

John Karuitha
Karatina University,
School of Business, Karatina, Kenya
☎ +254 736 917 717
✉ diakingathia2005@gmail.com
🌐 www.linkedin.com/in/karuitha/

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Dear Hiring Manager:

RE: APPLICATION - SENIOR ECONOMIST- FIELD OPERATIONS

I write to apply for Senior Economist- Field Operations at United Nations High Commission for Refugees. I have submitted my PhD thesis in Financial Economics at the **University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg** in South Africa, expecting to graduate in June 2022. Furthermore, I have over 15 years of experience in education, finance, research, data analysis and related roles.

I have worked extensively with data in my research work in all these roles. For instance, as a Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) at Wits University for five years, I worked extensively with data from the World Bank, IMF, and other UN bodies. I also analysed data from the Microfinance Information Exchange (MIX), Bloomberg and BankScope.

I am currently in academia. However, I have previously held professional positions. At Twana Twitu Cares, an NGO, I was in charge of finance, where I did financial reports for the management and donors (USAID and AMREF). I was the project manager at NECLI, a livelihoods improvement and environmental conservation community-based organisation, at the time, funded by the EU and DANIDA.

I have advanced skills in R programming and Ms Excel, with sound working knowledge of SQL, Stata and Eviews. I am also well versed in R Markdown and version control using Git and GitHub and familiar with Big Data analytics ecosystems like Hadoop, MapReduce, and Spark. Further, I have skills in Financial Statements Analysis, Valuation, Capital Budgeting, and Economic Analysis. Importantly, I embrace continuous learning. I can explain the results of data analysis to a non-technical audience, given my background in education as a teacher and tutorial fellow. My articles in several newspapers attest to this capability, as do data projects on Rpubs (www.rpubs.com/Karuitha).

I am excited at the prospect of bringing my talents to UNHCR Office. I look forward to hearing from you, at your earliest convenience, to discuss how my experience and qualifications will prove valuable in the Senior Economist- Field Operations role.

Best regards,

John Karuitha.

How have your achievements and operational experience to date prepared you for this position? Please refer to the job description and to the essential requirements therein, and the operational context (if available). (2000 chars. max including spaces)

Please describe any skills and competencies you have, and which may be of particular relevance to this position. (2000 chars. max including spaces).

How does this position align with your career aspirations? (1500 chars. max including spaces)