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Job Posting Title

PRINCIPAL REGIONAL COLLABORATING CENTER OFFICER

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21.07.2017

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201708227

Job Title

PRINCIPAL REGIONAL COLLABORATING CENTER OFFICER

Organization

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 Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) was officially launched in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on January 31, 2017. The 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 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 programs.

Towards meeting its' mission, the Africa CDC will work with African Union member States, WHO, and partners in the five geographic sub-regions of Africa to strengthen their capacity in five strategic priority areas: (1) public health surveillance and disease intelligence; (2) public health emergency preparedness and response; (3) public health laboratory systems and networks; (4) public health information and technology systems; and (5) public health research and public health institutes. The guiding principles of the Africa CDC include Leadership, Management, Finance, Workforce, Partnership and Innovation.

In seeking to achieve this objective, the African Union intends to strengthen its capacity to deliver by, among others, the reinforcement of its organizational structure and expertise. The Commission of the African Union invites applicants who are national and citizens of Member States for a position of Principal Regional Collaborating Center Coordinator for the Africa CDC.

Department

Post:

Title: Principal Regional Collaborating Center
Officer
Grade: P4
Department/Agency: Africa CDC
Supervisor: Deputy Director, Africa CDC
Duty Station: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Number of Positions: 1

Project

Job Purpose:

To oversee the coordination and implementation of Africa CDC technical policies and guidelines and strategic initiatives in the five Regional Collaborating Centers (RCCs). S/he will work in close collaboration with other Secretariat staff, Unit Heads, and RCCs constituents as appropriate to facilitate the translation of Africa CDC technical reference policy, guidance, plans and tools into RCC context to ensure consistent implementation of public health activities in line with the Africa CDC strategic plan. Coordination areas may include surveillance and epidemiologic activities, workforce development, strengthening of information systems, laboratory networks, and other related health systems strengthening activities, all in alignment with Africa CDC's vision and strategic plan.

Tasks

Major Duties and Responsibilities:

- Facilitate and coordinate public health technical assistance between Regional Collaborating Centers and National Public Health Institutes (NPHI), by providing scientific and policy guidance on areas of public health practice, strengthening surveillance and information systems, workforce development and other areas;
- Assist Collaborating Centers in building the core capacity of NPHIs in African Union member states to implement continuous quality improvement guidelines necessary for the prevention of public health emergencies and threats
- Coordinate and facilitate the development of RCCs work plans for regional surveillance capacity strengthening, workforce development, and other capacity building requirements.
- Working with the Principal Technical Officer and Unit Heads, fosters an enabling environment for research collaborations and information sharing among RCCs
- Facilitates RCCs linkages to the Africa CDC Emergency Operations Center activities to ensure appropriate and rapid deployment of staff, materials and other outbreak response needs;
- Facilitates and coordinates development of RCCs preparedness and response plans and assessment activities, working in collaboration with the Head, Preparedness and Response Unit;
- Facilitates strengthening of RCCs disease surveillance monitoring and reporting by facilitating adaptation of Africa CDC surveillance policies, guidelines, systems and tools, as appropriate for implementation in each RCC operational context.
- Facilitate the execution of Africa CDC technical reference policy, guidance, plans and tools into RCC context to ensure consistent implementation of public health activities in line with the Africa CDC strategic plan.
- Represent Africa CDC at external technical events, learning forums and conferences
- Perform any other related duties as may be assigned.

Requirements

1. Educational Qualifications & Work Experience Required

University Master's Degree in medicine, health sciences or related fields with 7 years of practical experience in implementing/coordinating public health epidemiology & surveillance or other public health program, health sciences & outcomes research with emphasis on disease surveillance, program management, public health workforce development, including a governmental agency, academic institution, research organization or a life-sciences company. Proven track record of strong leadership and effective health diplomacy in scientific and technical domains. Additional experience, Implementation & preparation of policy and operational guidance and plans, and technical proposals for advancing public health programs.

OR

University Bachelor Degree in medicine, health sciences or related fields with 12 years of practical experience out of which 7 years of experience at a specialist/expertise level in implementing/coordinating public health epidemiology & surveillance or other public health program, health sciences & outcomes research with emphasis on disease surveillance, program management, public health workforce development, including a governmental agency, academic institution, research organization or a life-sciences company. Proven track record of strong leadership and effective health diplomacy in scientific and technical domains. Additional experience, Implementation & preparation of policy and operational guidance and plans, and technical proposals for advancing public health programs.

2. Required Skills and Competencies:

- Excellent diplomatic, representational, interpersonal and communication skills, including experience successfully interacting with stakeholders and decision-makers in technical and other professional settings;
- Mastery of public health principals and practice as they relate to program planning and service delivery.
- Excellent organizational skills and a proven ability to deliver under tight deadlines and works well under pressure;
- Demonstrated project management skills in organizing, planning and executing public health projects from conception through implementation;
- Skills in executing highly technical information into program plans, presentations, briefings and report and funding proposals for both technical and lay audiences;
- Resourceful and skilled at collecting, analyzing and using data to recommend, make and communicate decisions;
- Supervision experience is preferred;
- Delegation skills
- Demonstrated ability with regard to computer skills, including excellent word-processing capabilities, proficiency with e-mail and internet applications, experience in using programs such as MS Excel, Power Point and Word;
- Good communications skills, Proven ability to use clear, concise language in correspondence as well as including content fitting for the purpose and audiences when preparing written briefs and reports;
- Narrative and financial reporting skills.
- Ability to coordinate and manage activities that cross-organizational lines
- Ability to positively influence and guide individuals and teams to accomplish organizational goals and objectives.
- Ability to work under pressure, stay on track and meet deadlines
- Analytical and problem solving abilities
- Able to operate in a multicultural environment
- High level of autonomy at work, yet with profound team-spirit
- Adaptive, patient, resourceful, resilient and flexible
- Pro-active and solutions oriented

3. Language Requirement:

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

4. Tenure of Appointment:

The appointment will be made on fixed term contract for a period of one (1) year, of which the first three (3) months be considered as a probationary period. Thereafter, the contract may be renewed for a similar period subject to funding availability, satisfactory performance, and agreed deliverables.

5. Equal Opportunities:

The African Union Commission is an equal opportunities employer. Qualified women are encouraged to apply.

6. Remuneration:

The indicative annual salary attached to the position is a lump sum of US\$ 95,508.24 (P4 Step 5) inclusive of all allowances for internationally recruited staff, and US\$83,070.00 inclusive of all allowances for locally recruited staff.

How to Apply

All applications must reach the African Union Commission not later than 22 August 2017 through the AU Commission's website <http://www.aucareers.org>.

Applications are pre-screened by the system according to the published requirements of the job opening on the basis of the information provided in the application. In relation to the requirements of the job opening, applicants must provide complete and accurate information pertaining to their qualifications, including their education, work experience, and language skills. Each applicant must bear in mind that submission of incomplete or inaccurate applications may render that applicant ineligible for consideration for the job opening. Initial screening and evaluation of applications will be conducted on the basis of the information submitted. Applications cannot be amended following submission. Candidates under serious consideration for selection will be subject to a reference-checking process to verify the information provided in the application.

Directorate of Administration and Human Resources
Management, African Union Commission
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Contract Type

Fixed Term Contract

Employment Fraction

Full-time

Branch

Headquarters