

Epidemiologist, Technical Advisor

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| Last update | June 20, 2017 |
| Reports to | Director of Epidemiology & Surveillance |
| Direct supervision | N/A |
| Location | Maputo, Mozambique |
| Contract length | 1 year, renewable, dependent on funding |
| Salary scale | |

Background information

Global Programs for Research and Training, established in 2016 and based in Maputo, is a Non-Governmental Organization registered in Mozambique to represent the projects of the University of California, including the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) and University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Through strengthening the presence and quality of strategic information in Mozambique, our goal is to enhance data use at all levels of the health system to support data-driven decision making for HIV/AIDS care and treatment in the country. The current work of UCSF focuses on national surveillance systems, health information systems, data quality improvement, and data management and use. Global Programs also houses projects from UCLA, which aim to train and strengthen medical residents in HIV treatment and pediatric care.

Through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), under the PEPFAR Initiative, UCSF provides technical assistance to the National Institute of Health (*Instituto Nacional de Saúde*, INS) in the areas of disease surveillance and data management. Recent efforts have concentrated on supporting INS with the strategic direction for the National Health Observatory (*Observatório Nacional de Saúde*, ONS), a national data warehouse and Open Access Initiative responsible for the analysis, visualization, and use of health-related data for strategic decision-making.

Objectives of the position:

Working in collaboration with UCSF/Global Programs Epidemiology and Surveillance team, the Epidemiologist will be seconded to the INS to provide overall technical assistance in the structure and function of the National Health Observatory. The Epidemiologist will be responsible for mentoring INS staff, including but not limited to Epidemiologists, Surveillance Officers, Data Managers, and Biostatisticians in the analysis, dissemination, and use of large HIV/TB data sets. The role of the Epidemiologist is crucial toward supporting INS' role with managing and coordinating the national HIV/TB surveillance system and assessing response to epidemic control.

The Epidemiologist is expected to support INS with carrying out the following tasks and activities:

1. Leadership of scientific teams

- a. Provide direct technical assistance and mentorship to 1-2 Biostatisticians and/or Epidemiologists at INS, as well as data managers and informaticians on HIV/TB epidemiologic-related topics.
- b. Coaches the team in the selection and application of appropriate problem-solving methods and techniques; provides advice on work methods, practices and procedures; and assists the team and individual members in identifying effective solutions.
- c. Provide ongoing assistance with assuring privacy, confidentiality, and ethical clearance.
- d. Organize trainings and workshops for staff in the areas of data collection/questionnaire design, data analysis, manuscript and report writing, etc.

2. Lead analysis of HIV/TB epidemiologic investigations

- a. Leads the development and analysis of epidemiologic studies in order to address important and practical public health problems and to plan programs.
- b. Develops methods for and conducts advanced descriptive and comprehensive analyses of surveillance data for multiple purposes.

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3. Dissemination of HIV/TB Program Data, Information, and Findings

- a. Conducts and oversees literature reviews for design of programs, preparation of publications, and planning and evaluation.
- b. Designs, prepares, and reviews reports from analyses of HIV/TB surveillance data, and other information, such as secondary analyses.
- c. Gives oral presentation of data findings to diverse audiences.
- d. Reviews and prepares responses to requests for information in support of HIV/TB planning and decision-making.
- e. Develops and provides recommendations to high-ranking officials about the control of HIV/TB on the basis of the results of surveillance, field investigations, public health research, laboratory tests, and acceptable methods of control.

Provision of HIV/TB Epidemiologic Consultation on Scientific and Technical Issues

- a. Serves as a recognized HIV/TB scientific consultant and expert on epidemiologic issues or critical problems where the type of resources provided and the impact on communities is extensive so that the program requires application of advanced scientific and technical methods and practices.
- b. Works as a liaison to outside data-generating entities to develop and maintain partnerships for sharing and using data.

Required Qualifications

- PhD in Epidemiology or Biostatistics, or Public Health or non-PhD (e.g., M.D) with expertise in epidemiology.
- At least 10 years of experience working with public health surveillance data including facility- and community-based data for general and key populations.
- At least 5 years of experience working in the HIV/TB area.
- Proven expertise in effectively coordinating surveillance activities in a timely manner, including experience with study design, field team recruitment, training and supervision, data collection, data management and analysis, and dissemination of study findings.
- Excellent command of statistical analysis software (ex: STATA, SAS, SPSS, R).
- Experience with big data mining, cleaning, data management, analysis including modeling and visualization.
- Experience with capacity building and mentorship in cross-cultural setting professionals.
- Excellent analytical skills that model leadership and systems thinking to promote the epidemiologic perspective in an international government public health agency strategic planning process.
- Proven experience with academic writing (English), 10 or more peer-reviewed publications (as first, second, or third author), 5 or more surveillance reports.
- Fluent in English.

Candidates should submit Cover Letter and CVs by e-mail to HR.Mozambique@ucglobalprograms.org, indicating the job title in the subject line. The position will be open until it has been filled.

Only selected candidates will be contacted.