

Technical Officer, Molecular Biotechnology

Based in Nigeria, 1-year contract on consultancy basis

Organization:

FIND is an international non-profit organization based in Geneva, Switzerland, dedicated to R&D activities to expand and accelerate access to new diagnostic technologies, and to build global capacity for diagnostic testing for poverty-related diseases in low- and middle-income countries. FIND's vision is a world where diagnosis guides the way to health for all people. The FIND team is devoted to driving the development, clinical trialing, and early implementation of innovative diagnostic solutions that can have a high impact on patient care and disease control in low-resource settings.

Overall objective:

FIND's Outbreak Strategy aims to support technical and capacity solutions to promote proactive preparedness ahead of the next epidemic. In Nigeria, FIND has received funding from BMBF to support Lassa fever response in Nigeria through diagnostic development, laboratory capacity building, and sample archiving.

Responsibilities:

The Technical Officer, Molecular Biotechnology will work in the Emerging Threats Programme and seconded to the Nigerian Centre for Disease Control (NCDC). Under the supervision of the Director General of NCDC, the Technical Officer will be based at the National Reference Laboratory (NRL) and work with the NCDC Director of Virology to:

- Coordinate project activities with the FIND Scientific Officer, Pandemic Preparedness, for the planning and implementation of the Lassa fever response project
- Provide supervisory and capacity building support for the NRL
- Establish and maintain solid view of the changing molecular diagnostic landscape and product pipelines in order to enable strategic decisions for use in differential diagnoses in Nigeria
- Provide technical support on molecular diagnostics, including sequencing, for outbreak response and differential diagnoses in Nigeria
- Help to identify and mobilize resources in collaboration with the NCDC Director General and other stakeholders
- Perform other duties as assigned

Knowledge & skill requirements:

- At least 5 years' experience working with molecular technologies
- Advanced scientific degree (e.g. MSc or higher) with a focus on molecular biology or a closely related field, with a track record of published studies
- A thorough understanding of infectious disease diagnostics and public health issues, especially related to outbreak-prone pathogens
- Experience working in industry or with industry partners
- Experience in grant writing

Posted on 15 January 2019

- Experience in project management and capacity building an asset
- Experience working in low- and middle-income settings an asset
- Fluent in English
- Good communication and negotiation skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team

This position position is based in Abuja, Nigeria and will require some travel within the country.

Nature of appointment:

This a full time, 1 year contract on a consultancy basis. The position can be renewed subject to project extension and funding availability..

To apply:

Please send your application, in English, attaching your full CV, motivation letter, copy of diplomas and the names and telephone numbers of three references, to HR@finddx.org.

Deadline to send your application: **28th February 2019**

(But don't wait until the deadline! We will start screening right away and if we find the right person, we will stop searching.)

Please note that only applicants meeting the profile requirements will be personally contacted. Applications sent by recruitment agencies will not be considered.