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Job Opportunity

Date: Wednesday December 20, 2023

Program: HIV/TB-Health Systems Strengthening and Workforce Capacity Building

Duty Station: South Sudan

Application deadline: Tuesday January 16, 2024

Background:

African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET) is a not-for-profit organization, networking and service alliance of African Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programs (FELTPs), and other applied epidemiology training programs in Sub Saharan Africa. Through its member field epidemiology training programs, AFENET is dedicated to supporting African ministries of health build strong, effective, and sustainable programs with capacity to improve public health systems. AFENET's vision is to ensure a *"Healthier Africa"* by effective prevention and control of epidemics and other priority public health problems in Africa.

The United States Centres for Disease Control and Prevention under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) is collaborating with AFENET and other partners to support the South Sudan Ministry of Health accelerate progress towards attaining the UNAIDS 95-95-95 target for HIV epidemic control. Specifically, the AFENET led interventions seek to improve National and Sub-National human resource capacity to enable delivery of quality HIV/TB services and strengthen the National health information system (HIS) to generate quality health data for informed decision making and resource mobilization for HIV/TB programming. The interventions include: 1) Support Human Resources for health skills development for HIV/TB service delivery through the Extension for community healthcare outcomes (project ECHO) platform 2) providing above-site Health Information System (HIS) technical support and coordination for sustainable overall health and HIV/TB program implementation; 3) strengthening National HIV/TB and overall, Health Program monitoring & evaluation at the national, state and county levels; and 4) planning and coordination of differentiated service delivery models with a focus on community HIV prevention activities to promote use of community services. AFENET is seeking to recruit qualified & experienced **individuals of South Sudanese Nationality** to serve in various capacities:





Post:

Job Title: State Lab Field officer

Number of vacancies: 01(One)

Duty Stations: Lakes State, South Sudan

Position summary:

The Laboratory Officer will provide technical support and mentorship to facility level laboratory staff. Specifically, support and mentorship shall be provided on quality sample collection, testing using the point of care technologies as well as shipment of samples to reference laboratories at the national public health reference laboratory. They will also support laboratories in tracking their return of results to facilities ensuring reduced turnaround time (TAT) that is critical for quick client clinical management. This team will also be involved in Laboratory Quality Management System (LQMS), such as SLMTA; support supervision/mentorship of laboratory staff, and quantification of laboratory supplies based on the laboratory logistics management and information systems. They will also support safe blood transfusion services at the state level.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Coordinates implementation of laboratory policies and guidelines in the State
- Participates in regular joint supervisory visits and mentorship of laboratory staff at all levels.
- Coordinates supplies of equipment, test kits, consumables, and personal protective equipment to the State.
- Supports inventory management and quarterly order of laboratory consumables, reporting tools, registers and supplies at State level.
- Coordinates implementation of state work plan in collaboration with program units and partners including Civil Society Organizations (CSO) in the State.
- Coordinates Laboratory quality management system (LQMS), mentorship of quality officers at facilities, data quality checks and generates quarterly reports on LQMS activities.
- Provide direct technical support and mentorship to CSO implementing community viral load, EID, TB sample collection, packaging, transportation, and quality assurance in the state.
- Participates in weekly or monthly meetings organized by SMoH.
- Develops and reviews SOPs/Job aids and guidelines.
- Conducts site mentorship and joint supportive supervision visits to labs to ensure effective implementation of LQMS in liaison with the National QMS team and Lab field officer.
- Supports the implementation of lab biosafety practices across facilities.
- Acts as the state specimen referral coordinator and supports TB/HIV specimen referral services to ensure uninterrupted specimen transport to GeneXpert sites and National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL).
- Prepare and submit monthly, quarterly, and annual hub reports.



- Ensure availability and distribution of quality control materials and proficiency test panels at State level.
- Performs quality checks on completeness of information regarding samples for outbreak investigations e.g., name and location of the patient (Boma, Payam, County, and State)
- Supervises county Lab officers.

Qualifications, experience, and additional skills

- Bachelor's degree in medical laboratory sciences; a masters' degree is desirable.
- A minimum of 5 years work experience in a clinical or public health laboratory
- A minimum of 2 years in management and leadership position
- Experience of working with the MoH is an added advantage.

Remuneration:

Competitive based on qualification and experience.

How to apply: 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

*ONLY successful candidates shall be contacted for an interview.

Please note that all applications should be sent online / physical by close of business 5:30 pm (EAT) Tuesday, January 16th 2024.

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

