In my Fellowship role I will...

support Educate Girls' CFO and finance team on financial modeling, planning, and tools that enable data-driven, long-term decision-making — all while making financial systems more responsive to program realities on the ground.

I am very excited about...

connecting with Fellows and organizations across geographies, learning from new cultural contexts like Kenya, and growing into a finance leader who builds systems that are not only efficient — but inclusive, grounded, and community-centered.

10



Senthil Balasubramanian

Nationality:
Indian

Number of years of work experience:
15+

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I found out about the program through:
NextBillion

My Fellowship role:
Resource Mobilization Officer

Fellowship organization: Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA)

Organization's mission:

Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA) is the national leader and convener for conservancies, it works to create an enabling environment for conservancies to thrive by ensuring conservancy interests and plans are included in decision making; locally, regionally and internationally. It facilitates locals and landowners in conservancies participate in decision making and benefit sharing.

My background:

My career has encompassed the climate and sustainability space for close to two decades, with a particular focus on entrepreneurial and mission-driven ventures. Most recently, I was co-founder and CEO of Sistine Solar, an MIT startup that pioneered a breakthrough aesthetic technology to advance societal adoption of solar. Prior to that, as GM of Corporate Finance at Astonfield Renewables, I helped mobilize public-private partnerships and financing for clean energy projects in developing markets. Early on in my career, I graduated from GE's Financial Management Program. I hold an MBA from the MIT Sloan School of Management and a B.Sc. in Finance from the University of Bridgeport.

I joined the LGT Impact Fellowship because...

of the opportunity to apply my entrepreneurial skills to tackle a systemic challenge: protecting our environment while supporting grassroots communities on the frontlines of the climate crisis. The wisdom, ingenuity, and entrepreneurial potential in indigenous communities are second to none if only they are empowered with the right resources and opportunities. The fellowship allows me to play a role in this meaningful cause.

In my Fellowship role I will...

lead the design and implementation of KWCA's long-term resource mobilization strategy for sustainable financing for the organization's goals. I will be helping the organization diversify its capital sources to encompass a range of strategic, donor-, and market-based instruments and partnerships at the intersection of biodiversity conservation, sustainable livelihoods, and climate adaptation.

I am very excited about...

helping a venture that pursues both impact (environmental and societal) and financial sustainability. KWCA's mission resonates deeply with me and I am thrilled to support the organization in advancing the vision of "Living Nature, Living People".

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Teboho Moleko

Nationality:
South African

Number of years of work experience:
5

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I found out about the program through...
LinkedIn

My Fellowship role:
Research Specialist

Fellowship organization: Harambee Youth Accelerator

Organization's mission:

Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator is a not-for-profit social enterprise building African solutions for the global challenge of youth unemployment. We work in South Africa and Rwanda with many partners who are committed to results that can work at scale – including government, the private sector, civil society, and almost 3.4 million youth.

My background:

I am a strategic problem solver who has worked as a management consultant at Dalberg Advisors, a communication specialist at Brunswick Group. I also served as the chief strategy officer at Ngezandla Advisory - a boutique research and strategy firm - and as a part-time lecturer at the University of Cape Town's Sociology Department.

I joined the LGT Impact Fellowship because...

I am an eclectic with deep curiosity, filled with a desire to contribute to society's sustainability at a macro level. I'm drawn to opportunities that connect individual potential with broader societal transformation.

In my Fellowship role I will...

Support my team and the organisation beyond my primary role as a specialist researcher. I will support the organisation in aiding young people to obtain opportunities that can positively shape their futures and those of their communities.

I am very excited about...

Meeting my cohort and being part of a group of passionate individuals who are committed to making an impact. I look forward to learning from the professional journeys of the fellows and the team at Harambee.

