Job Description

Lendable is a fast-growing funded startup unlocking the potential of Sub-Saharan Africa’s financial markets by providing debt capital to alternative (non-bank) lenders.

We are looking for an experienced data scientist to join our team in Nairobi. You will be working closely with our head of data science, apprentice data scientists, and credit team to help our alternative lender clients get access to debt capital. Day to day, you will be coordinating and performing predictive and descriptive analysis of loan portfolios to inform our credit team and advise investment committee decisions.

This position is a fantastic next career step for a technician with strong social skills, interested in frontier markets finance, who wants to start moving into management.

Responsibilities:

- Perform and guide risk analysis on alternative lender portfolios for debt financings, including predictive modeling and descriptive analysis;
- Provide day-to-day operational management and coaching of Apprentice Data Scientists on deal related analyses;
- Liaise with clients to present research into their portfolios based on Lendable’s analysis;
- Work to further develop the Lendable Risk Engine, including making modifications to help fit it to alternative lenders’ portfolios;
- Perform ad-hoc predictive and causal inference on alternative lenders’ portfolios;
- Quality assurance of both Apprentice Data Scientists’ work and risk engine outputs;
- Design and implement automated analysis of portfolios;
- Present findings to the investment committee and senior management.

Skills:

Above all, we are looking for intelligence and critical thinking skills. The right candidate might have an academic background in an analytical area such as philosophy, economics, statistics, classics, linguistics, political science, mathematics or physics.

We use a blended R/Stan/Python/Postgres back-end for our analysis. Most of the Data Scientist’s work will be in R, with familiarity (preferably expertise) in Stan a big advantage. You should be comfortable with git, unit testing, and peer review.
Personal attributes:

You learn things—or teach things—for fun
You ask questions and enjoy argument
You are empathetic to others and care about improving the world
You have ideas and pester your friends with them
You are adventurous. This job will have you wearing khakis.

Lendable is building a high-performing, diverse team. We encourage data scientists from under-represented groups to apply.

We strive to build a collaborative, challenging, and creative culture at Lendable through our company values:

1. Rigorous communication: We value proactive, clear, authentic communication
2. Passion: We care deeply about our mission of helping underbanked populations get access to fair finance and love what we do.
3. Empathy for co-workers and customers.
4. Integrity: We value full transparency, follow-through, and an uncompromising relationship with the truth.
5. Being demanding of yourself and others: Continually learn new things and respectfully encourage co-workers to constantly be their best selves.

Location:

Nairobi; 5-20% travel, mostly in East Africa.

Apply

To apply, email a cover letter and your CV to james@lendable.io