

Job description

Job title	Program Director
Programme	Advancing Health Security for Africa Programme (AHSAP)
Location	Abuja, Nigeria, Nairobi, Kenya or London, UK
Post holder	TBC
Reporting to	Options Director of Global Health
Hours	Full time
Type of contract	Fixed Term
Organisation	
<p>We are a global team of experts and innovators tackling some of the world's most pressing health challenges. We work with leaders and change makers around the globe to bring health strategies to life. We provide ideas, advice and technical know-how that enable our partners to build a path to lasting change.</p> <p>With 30 years' experience in global health, we collaborate with our partners to explore existing evidence, combine expertise, scale up ideas and co-create solutions that accelerate change. This includes collaborating on policy design, managing initiatives, building powerful coalitions and galvanising social movements. Our impact is felt across whole communities, with a focus on women, girls and those who have been marginalised.</p> <p>As part of MSI Reproductive Choices, all our profits go back into supporting MSI's own mission of children by choice, not chance.</p> <p>We believe in a world where everyone can access the high-quality health services they need, without financial burden.</p>	
Main purpose of job	
<p>Options is seeking a Program Director to provide leadership for a new UK aid funded programme focused on strengthening global health security in Africa. At outcome level, interventions funded under this programme will contribute to the delivery of an effective regional response to cross border health threats, as well as improve countries' capacity to prevent, detect and respond to disease outbreaks. Programme interventions will have a sustained positive outcome for systems and populations, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional level: Strengthened regional institutions allowing countries to leverage resources/public health assets (e.g. technical expertise, reference laboratories, surveillance networks, epidemiologists, standards and guidelines) to build national capacity in health security. 	

- National level: Improved public health core capacities (e.g. workforce, surveillance and points of entry control) allowing countries to better comply with IHR and effectively control infectious disease outbreaks. Increased national ownership of public health responses.
- Community level: Communities are empowered with knowledge and tools to identify and escalate risks, to respond to outbreaks, and minimise the risk of endemic disease emergence and amplification.

This programme will build on the lessons and successes of the Tackling Deadly Diseases in Africa Programme (TDDAP), including:

That;

- Regional institutions and regionally led initiatives are critical to Africa's health security.
- Health security must consider how it engages with people.
- A flexible contingency response mechanism will help protect people and communities, enable system change and create opportunities to forge strategic partnerships.
- Effective prevention and early detection of disease outbreaks require a multi-sectoral One Health approach that works across the human, animal and environmental interface.
- Sustainable progress on health security requires a whole of government approach.

Main duties

The Program Director is responsible for the overall strategic leadership, managerial oversight and technical direction of the programme. They lead a team of technical experts and administrators and also serves as the key point of contact for the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), government, programme consortium partners, and other stakeholders. The Program Director will report to the Options Director of Global Health and work closely with Options' management, technical and administrative colleagues. Coordinating the inputs of a team of technical experts from Options and partners, they will ensure that programme objectives, outcomes, and deliverables are met and that financial, operational, and reporting requirements of the donor are adhered to.

Responsibilities will include:

- **Programme delivery, and oversight** - oversee programme strategies, technical approaches, workplans, risk management, and budgets. Ensure the programme delivers against its theory of change, is informed by the latest evidence and technical thinking and achieves its intended results.
- **Technical leadership in health security** – provide technical and strategic leadership, drawing on relevant global health security approaches and frameworks, to ensure that technical advice and interventions are delivered to the highest standards. The Program Director will need to draw on effective approaches to prevention, detection and response to public health threats and develop a coherent approach to health system strengthening in multiple geographies and levels. The Program Director is expected to

directly provide technical advice on various aspects of delivery and ensure quality assurance of work delivered across the programme team.

- **Client, government and partner relations** - be the primary liaison with the donor, represent the programme on behalf of Options and ensure close collaboration with relevant local, national and international stakeholders including WHO Afro, African Union etc.
- **Effective learning and evidence to improve ongoing implementation**, and take a leading role in disseminating lessons, successes, tools and approaches with internal and external stakeholders, particularly government ministries, WHO Afro, African Union, Regional Economic Committees, the Africa CDC and other agencies active in global health security.

Note: this job description reflects the present requirements of the post. As duties and responsibilities change and develop the job description will be reviewed and be subject to amendment in consultation with the job holder.

Signed by:	Date:
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Person specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		
Post-graduate qualification or degree in public health or related discipline	✓	
Experience		
Extensive and proven experience providing technical, strategic and programme management oversight to similar donor funded health programmes and/or organizations.	✓	
Extensive experience and record of delivering health security programming in Africa.	✓	
In-depth knowledge of IHR, disease preparedness, anti-microbial resistance, one health and whole of government approaches.	✓	
Experience of fostering relationships with key health security partners at global, regional and country level, including WHO Afro, Africa CDC, relevant government ministries and implementing partners.	✓	
Significant experience and a track record of successful leadership and management of teams based in multiple locations. Previous experience leading a large team of highly skilled, multidisciplinary staff to leverage joint management support, and empowering team members to deliver high quality work.	✓	
Experience managing teams in high risk environments (desirable)		✓
Experience engaging closely with and/or managing partner organizations, including large consortium management	✓	
Experience of risk management and mitigation and safeguarding in a programme context.	✓	
Experience in leading the delivery of: 1) complex, multi-country programmes; 2) high value programmes >£50m; 3) FCDO programmes	✓	
Experience of managing contracts (including payment by results) and contracting; supporting compliance requirements and excellent financial management skills.	✓	

Skills and attributes		
Strong administration and organisational skills, good time management	✓	
Excellent communication and report writing skills	✓	
Proven planning, coordination and organising and presentation skills	✓	
Proven skills in people management and staff capacity development	✓	
Effective communication skills with staff, stakeholders and clients	✓	
Other requirements		
Commitment to equal opportunities, diversity and inclusion	✓	
Pro-choice	✓	
Commitment to the principles of Safeguarding	✓	
Fluency in written and spoken English	✓	
Fluency in written and spoken French	✓	
Ability to travel locally and internationally as required	✓	