Laterite Tanzania

Data, research and analytics

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About Laterite Tanzania

Laterite is an African firm specialized in research for social impact. Founded in Kigali, Rwanda in 2010, our approach is structured, data intensive, and embedded in the local context.

Laterite Tanzania builds on the firm's 10+ years of experience in East Africa. We have completed over 100 research projects with clients active in social impact and development research including large foundations and international organizations, universities, and NGOs. Our core sectors of expertise are education, public health, agriculture, youth and livelihoods, urbanization and migration, and gender. Our Tanzania office has a database of 207 enumerators that speak a total of 33 languages. More than half of our enumerators have completed a Master's degree, and half of the enumerators engaged in the last year were women.
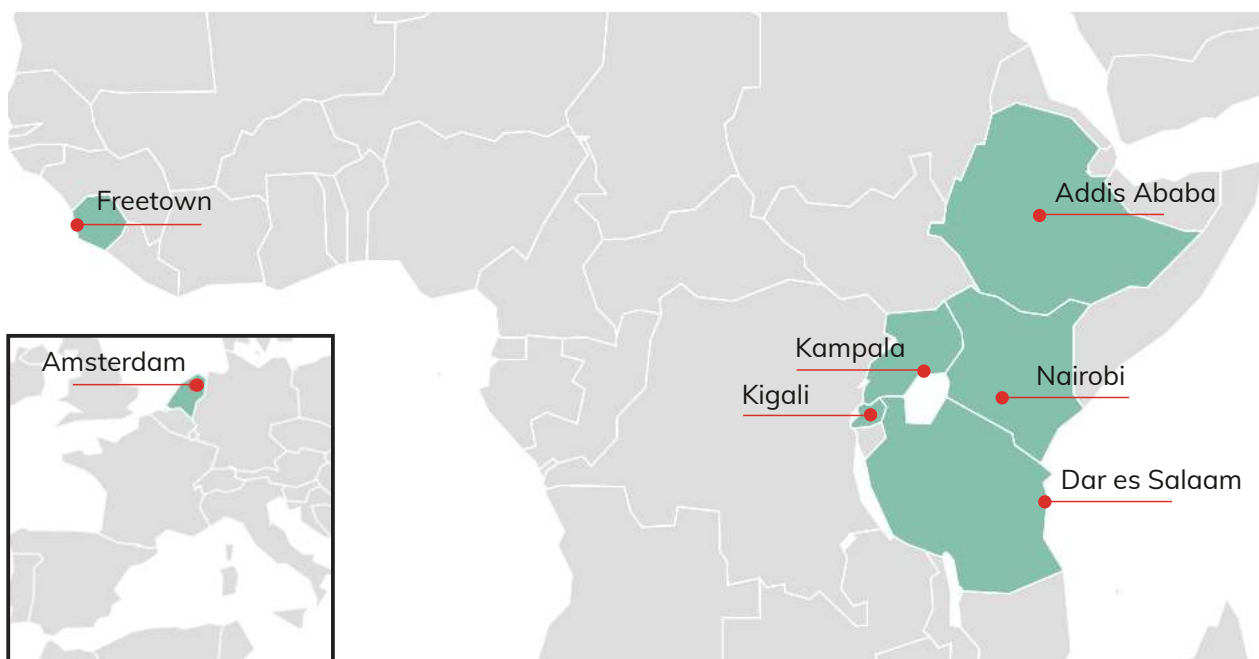
7
offices

80+
full-time staff

2,000+
enumerators available

100,000+
interviews completed in 2022

30,000+
enumerator days spent on projects in 2022

30+
reports published in 2022

Our offices

What we offer

Our strengths

Expert team of technical professionals with experience in emerging markets

Strong understanding of the context via our local teams, networks and relationships

Full-cycle research project support capabilities, from design to data collection to analysis

Top quality at every step of the process, from enumerator training to data monitoring

Emphasis on **ethically sound research**, from child safeguarding to COVID-19 protocols

Focus on **innovation** in the way we work, always seeking new and better ways to do research

Our services

Data

- Quantitative & qualitative data collection
- Phone & SMS surveys
- Audio-assisted surveys
- Behavioral games
- Anthropometric & biometric measurements
- Observational learning and child development assessments

Research

- Program / impact evaluation
- Socio-economic household surveys
- Poverty analysis
- Prevalence studies
- Policy / program landscape mapping
- Design of MEL frameworks

Analytics

- Machine learning
- Predictive analytics and modeling
- Geospatial data and analysis
- AI tools to accelerate research

Examples of our work

Paths to a business for women, men and youth village-based advisors for IGNITE

Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)

In the context of Laterite's embedded research advisory for the Impacting Gender & Nutrition through Innovative Technical Exchange in Agriculture (IGNITE) program, the study sought to explore the paths that AGRA's Village-Based Advisors (VBAs) pursue income-generating ventures through their role. Laterite was responsible for the full cycle of the research process.

The team contacted all 5,000 VBAs in Tanzania and selected 1,244 VBAs who currently have an agribusiness to take part in the VBA Entrepreneur Phone Survey. Laterite also conducted a 3-round tracer study with 77 VBAs with new businesses, key-informant interviews with 20 VBAs with longstanding businesses, and 20 VBAs who started a business but did not succeed or stopped. Key-informant interviews were also conducted by Laterite with 20 government extension agents, AGRA officials and other agribusiness representatives.

Monitoring and evaluation of employment and skills for development in Africa

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

Laterite is collecting and analyzing data to support the employment and skills for development in Africa (E4D) team with the implementation of results-based monitoring and evaluation for six E4D projects in Tanzania. Their projects vary in size and scope, ranging from a business coaching project with 300 entrepreneurs to a basic skills training with 4,000 participants. Laterite assists in tracking the progress of the E4D program and evaluating its impact through a results-based monitoring and evaluation system. The data collection includes qualitative Focus Group Discussions and quantitative phone surveys for trainees and enterprises across the projects in Tanzania.

Improving learning through classroom experience in East Africa: Temperature, Lighting and Sound Quality

Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)

Laterite, Fab Inc and academic partners are working to generate evidence on the role of classroom conditions and learning outcomes in the educational experence of students and teachers in Tanzania. The project focuses on light, sound and acoustics, and temperature. The project aims to gather quantitative and qualitative data on light, sound and temperature conditions in Tanzanian schools; draw insights on how these conditions link with school-level infrastructure; generate evidence on the potential links between classroom conditions and learning outcomes; and articulate concrete ideas on how modifications to the classroom environment can enhance learning.

Laterite Tanzania builds on Laterite's more than ten years of experience in bringing high-quality data, research and advisory services to East Africa

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Key contacts in Tanzania

Sachin Gathani
Managing Partner

Sachin is one of Laterite's founding partners. He has over 12 years of experience leading complex data collection and research projects across various East African countries. Born and raised in Kenya, Sachin holds a Master's in International Affairs (Economic Policy & African Studies) from Columbia University.

Ravina Pattni
Senior Research Associate

Ravina has expertise in managing and conducting research projects in several East African countries. A Tanzanian national, she has undergraduate degrees in Economics and Development Studies from the University of California, Berkeley and a Masters of Public Administration in Development Practice from Columbia University.

John Patrick Mbzou
Senior Field Supervisor

John is an expert in field research, project management, and leading quantitative and qualitative data collection teams in Tanzania. Before joining Laterite, he coordinated data collection projects in several African countries at the Busara Center for Behavioral Economics. He holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Dar es Salaam.

Get in touch

Want to learn more about our work in Tanzania, or discuss a potential opportunity? We look forward to hearing from you!

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From data to policy