

CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER

Executive Appointment

Durban, KwaZulu-Natal

Salary: Market related



About KZNGFA

The KwaZulu-Natal Growth Fund Agency (KZNGFA) is a provincial development finance institution based in Durban and reporting to the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA). KZNGFA provides development-focused debt and equity funding to advance sustainable economic growth, industrialization, transformation, employment creation and inclusive development across KwaZulu-Natal.

About Working Here

Impactful Work - At KZNGFA, we are committed to promoting sustainable and inclusive growth in KwaZulu-Natal. Your work here will make a real difference, contributing to meaningful projects that have a lasting impact on the economy and communities.

Your Colleagues - Join a diverse and talented team that brings a wealth of experience, knowledge, and passion to everything we do.

Collaborative Culture - Collaboration is at the heart of our success. At KZNGFA, we believe that working together not only enhances our business but also strengthens our ability to achieve our mission. Our culture is built on mutual support and teamwork, ensuring that we collectively drive our mandate and strategy forward.

The Opportunity

Reporting to the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Investment Officer (CIO) is the executive accountable for the performance of KZNGFA's investment function. The CIO serves as the principal architect and executor of the Agency's investment strategy and leads the end-to-end investment lifecycle from strategic pipeline development and origination through appraisal, approval, contracting, disbursement, portfolio stewardship, restructuring, recovery and exit.

The role requires an accomplished development-finance executive who combines commercial judgement, transaction leadership, developmental purpose, portfolio discipline and people leadership. The CIO is expected to improve investment conversion and turnaround times without compromising decision quality, lawful governance or the independent assurance responsibilities of Risk, Legal, ESG, Finance and Compliance.

Accountability For Results

The CIO is held accountable for demonstrable results, including:

- a strategically aligned and investable pipeline;
- conversion of opportunities into approvals and disbursement;
- quality, completeness and timeliness of investment recommendations;
- financial performance, portfolio quality and capital preservation;
- developmental outcomes;
- third-party capital mobilization and measurable strategic partnerships; and
- the capability, productivity, conduct and performance of the investment team.

Key Responsibilities

- Investment strategy and funding model;
- Investment pipeline development and investment conversion;
- End-to-end transaction delivery and leadership;
- Commercial assessment, structuring and decision quality;
- Capital deployment;
- Portfolio management and stewardship to mitigate risk and maximise returns in the portfolio;
- Developmental impact and capital mobilization;
- Investment departmental budget preparation and management;
- Marketing of KZNGFA to originate quality deals complying with the KZNGFA mandate;
- Management information, reporting and governance ensuring implementation and compliance with the overall Investment Policy framework; and
- People leadership and performance management ensure high levels of productivity.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- A master's degree at NQF Level 9 in Finance, Economics, Development Finance, Investment Management, Business Administration, Engineering, Commerce or a related field.
- At least 15 years' senior management experience in investment, corporate/project finance, private equity/private credit, banking, asset management or development finance, investment committee, governance and capital exposure.
- **Qualification And Experience**
 - MBA, MBL
 - CFA, CA(SA), Development Finance qualification, Project Finance qualification or equivalent.
 - Equivalent professional qualification is advantageous.

- At least 5 years' experience at the executive management level and demonstrated experience in feasibility studies, due diligence, capital raising, deal structuring, portfolio management, public-private partnerships, DFI engagement.
- Minimum of 3 years' practical application experience of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA).
- Previous key person registration with FSB.
- Deep financial acumen and familiarity with private placement structures and regulations.
- First-hand experience in the Private Equity life cycle of funds and investments- exit experience a must.
- Demonstrable value-add through operational or strategic oversight of portfolio companies.
- Demonstrable Fund-Raising experience.
- Presentation of the evidence of the portfolio.

Core Competencies

- Strategic investment leadership and sector judgement
- Development-finance and commercial acumen
- Complex deal structuring and negotiation
- Financial analysis, modelling and valuation
- Risk-adjusted decision-making and proportionate mitigation
- Portfolio stewardship, turnaround and capital preservation
- Capital mobilization and stakeholder influence
- Execution discipline, prioritization and accountability
- People leadership, capability building and performance management
- Ethical judgement, governance and public-sector accountability
- Clear executive communication and decision-ready reporting
- Data literacy, management information and digital enablement

Employment Equity and Privacy

KZNGFA embraces the principles of the Employment Equity Act, and suitably qualified candidates from designated groups are encouraged to apply. The appointment will be made in accordance with KZNGFA's approved Employment Equity Plan and recruitment policies.

By applying, candidates consent to the processing of their personal information for recruitment, assessment, verification and appointment purposes in accordance with applicable data-protection requirements. Personal information will be handled only for legitimate recruitment purposes and retained in accordance with KZNGFA's approved records and privacy requirements.

KZN GROWTH FUND AGENCY EMBRACES THE PRINCIPLES OF THE EMPLOYMENT EQUITY ACT.

Designated group candidates are encouraged to apply.

Correspondence will be limited to short-listed candidates. Late applications will not be considered. Email users are requested to set the delivery option on both "return receipt" and "confirm delivery." If you have not been contacted within 30 days of the closing date of the advertisement, please accept that your application has been unsuccessful.

Interested applicants should forward a detailed CV, motivational letter, certified copies of qualifications and ID documents to: **Recruitment1@kzngf.co.za**

CLOSING DATE: 09 OCTOBER 2026