



**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
COLLEGE OF BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATICS**

INDUSTRIAL ATTACHMENT BRIEFS

Name of Student: Nyambura Salome
Registration No.: P15/1478/2013
Institution Attached: Measure Evaluation PIMA
Period of Attachment: Jan – June 2016

Objectives

1. Exposure to industrial work environments

I have been able to successfully accomplish this learning outcome through working in the office on a system together with other team members. The office environment has taught me the required work etiquette and ethic required to deliver as per the organization's objectives. I have been exposed to having meetings with different stakeholders who have significant influence on the success of services being offered by the organization. I have also been able to engage in field activities which form part of the work environment as they allow direct interaction with the beneficiaries of the services and solutions being designed for them.

2. Active participation in creating practical solutions using knowledge learnt

This has been made possible through the system development process that I have been a part of at MEval-PIMA. The programming skills I have learnt in the class setup were actively used in creating a solution (CPIMS) to solve the real world problem of child health and safety in this country.

3. Build professional networks with potential employers

I was able to fulfill this objective from the constant interaction with the team members. Also, I got the chance to interact with members of various departments and thematic areas from both the Palladium Group and ICF International. I was also able to attend meetings that involved various external stakeholders such as PLAN International, Pajat Solutions, Safaricom Limited among others.

Activities Undertaken

The major assignment was to be part of the CPIMS project development team and to be of aid especially with the documentation.

There were both office activities and field work activities.

Office Activities

Typical office tasks included but were not limited to supporting the developers with the:

- Creation of configurable lists
- Programming of some modules
- Documentation of the system in various aspects such as creating a data dictionary, creating a user manual, recording video tutorials to compliment the written user manual and making some training slides.

I was also able to in a very small way participate in the HMIS team to create an ARV lookup table for querying of the database.

Field work activities entailed:

- Gathering user requirements on their methods of data collection and introducing more efficient excel tools for reporting in preparation for the roll out of CPIMS
- Conducting a user acceptance training to get a general feel of the attitudes of the users towards the system preparing to be launched.

I was able to appreciate the user centered design approach of software development and user acceptance from the field work exposure

Lessons worth Sharing

From this internship period, I have learnt a few things. These include:

- Besides this being just a curriculum exercise to fulfil the requirements of the degree program, it speaks volumes on one's resume and is a great stepping stone into a career.
- In a field of Information technology that is changing fast, it is necessary to get some hands on experience every so often since the school syllabus cannot adopt as fast.
- This industrial attachment exercise is a great way to identify one's skills and interests so as to develop them fully into a possibly great career.