

THE BRIGHT BURUNDI SCHOLARSHIP (BBS)

STUDENTS PROFILE

Diverse team of 4-6 students with a keen interest in international development in Sub-Saharan Africa and/or the education sector. Work experience in international development, fundraising or event management is desirable. Proficiency in English and preferably also French.

PARTNER

Burundikids e.V.

Registered non-profit association

<https://www.burundikids.org/fr/burundikids.html>

Fondation Stamm

Registered non-profit charity

<http://fr.fondation-stamm.org/>

PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE PROJECT

Fabian Schuster

The Bright Burundi Scholarship, Project Manager and Founder

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INSTITUTION AND CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

Burundi's turbulent political history has been particularly detrimental to Burundi's youth. While the country's population is extremely young and growing fast, the average years of schooling are only 3 years. Furthermore, those who continue their education at university level represent only 1% of the 18-22 age-group. Given Burundi's critical need for motivated and skilled youth able to take action towards the improvement of their society, the Bright Burundi Scholarship (BBS) was created in 2015 in partnership with burundikids e.V. and Fondation Stamm. BBS aims to empower Burundian high school graduates to actively shape their own lives and, in turn, contribute to the betterment of their society.

For this purpose, BBS provides full academic scholarships to Burundian students for the duration of their first academic degree in Burundi. The main criterion to be selected for BBS is a passion for sustainably engaging in Burundian society and acting as an agent for change. This is why our scholars will apply with a proposal for a concrete social project which shall be realized by them during or after their university education. These social projects of our scholars receive additional short-term and need-based support, ensuring local ownership of the project.

EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

The BBS Team Paris will continue the work of the former teams in the areas of outreach and fundraising and is encouraged to actively engage in the further development of the scholarship.

The members of the BBS Team Paris will gain significant experience in project management of a non-profit initiative and fundraising by learning “on-the-job”, taking on important tasks for the success of BBS. They will build upon the experiences of burundikids e.V. and the former BBS Teams. The BBS Project Manager will guide the BBS Team Paris in their work on donor relations and the cost-efficient fundraising for the project through various media channels and events. Students will be responsible for a reliable and transparent financial reporting with funds being allocated towards their activities. The BBS Team Paris will be expected to introduce their own ideas for the initiative’s outreach and fundraising. We are looking forward to your creativity!

Including partners from three countries, the team will learn how to build non-profit projects in an international context, but also understand and master the communication and fundraising challenges faced by such projects. Additionally, an efficient organization of the teamwork through the distribution of work and effective communication is essential to the initiative’s success. BBS aspires to become a regular contributor to non-governmental efforts in favour of grassroots development in Burundi.

A workshop to be delivered in the beginning of the academic year will inform students about the implementation of educational projects in a conflict-affected society and allow for an exchange on the Burundian case. Furthermore, internal processes of the project indispensable for the overall management of BBS and sound handling of donor funds will be introduced. Organized meetings with experts on Burundi are envisioned to contribute to the Team’s learning experience.

RESULTS AND DELIVERABLES INTENDED

Three years into its existence, BBS is looking to establish sustainable fundraising channels. One of the BBS Paris Team’s main activity should therefore be to lead the strategic planning and actions towards this objective:

- 3 fundraising events will be organized in Paris and marketed across social media platforms.
- All social media platforms will be further developed and managed (in line with BBS’ identity): The Facebook page of BBS needs continued attention through regular posts. Further development of the BBS website should be handled by the team, creating interesting stories to engage donors. Furthermore, the crowdfunding page will be administered by the students and innovative marketing strategies developed.
- Reaching out to other Sciences Po initiatives for further collaboration, research on donors and event planning.

METHODOLOGY

The BBS Team Paris will be in touch with the BBS Project Manager during the workshop in order to extensively discuss the collaboration throughout the year and introduce the methodology and internal structure of BBS. An on-boarding package with information will be provided, as well. The Project Manager will be supportive of any activities of Team Paris and exchange over the proceedings of the project in regular Skype sessions and direct communication through Slack.

SCHEDULE

Beginning of academic year: Workshop on BBS methodology and structure together with BBS project manager.

November 2018: Organization of 1-2 fundraising events, researching ideas for sustainable fundraising channels & drafting of action plan, development of the BBS website & social media

May 2019: Organization of 1-2 fundraising events, implementation of action plan, development of BBS website & social media

LOGISTIC

The students will have access to the team projects' room, equipped with a computer, a printer and a phone.

The students will receive funds from BBS in order to conduct their activities. Sound financial reporting will be obligatory for the handling of all funds and material according to BBS guidelines.