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Job opportunities

Date: Tuesday January 28, 2025

Department: Africa CDC Headquarters

Duty Station: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Application deadline: Tuesday February 11, 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.

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. 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.



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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 following positions for the Saving Lives and Livelihoods Programme.

1. Post

Job Title: Senior Technical Officer – Mortality Surveillance

Number of posts: 1 (one)

Directorate: Centre for Public Health Emergency
Division: Surveillance and Disease Intelligence

Duty Station: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Job purpose

- Lead and coordinate the mortality surveillance program including providing strategic and technical guidance for implementing the continental framework for strengthening mortality surveillance at continental, sub-regional and country levels surveillance systems and capacities for public health decision making.
- Coordinate the surveillance unit's programme initiatives for establishing and strengthening integrated PH surveillance systems such as cross border surveillance, mortality surveillance, Environmental Surveillance, and other new initiatives as necessary.
- Facilitate dialogue amongst all stakeholders including AU Member States and Partners to advocate for improved and resilient PH related surveillance.
- Coordinate the development of strategies and business continuity plans for the unit and ensure their successful implementation.



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Major duties and Responsibilities

- Provide strategic leadership on the development and implementation of continental strategies, standards, policies, and guidance to strengthen PH surveillance across Africa.
- Lead and coordinate the design and implementation of the Continental Framework for mortality surveillance in collaboration with NPHIs, Regional Economic Communities, Member States and partners to improve the availability of mortality data through countryled mortality surveillance programs.
- Provide oversight and technical support for development and implementation of the continental strategy for cross-border surveillance, coordination, collaboration and timely information sharing among AU member states.
- Facilitate and coordinate development of standard operating procedures and monitoring and reporting mechanisms for strengthening regional and national surveillance systems.
- Facilitate the development of tools and systems for the analysis, interpretation, and use of surveillance data for public health policy making, guide decisions on allocation of public health resources and enhance capacity for epidemic preparedness and response capacities at all levels.
- Coordinate and manage the planning, implementation and monitoring of programmes in the Unit, including resource plans and budgets, activity planning, monitoring staff performance plans to ensure achievement of program specific objectives and goals.
- Ensure a working environment that promotes staff development and professional progression by providing supervisory support and mentorship to junior staff within the unit.
- Represent and advocate for the Surveillance Unit and share its vision and position at internal and external meetings including continental and global meetings.
- Perform any other duties assigned by the Head of Division.

Qualifications and Experience

• Master's degree in Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Public Health, Population Health, Data science, Health Services Research, or a related field with 7 years of professional experience with 3 years at a supervisory level conducting, managing, and disseminating public health information, using ICD standards for mortality data generation, infectious disease prevention and control, outbreak response, or strengthening of health systems.

OR

• Bachelor's degree in Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Public Health, Population Health, Data science, Health Services Research, or a related field with 10 years of professional experience and 3 years at a supervisory level conducting, managing, and disseminating public health



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information, using ICD standards for mortality data generation, infectious disease prevention and control, outbreak response, or strengthening of health systems.

- Proven experience in database development, data management, or a similar role, preferably within the healthcare or public health sector.
- Proficiency in mortality data analysis tools and software packages such as the WHO ANACoD, STATA, R/Python, SAS, and SPSS is an added advantage.
- Demonstrated experience in implementation research design, methods, analysis, and dissemination using quantitative approaches.
- Experience leading and coordinating multi-country or multi-institutional research projects or networks involving diverse stakeholders and partners.
- Experience developing and implementing research policies, strategies, and plans aligning with organizational goals and priorities.

Desirable: Experience in working with the African Union or its organs, United Nations counterparts or development partners at continental level.

Demonstrable experience and in-depth knowledge of operations of the Africa CDC, Regional Collaborating Centres.

Required skills and Competencies:

- Demonstrable technical expertise in data analysis and scientific writing.
- Demonstrable proficiency in using Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and the ability to use data management software.
- Knowledge of health systems in Africa

Leadership Competencies

- Strategic Perspective
- Developing Others
- Change Management
- Managing Risk
- Managing multicultural teams

Core Competencies

- Building Relationships
- Foster Accountability Culture
- Learning Orientation
- Communicating with impact

Functional Competencies



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- Conceptual Thinking
- Job Knowledge and information sharing
- Drive for Results
- Fosters Innovation

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.

Remuneration

Indicative basic salary of US\$ 37,453 (P3 Step 1) per annum plus other related entitlements e.g. Post adjustment of 46% of basic salary (US\$ 17,228.38), Housing allowance of US\$ \$ 22,932.00, 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) Tuesday February 11, 2025

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