

The mission of WHO is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health.

Vacancy Notice No: HQ/14/IER/TA202

Date: 12 December 2014

Title: Technical Officer

Application Deadline: 5 January 2015

Grade: P3

Duty Station: Kobe, Japan

Contract type: Temporary appointment

Organization unit: HQ/IER Information, Evidence and Research (HQ/IER) /

Duration of contract: 12 months

HQ/WKC - WHO Centre for Health Development (Kobe, Japan) (HQ/WKC)

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME :

The WHO Centre for Health Development (also known as the "WHO Kobe Centre " WKC") conducts research on the consequences of social, economic, and environmental change and its implications for health policies. The Centre, established in 1995, supports technical cooperation, capacity building and the exchange of information on science and best practices on key drivers of health outcomes. Current WKC priorities and major foci for research are: (1) Urban health and (2) Innovation for Healthy Ageing. In response to global health trends and to assist countries in designing and implementing comprehensive programmes for UHC, the Innovation for Healthy Ageing team focuses on the challenges and opportunities related to rapidly ageing populations in many communities and countries worldwide. The focus is on advancing innovative technological and social solutions that are relevant to low resource environments. Innovations should be integrated with health delivery systems, be simple, affordable, acceptable and address the needs and preferences of elderly in different country contexts that contribute to the aims of UHC. Within the Innovation for Healthy Ageing team, there are currently two sub areas of research: a) Increasing the availability, access and use of assistive health technologies for elderly and b) increasing the evidence base for community based support and health systems to assist the elderly remain in their homes (i.e. social innovations).

Description of duties:

The incumbent will:

1. Conduct WKC research on specific innovations relevant to ageing populations, such as
 - a. increasing compliance and ease of use for medications,
 - b. use of mHealth-related technologies, and/or
 - c. specific assistive/medical devices.

Such research would include:

- a. refine, plan and manage the research project to accomplish specific goals;
- b. develop and engage with key partners to conduct multisectoral research on aspects of the product innovation cycle, including on parts of the health system;

- c. conduct data collection, data synthesis and policy analysis;
 - d. draft policy briefs, technical guidance documents, scientific articles exposing findings and conclusion of the research.
2. Support the development of a framework for encouraging greater innovations in health technologies for ageing populations to guide multiple stakeholders. This includes:
 - a. synthesizing existing WHO information and tools relevant to different requirements for development, testing, financing, diffusion, and use of technological and social innovations in health;
 - b. assessing the needs from different stakeholders for priority information from WHO to support further innovation;
 - c. developing short guidance notes leading to an overall WHO framework to facilitate innovations.
 3. Organize of technical sessions for WHO 2nd Global Forum on Innovation for Ageing Populations:
 - a. identify and develop symposia, networking events and specific technical sessions;
 - b. identify, contact and manage presentation requirements for speakers and participants;
 - c. draft and ensure the timely publication and high quality of the meeting report;
 - d. contribute to the general organization of the Global Forum.
 4. Support the process of piloting and developing a WKC web-based platform on innovation for ageing populations:
 - a. organize, articulate and structure the key constitutive elements of the platform;
 - b. coordinate the development of the platform;
 - c. curate and manage the day-to-day update of the platform.
 5. Perform other relevant duties as necessary and appropriate.

Main achievements include:

1. WKC research publications and guidance for selected innovations for ageing populations.
2. Symposia and Networking event for WHO 2nd Global Forum on Innovation for Ageing Populations.
3. WKC web-based Innovations for Ageing platform.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

Essential: First university degree* in public health, health management, medical engineering or related subject.

*For WHO staff please see e-manual III.4.1, para 220.

Desirable: Advanced university degree (Masters level or above) in public health, health management, medical engineering or related subject. Training in gerontology or community based rehabilitation services.

WHO only considers higher educational qualifications obtained from an accredited institution.

Skills:

1. Expertise in research design, including literature review and policy analysis.
2. Knowledge of health technologies (e.g., assistive or medical devices).
3. Familiarity with concepts related to ageing and health; health systems (including at community level) and UHC; assistive and medical devices; development and diffusion of social and technological innovations.
4. Familiarity with health systems in developing countries.

5. Excellent communication, organizational and networking skills.
6. Strong research and problem-solving skills including ability to plan own work and manage priorities.
7. Expertise in organizing and managing evidence/information/research dissemination.
8. Expertise in planning and organizing technical conference sessions.
9. Ability to produce technical and scientific reports, and produce visual presentations.
10. Works well under pressure and deadlines.
11. Ability to function effectively in a multi-disciplinary and cross-cultural team, and to build collaborative relationships across different sectoral audiences.
12. Strong IT literacy.

WHO Competencies:

1. Producing results,
2. Communicating in a credible and effective way, and
3. Moving forward in a changing environment.

Experience:

Essential: At least 5 years' experience conducting research in the area of health technologies with relevance to ageing populations and public health or related field, of which at least two years should be at the international level. Experience in conducting public health or related research, and publication of research findings. Experience in working with different parts of the health system and with different stakeholders related to innovation development and diffusion. Experience in organizing and planning conference sessions.

Desirable: Experience in WHO and familiarity with the United Nations system would be an asset. Experience in organizing international symposiums and conferences.

Languages:

Essential: Expert knowledge of English.

Desirable: Expert knowledge of Japanese and another WHO official language.

Additional Information:

Please visit the following websites for detailed information on working with WHO:

<http://www.who.int> (To learn more about WHO's operations)

<http://icsc.un.org> Click on: Quick Links > Salary Scales > by date

WHO's salaries are calculated in US dollars. They consist of a base salary and a post adjustment, which reflects the cost of living in a particular duty station and exchange rates. Other benefits include: 30 days annual leave, family allowance, home travel, education grant for dependent children, pension plan and medical insurance.

This vacancy is published in English only.

Candidates appointed to an international post with WHO are subject to mobility and may be assigned to any activity or duty station of the Organization throughout the world.

Annual salary: (Net of tax)

Post Adjustment: 98 % of the above figure(s). This

US\$56,198 at single rate
US\$60,205 with primary dependants

percentage is to be considered as indicative since variations may occur each month either upwards or downwards due to currency exchange rate fluctuations or inflation.

This vacancy notice may be used to fill other similar positions at the same grade level.

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.

WHO is committed to workforce diversity.

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



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