

Vacancy Notice No: HQ/09/HQ/STB/FT741

Date: 12 November 2009

Title: Epidemiologist

Deadline for application : **24 December 2009**

Grade: P4

Duty Station: Geneva Switzerland

Contract type: Fixed-term appointment

Organization unit: HQ/STB Stop TB (HQ/STB) /
HQ/TME Tuberculosis Monitoring and Evaluation
(HQ/TME)

Duration of contract: 1 Year

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME :

The mission of the Stop TB Department (STB) is leadership in strategic and technical aspects of TB control worldwide, in order to reverse the epidemic and eventually eliminate TB. The main objectives of the department are to guide the global response to the TB epidemic and facilitate partnerships; to provide evidence-based norms, standards, and policies; to support Member States in adopting the Stop TB Strategy, within strengthened health systems; to measure global progress, including monitoring and assessment of national programme performance, financing and impact; and to enable progress across the continuum of TB research, linked within a wider health research strategy. The Tuberculosis Monitoring and Evaluation team (STB/TME) is responsible for three major areas of work. These are

- (i) regular monitoring of the global TB epidemic and progress in TB control;
- (ii) ensuring the best possible measurement of the epidemiological burden of TB and progress in reducing this burden, in the context of the global targets set within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals and by the Stop TB Partnership; and (iii) economic and financial analysis relevant to the development, implementation and impact of international policies and strategies for TB control.

The team leads or contributes to the development of relevant policies, guidelines and tools, provides strategic and technical support to regions and countries, and widely disseminates findings from analytical and policy-related work through high-quality written products. The team collaborates with relevant teams and departments within WHO and with external partners including other UN agencies, Ministries of Health, multilateral and bilateral donors and NGOs, particularly partners that are members of the WHO Global Task Force on TB Impact Measurement.

Description of duties:

1. Develop and promote WHO-recommended methods for monitoring and evaluation of the epidemiological burden of tuberculosis and trends in this burden at global, regional and country level, via the WHO Global Task Force on TB Impact Measurement and its three subgroups.
2. Act as the secretariat of the WHO Global Task Force on TB Impact Measurement and contribute actively to the work of the Task Force's three subgroups (strengthened surveillance; surveys of the prevalence of TB disease; methods used to translate surveillance and survey data into estimates of TB incidence, prevalence and mortality), including organization and technical work required for meetings of the Task Force and its subgroups, and preparation or updating of guidelines and policy papers.
3. Design, organize and facilitate workshops and training courses to support countries to implement prevalence surveys, analyse surveillance data and strengthen surveillance systems, in line with WHO policy and recommendations.
4. Assist with the design, conduct and analysis of
 - (i) surveys of the prevalence of TB disease and
 - (ii) surveillance systems and data, especially in the countries most affected by TB, including via country missions.

5. Write technical and scientific papers to help foster the adoption of best practices in measurement of the epidemiological burden of TB and trends in this burden.
6. Maintain and/or develop internet-based teaching materials.
7. Participate in, and provide support to, resource mobilization activities.
8. Contribute to other work in TME, as appropriate.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

Advanced university degree in epidemiology or closely related subject, including advanced courses in statistics.

Desirable

Medical degree. PhD in epidemiology or the equivalent in publications. Studies or training in public health in the field of communicable or infectious disease control in developing countries.

Skills:

WHO Competencies:

(<http://www.who.int/employment/competencies/en/>):

1. Producing results
2. Fostering integration and teamwork
3. Respecting and promoting individual and cultural differences
4. Moving forward in a changing environment
5. Communicating in a credible and effective way

Proven ability to collect, manage and analyse epidemiological data, and to report on study findings. Proven ability to monitor and evaluate disease control programmes at country level. Excellent knowledge of communicable disease transmission, control and prevention, with an understanding of clinical settings, diagnostic techniques and methods for the treatment of TB, within the context of the health systems of developing countries. Proven ability to write up the results of analyses to a standard suitable for publication in peer-reviewed journals. Proven ability to build capacity in epidemiological analysis via facilitation of workshops and country missions, or teaching in a university setting. Excellent interpersonal skills. Excellent oral and written communication skills. Excellent knowledge of R or Stata. Ability to be proactive/take initiative, and to work with a high degree of independence. Excellent at working as part of a multidisciplinary team.

Experience:

At least seven years working on public health issue relevant to developing countries, including at least five years working as an epidemiologist. Long-term experience (at least two years) of working in the health sector in a developing country. Experience of conducting epidemiological studies related to communicable diseases, including study design, implementation of fieldwork, data management and analysis and reporting of results.

Desirable

Experience in the assessment of TB epidemiology and control using data from surveys and/or surveillance systems. Experience of managing the implementation of TB control in developing countries. Experience of providing clinical care for tuberculosis in a developing country. Some experience of working with WHO to have an understanding of its mandate and goals in the field of TB or communicable diseases.

Languages:

Excellent knowledge of English and working knowledge of French an asset.

Additional Information:

A written test may be used for screening purposes.

Other similar positions at the same level may be filled from this vacancy notice.

This vacancy is published in English only.

Annual salary: (Net of tax)
USD64,521 at single rate

Post Adjustment: 90.4 % of the above figure(s). This percentage is to be considered as indicative since

USD69,287 with primary dependants

variations may occur each month either upwards or downwards due to currency exchange rate fluctuations or inflation.

A written test and interviews may be used as a form of screening

Online applications are strongly encouraged to enable WHO to store your profile in a permanent database. Please visit WHO's e-Recruitment website at: www.who.int/employment. The system provides instructions for online application procedures.

All applicants are encouraged to apply online as soon as possible after the vacancy has been posted and well before the deadline stated in the vacancy announcement.

Applications from women and from nationals of non- and under-represented member states are particularly encouraged.

Any appointment/extension of appointment is subject to WHO Staff Regulations, Staff Rules and Manual. Only candidates under serious consideration will be contacted.

Currently accepting applications



WHO has a smoke-free environment and does not recruit smokers or other tobacco users.