



AFENET Secretariat
Lugogo House, Ground Floor (Wings B&C)
Plot 42, Lugogo By-Pass
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Job Opportunities

Date: Monday December 4, 2023

Program: Field Epidemiology Training Program- Kenya

Duty Station: Nairobi-Kenya

Application Deadline: Monday, December 18, 2023

Background

The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in collaboration with the African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET) has been supporting Ministries of Health in Sub Saharan Africa to implement field epidemiology and laboratory training programs (FETPs) for public health workers at national and subnational levels of the health systems. FETPs are field based trainings with participants spending 25% of the time in classroom and 75% in the field providing public health services while acquiring core competencies in field epidemiology that include public health surveillance, interpretation, outbreak investigation and response, epidemiologic methods and scientific communication. In order to address the need to improve field epidemiology capacity for early detection and rapid response to infectious disease outbreaks and other public health threats at all levels of the health system, US CDC and partners developed a three - tiered pyramid model for FETP implementation. At the base of the pyramid is the 3-months Frontline FETP that targets public health workers at the local level, the middle of the pyramid is the 9-months intermediate FETP for regional level health workers and at the peak is the 2-years Advanced FE(L)TP for national level public health managers. Currently, in Sub Saharan African Advanced FE(L)TPs are implemented in 16 countries, Intermediate FETP in 20 countries while Frontline in 35 countries. AFENET working with the US CDC is expanding and maintain FETP Program activities into several countries in the Sub-Saharan Africa including Kenya.

1. Post

Job title: Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) Liaison Officer

Number of posts: 1 (one)

Supervisor: Country Resident Advisor-Kenya FETP

Duty Station: Nairobi-Kenya

Duties and Responsibilities

National and County Liaison – National and County EOC Support

- Serve as a subject matter expert in the establishment and operations of public health emergency operations centres (PHEOCs), incident management systems (IMS), and 717 to effectively and efficiently respond to public health threats in Kenya.
- Support national and county PHEOC to strengthen organizational, leadership and coordination capacity, including interagency collaboration during disease outbreak investigation and response.
- Support to national MOHs and Counties to develop/review PHEOC policies, strategic plans, standard operating procedures (SOPs), technical guidelines, and algorithms
- Guide adoption and dissemination of national policies, procedures, protocols, algorithms and plans to counties
- Guide counties to adopt and implement country-specific policies and guidelines
- Participate in national curriculum development/review and PHEOC staff capacity development
- Provide technical support for the training of PHEOC staff and rapid response teams
- Support Counties in surveillance data analysis, development and dissemination of daily situational reports (SITREPs) during disease outbreaks
- Support Counties and national PHEOCs in the investigation of acute public health events (disease outbreaks or any other public health events [PHE])
- Work closely with the national and county-level IMS to support MOH interagency coordination activities
- Support MOH to disseminate information and distribute educational materials and job aids to the counties
- Provide technical support to MOH in the development and dissemination of risk communication messages during PHE
- Strengthen laboratory and surveillance interface during disease outbreaks to respond effectively to disease outbreaks
- Collating and preparing monthly reports of program activities.
- Represent AFENET at either national and/or county-level PHEOC disease outbreak response or other PHE coordination meetings
- Support the establishment and coordination of the disease outbreak or other PHE county rapid response teams
- Ensure outbreaks are systematically tracked in Kenya to enable quality improvement activities (e.g., intra-/after-action reviews, 717, SimEx)
- Support MOH and Counties to coordinate various stakeholders working on PHEs in Kenya.
- Develop and guide budgets related to PHEOC activities supported by AFENET

- Any other duties as assigned by the supervisor (FELTP resident advisor)

Position Qualification

1. Master of Public Health (with a concentration in epidemiology), MSc. Epidemiology/Biostatistics from an Advanced Field Epidemiology Training Program in Africa.
2. Bachelor's degree in any of the following fields: Human Medicine, Public Health, laboratory Science, Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy

Experience and Skills

- At least 3-5 years' experience in implementing Field Epidemiology Training Programs as a Resident Advisor and or full time FETP field coordinator/mentor in any country in Sub Saharan Africa.
- Excellent track record of teaching and mentorship in any of the Field Epidemiology Training programs in Sub Saharan Africa.
- At least 4 years of experience working in the field as a practicing field epidemiologist
- Sound knowledge of WHO standards and policies such as the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response strategy (IDSR) and International Health Regulations (IHR).
- Extensive knowledge and understanding of the functionality of surveillance systems at national, sub national, local and community levels of the health systems in Africa.
- Experience with participatory learning activities and adult learning theories and practices.
- Experience verifying, analyzing and presenting data.
- Proven experience in coordinating multi-agency public health programs at regional, national, sub national, local levels.
- Proficiency in the use of the following software:
 - Word Processing
 - Spreadsheet
 - Power point
 - Database
 - Internet
 - Statistical Packages: Epi Info, STATA,
 - Online platforms such as zoom, Microsoft Teams among others

Required qualities:

- Ability to work collaboratively with multiple partners and teams at national and sub national levels.
- Strong interpersonal, communication, leadership, collaborative and good listening skills
- Ability to work independently with minimum supervision
- Openness to new ideas and willingness to accept different opinions



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- Willingness to travel for extended periods of time within the country

Others: Candidate must be able to begin work immediately

BENEFITS:

AFENET offers a competitive remuneration package to the successful candidate.

Application Process:

Submit your resume, application letter, and relevant documentation to:

- The Administration & Human Resource Office
- African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET)
- <https://recruitment.afenet.net> and a copy on Email: sec@afenet.net

Please note that all applications should be sent online by close 5:30pm (EAT) Monday December 18, 2023

*ONLY successful candidates shall be contacted for an interview.

Note: More details about this position can be obtained from our website: www.afenet.net