



AFENET Secretariat
Lugogo House, Ground Floor (Wings B&C)
Plot 42, Lugogo By-Pass
P.O BOX 12874, Kampala, Uganda
Tel: +256 417 700 650
Fax: +256 312 265 595
www.afenet.net

Job opportunity

Date: Friday January 10, 2025

Department: Africa CDC Headquarters

Duty Station: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Application deadline: Friday January 24, 2025

Background:

The African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET) is a non-profit organization established in 2005 with a mission to improve human health through the strengthening and expansion of applied epidemiology and laboratory capacity in partnership with Ministries of Health, Non-Governmental Organizations, international agencies, private sector and other public health agencies. AFENET has its headquarters in Kampala, Uganda with operations in more than 30 African Countries.

The African Union, established as a unique Pan African continental body, is charged with spearheading Africa's rapid integration and sustainable development by promoting unity, solidarity, cohesion and cooperation among the peoples of Africa and African States as well as developing a new partnership worldwide. Its headquarters is located in Addis Ababa, capital city of Ethiopia.

Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) is a specialized technical institution of the African Union established to support public health initiatives of Africa Union Member States (AU MS) and strengthen the capacity of their public health institutions to detect, prevent, control, and respond quickly and effectively to disease threats. Africa CDC supports AU MS in providing coordinated and integrated solutions to the inadequacies in their public health infrastructure, human resource capacity, disease surveillance, laboratory diagnostics, and preparedness and response to health emergencies and disasters.

The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) was officially launched in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on January 31, 2017. Africa CDC is Africa's first continent-wide public health agency and envisions a safer, healthier, integrated and stronger Africa, where Member States are capable of effectively responding to outbreaks of infectious diseases and other public health threats.



AFENET Secretariat
Lugogo House, Ground Floor (Wings B&C)
Plot 42, Lugogo By-Pass
P.O BOX 12874, Kampala, Uganda
Tel: +256 417 700 650
Fax: +256 312 265 595
www.afenet.net

The agency's mission is to strengthen Africa's public health institutions' capabilities to detect and respond quickly and effectively to disease outbreaks and other health burdens through an integrated network of continent-wide preparedness and response, surveillance, laboratory, and research programmes.

The Saving Lives and Livelihoods (SLL) program is a strategic partnership among Africa CDC, the African Union Member States, and the Mastercard Foundation. The main objective of the programme during Phase I was to acquire vaccines against COVID-19 and to vaccinate vulnerable groups as a priority, while reaching millions of other people across the continent. The program also laid the foundations for local vaccine production in Africa, with a particular focus on human capital development and capacity building at Africa CDC. In Phase II of the programme, the partnership has revised its objectives, with a focus on geo-mapping, vaccination of health workers and priority groups, and integrating COVID-19 management into routine immunization. Additionally, the initiative aims to prepare for future pandemics by investing in genomic sequencing, enhancing bioinformatics laboratories, supporting local vaccine, therapeutic, and diagnostic manufacturing, and strengthening the Africa CDC's capacity.

Africa CDC now invites applicants who are citizens of African Union Member States to apply for the positions of **Principal Programme Officer Epidemic Intelligence**.

1. Post

Job title: Principal Programme Officer Epidemic Intelligence
Number of posts: 1 (one)
Division: Surveillance and Disease Intelligence
Supervisor: Head of Division for the Surveillance and Disease Intelligence
Duty Station: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Job Purpose

The Principal Programme Officer Epidemic Intelligence will lead and coordinate the Epidemic Intelligence Unit's programmes and Initiatives including providing strategic and technical guidance for implementing existing and new programmes and initiatives such as Event Based Surveillance, Indicator Based Surveillance, Disease modelling, outbreak response, and other initiatives for Indicator Based Surveillance, Disease modelling, outbreak response, and other initiatives for Officer is responsible for facilitating dialogue amongst all stakeholders including AU Member States and Partners to advocate for improved, proactive and resilient Epidemic Intelligence systems in the African continent. The incumbent will coordinate the development of strategies and business continuity plans for the unit and ensure successful implementation and programme sustainability establishing or strengthening Disease Intelligence and Public Health Surveillance system.

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

The Principal Programme Officer-Epidemic Intelligence shall:

- Lead and coordinate the development and implementation of continental strategies, frameworks, standards, policies, and guidance to strengthen public health related surveillance and disease intelligence across Africa.
- Oversee the development of work plans, budgets, and timelines for disease intelligence activities, ensuring effective resource allocation and program delivery for the epidemic intelligence unit
- Provide strategic direction and technical guidance for the Epidemic Intelligence unit and the respective programmes such as Event Based Surveillance, Indicator Based Surveillance, Event Management systems, diseases modelling, outbreaks investigation, outbreaks response....
- Lead and coordinate the implementation of the EBS Continental Framework in collaboration with Member States, RECs, partners and sister Organisations to improve epidemic intelligence.
- Liaise closely with counterparts in technical departments across the organization and other counterparts in partner AU Agencies, donors and other stakeholders to harmonize recommendations on policies and strategies related to public health surveillance and the facilitation of successful implementation of programmes.
- Coordinate technical assistance from partners on the development of policies, programs, and guidance to support establishment and strengthening of surveillance systems such as Event Based Surveillance, Indicator Based Surveillance, Event Management systems, diseases modelling...
- Provide oversight and technical support for the adoption of the Africa CDC Event Management system by the AU member states
- Guide decisions on allocation of public health resources and enhancing capacity for epidemic preparedness and response capacities at all levels
- Engage and secure new technical assistance and funding partners for the epidemic intelligence Unit's programmes including outbreaks investigation
- Represent the unit and share its vision and position at continental and global meetings and conferences.
- Support any other duties as assigned by the head of division.

- Lead and coordinate the development and implementation of continental strategies, frameworks, standards, policies, and guidance to strengthen public health related surveillance and disease intelligence across Africa.
- Oversee the development of work plans, budgets, and timelines for disease intelligence activities, ensuring effective resource allocation and program delivery for the epidemic intelligence unit
- Provide strategic direction and technical guidance for the Epidemic Intelligence unit and the respective programmes such as Event Based Surveillance, Indicator Based Surveillance, Event Management systems, diseases modelling, outbreaks investigation, outbreaks response....
- Lead and coordinate the implementation of the EBS Continental Framework in collaboration with Member States, RECs, partners and sister Organisations to improve epidemic intelligence.
- Liaise closely with counterparts in technical departments across the organization and other counterparts in partner AU Agencies, donors and other stakeholders to harmonize recommendations on policies and strategies related to public health surveillance and the facilitation of successful implementation of programmes.
- Coordinate technical assistance from partners on the development of policies, programs, and guidance to support establishment and strengthening of surveillance systems such as Event Based Surveillance, Indicator Based Surveillance, Event Management systems, diseases modelling...
- Provide oversight and technical support for the adoption of the Africa CDC Event Management system by the AU member states
- Guide decisions on allocation of public health resources and enhancing capacity for epidemic preparedness and response capacities at all levels.
- Engage and secure new technical assistance and funding partners for the epidemic intelligence Unit's programmes including outbreaks investigation
- Represent the unit and share its vision and position at continental and global meetings and conferences.
- Support any other duties as assigned by the head of division.

Qualifications and Experience

- A Master's degree in Public Health, Field Epidemiology, Health Science, Program Management or other fields related with 10 years of professional experience, 6 years expert/specialist level and 3 years at supervisory level.

OR

- A Bachelor's degree in Public Health, Field Epidemiology, Health Science, Program Management or other related fields with 12 year of professional experience, 6 years expert/specialist level and 3 years at a supervisory level.
- Previous experience in coordinating and leading Public Health related surveillance programmes or other public sector projects and programmes under government ministries and external donors.
- Previous experience working in Africa.

Required Skills and Competencies

A. Functional Skills

- Outstanding research skills including the ability to analyse, synthesize and summarize complex information.
- Exceptional writing and interpersonal communication skills are essential.
- Experience with community planning, program development, implementation, evaluation, and directly related work experience preferred.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office computer applications. Experience/training utilizing database, statistical, and graphics software desired.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills that can persuade and inspire action.
- Knowledge of interpersonal and intercultural relationship practices to meet and deal with persons of diverse backgrounds.
- Knowledge of written communications to prepare responses for inquiries, reports, proposals, etc.

B. Personal Abilities

- Ability to deliver under tight deadlines and work well under pressure.
- Analytical and problem-solving skills.
- Good interpersonal skills.
- Ability to operate in a multicultural environment.
- High level of autonomy at work, yet with profound team spirit.
- Adaptive, patient, resilient and flexible.

- Proactive and solution oriented.

Desirable

- Outstanding research skills including the ability to analyse, synthesize and summarize complex information.
- Exceptional writing and interpersonal communication skills are essential.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office computer applications. Experience/training utilizing databases, statistical, and graphics software desired.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills that can persuade and inspire action.
- Knowledge of interpersonal and intercultural relationship practices to meet and deal with people of diverse backgrounds.

Competencies

- Ability to deliver under tight deadlines and work well under pressure.
- Analytical and problem-solving skills.
- Good interpersonal skills.
- Ability to operate in a multicultural environment.
- High level of autonomy at work, yet with profound team spirit.
- Adaptive, patient, resilient and flexible.
- Proactive and solution oriented.

Language Requirement

Proficiency in one of the African Union working languages (Arabic, English, French, Spanish, Kiswahili and Portuguese) is required. Knowledge of one or several other working languages would be an added advantage.

Tenure of Appointment

The appointment will be made on a fixed term contract for a period of one (1) year, of which the first three months will be considered as a probationary period. Thereafter, the contract will be renewed annually subject to satisfactory performance and fund availability.

Gender Mainstreaming

The AU Commission is an equal opportunity employer, and qualified women are strongly encouraged to apply.



AFENET Secretariat
Lugogo House, Ground Floor (Wings B&C)
Plot 42, Lugogo By-Pass
P.O BOX 12874, Kampala, Uganda
Tel: +256 417 700 650
Fax: +256 312 265 595
www.afenet.net

Remuneration

Indicative basic salary of US\$ 42,879 (P4 Step1) per annum plus other related entitlements e.g. Post adjustment 46% of basic salary (US\$ 19,724.34), Housing allowance of US\$ \$ 26,208.00, education allowance (100% of tuition and other education related expenses for every eligible dependent up to a maximum of US\$ 10, 000.00 per child per annum), etc. for internationally recruited staff.

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 by close of business 5:30 pm (EAT) Friday January 24, 2025.

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