EAST, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA HEALTH COMMUNITY

Vacancy Advertisement for Senior System design officer

Strengthening Pandemic Preparedness in Eastern, Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSASPP)

1. Background

The East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSA-HC) is a regional organization set up in 1974 to foster cooperation among member states that will lead to the strengthening of health care programs in the region and promote attainment of the highest possible standards of health among member countries. The Member States of the ECSA Health Community are Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Seychelles, Eswatini, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The Project

ECSA-HC is participating in the World Bank funded Strengthening Pandemic Preparedness in Eastern, Central and Southern Africa Health Community (SPP) project, which is being implemented in five countries, namely Lesotho, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia. The objective of the Project is to support selected countries in Eastern and Southern Africa to improve their preparedness capacity for health emergencies.

The initiative has three mutually reinforcing components which are: (i): Strengthening surveillance systems in project countries; (ii) Supporting countries to prepare for health emergencies; (iii) enhancing health systems, while promoting innovations and knowledge sharing and use of digital technology.

The East Central and Southern Health Community (ECSA-HC) has been selected to play a facilitating and coordinating role for the project. To this end, ECSA-HC will support the five participating countries by: (i) identifying gaps in surveillance and preparedness systems and providing policy and programmatic recommendations to policy makers; (ii) providing technical assistance and support to address gaps; (iii) supporting knowledge documentation and sharing among the SPP project countries and with neighboring countries that are part of the SATBHSS project; (iv) facilitating governmental and inter-governmental collaborations that may be required; and (v) preparing consolidated annual project status reports;

Given ECSA-HC's coordinating role on the regional aspects of the project, ECSA-HC will engage a Senior system design officer, with the following Terms of Reference.

2. Purpose of the Job

The System design officer will oversee the development, functioning and integration of electronic systems for the project and ECSA-HC. The project will involve five countries, partners and ECSA-HC as important stakeholders. Therefore, the System design officer will cover the design, integration, implementation, modification, and coordination of the installation, testing, operation, troubleshooting, and maintenance of hardware and software systems including mobile applications.

Responsibilities

The incumbent will be responsible for: -

- Conducting a needs analysis and consultations with the project countries to determine the requirements and needs for updating systems and applications.
- Develop functional and technical requirements and specifications of the applications and systems based on consultations with the stakeholders.
- Facilitate development and rollout of systems that are interoperable and integrated with existing systems in project countries (hardware and software).
- Design/adopt and develop applications including mobile applications to support the implementation of surveillance systems/early warning systems in the countries including event-based surveillance.
- Plan and schedule the installations of new or modified hardware/software.
- Monitor the performance, capacity, availability, serviceability, and recoverability of installed systems. Testing and modify systems to ensure that they operate reliably
- Implement security procedures and tools to ensure the systems and applications are fully operational.
- Maintain systems configuration; manage the installation and integration of system patches updates, and enhancements.
- Develop documentation and operating manuals
- Support countries and ECSA-HC to develop implementation, rollout and sustainability plans for newly introduced systems.
- Conduct user training and support and respond/action on feedback from users
- Expand e-learning and online surveillance platforms
  - Expand existing e-learning platform to include modules on laboratory management, biosafety and biosecurity, operational research, event-based surveillance, infection prevention and control
  - Develop novel mechanisms for monitoring, testing and receiving feedback from trainees
  - Expand the online surveillance platform to include other priority diseases in the project supported countries
- Strengthen coverage of quality surveillance and epidemic preparedness activities
  - Support mapping of risks and resources available for public health surveillance
  - Support regular data analysis from web-based surveillance systems to produce bulletins to facilitate realization of early warning.
- Promote evidence-based knowledge sharing among project countries
  - Participate in research activities by supporting technical team to develop electronic data collection tools, participate in data collection and data analysis

- o Expand and support application of the ECHO platform for regional knowledge exchange
- o Support holding of regular webinars and virtual meetings as found necessary working with the technical experts
- o Facilitate knowledge sharing among communities of practice through coordinating and administering social media platforms
- Regularly updating the World Bank projects websites with information from the various projects and knowledge materials that may be of interest to the countries including link to standards, norms, strategic plans etc that may be important resource for the countries
- Provide technical support to the project team to ensure functionality of their ICT equipment and applications
- Undertake other duties as may be assigned from time to time

3. Reporting:

The Senior Systems Design officer will report on a day-to-day basis to the Project Coordinator, SPP project at ECSA-HC.

4. Qualifications and Experience

- A degree related to computer science/engineering or software development with 3 years proven experience as a Software Developer, Software Engineer or similar function
- Experience with software design and development in a test-driven environment
- Knowledge of programming languages (e.g. C++, Java, JavaScript) and frameworks/systems (e.g. AngularJS, Git)
- Experience with databases and Object-Relational Mapping (ORM) frameworks (e.g. Hibernate)
- Ability to learn new languages and technologies
- Resourcefulness and troubleshooting aptitude
- Strong problem-solving skills
- Excellent organizational and time management skills
- Accuracy and attention to detail
- An understanding of the latest trends
- Teamwork skills, because most projects require input from individuals in different roles
- Excellent written, oral, and communication skills.

5. Remuneration Package

An attractive package will be offered to the right candidate. The package details may be obtained on request from the Director General, ECSA Health Community, Arusha, Tanzania (dg@ecsahc.org; doid@ecsahc.org)

6. Contract Appointment

This will be a two-year contract renewable subject to good performance and availability of funds and Project needs

7. Eligibility

This is an exciting opportunity for highly motivated and result-driven professionals who are citizens of ECSA Heath Community Member States and ECSA SPP Project Countries as stated above in the background

8. Method of Application

This is an international competitive position and suitably qualified candidates are encouraged to apply for the post by submitting a brief application letter justifying the suitability of the candidate for the post, a detailed CV, Copies of Educational, Professional Certificates and other testimonials, Names, addresses and contact details (telephone, Fax and E-mail) of three referees. All applications should be sent electronically, with supporting documents as attachments.

9. Deadline for Applications

Applications should reach the address below by **25th April, 2022**.
The Director General
East, Central and Southern Africa-Health Community
Plot 157 Oloirien, Njiro Road
P.O. Box 1009 Arusha, Tanzania
E-mail: vacancies@ecsahc.org with copies to dg@ecsahc.org; doid@ecsahc.org
Website: www.ecsahc.org

ECSA-HC is an equal opportunity employer, and female candidates are encouraged to apply.

For further information please visit our website:www.ecsahc.org