AMR Scientific Officer

FIND, the global alliance for diagnostics, seeks to ensure equitable access to reliable diagnosis around the world. We connect countries and communities, funders, decisionmakers, healthcare providers and developers to spur diagnostic innovation and make testing an integral part of sustainable, resilient health systems. We are working to save 1 million lives through accessible, quality diagnosis, and save US$1 billion in healthcare costs to patients and health systems. We are co-convener of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator diagnostics pillar, and a WHO Collaborating Centre for Laboratory Strengthening and Diagnostic Technology Evaluation.

Location: Geneva, FIND headquarters preferred

Position: 100%, starting immediately – this is a permanent position, contingent upon continued funding.

 Reporting to: Head of AMR programme

AMR PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

FIND’s Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Strategy focuses on preventing AMR development and mortality through developing and improving diagnostic systems. During the new strategic period (2021-2023), FIND will work on preserving existing and new antibiotics by supporting the development of new point-of-care tests for gonorrhoea and chlamydia, implementing innovative AMR diagnostic packages to reduce the mortality of patients with severe infections, and empowering on-the-ground decentralized AMR surveillance efforts to strengthen the One Health approach.

Your mission/Position objective

As Scientific Officer you will be a member of the AMR team, supporting existing and new projects in the portfolio. In this position you will serve as the technical lead for specific projects to ensure that a portfolio of well-performing, fit-for-purpose diagnostics are commercially available to enable quality clinical management and responsible use of antibiotics.

Job description

Specific activities will include but not be limited to:

- Provide technical support for the planning and implementation of projects related to test development and implementation for AMR
- Lead and manage specific projects from inception to end, (e.g., product development with industry partners, clinical trials and studies) to ensure progress towards predetermined goals by engaging with staff members and/or consultants in FIND’s Pandemic Preparedness and AMR programmes, as well as other FIND cross-cutting teams, including, but not limited to, Research and Development, Clinical Trials Unit, and Data Services and Biobanking Team
• With support from the Programme Manager and/or Project Coordinator, ensure smooth transition between phases during project execution and timely achievement of milestones, including interaction with and coordination of FIND internal team and external collaborators on a routine basis
• Establish and maintain links with academic and private sector institutions working on AMR to keep abreast of latest results and technologies in diagnostics relevant to infectious disease diagnosis and management
• Communicate FIND’s achievement through publications and scientific presentations
• Participate in regular internal cross-team project reviews as appropriate (e.g., business development, communication, fundraising)
• With support from the Programme Manager, assist the AMR Head of Programme to assess and ensure AMR programme delivery, including with regard to workload, risks and budgets
• Work with other project staff, including consultants, to ensure that projects are adequately and appropriately planned (realistic, achievable, describing major activities and milestones)
• Present progress reports at interim and formal management reviews with the support of the Programme Manager

Qualifications
Scientific skills
• Educational experience: Advanced degree (Master, MD or PhD degree) in a relevant discipline (infectious disease, immunology, microbiology, parasitology, etc.), with at least 3 years post-graduate experience
• A thorough understanding of AMR and infectious diseases diagnostics and public health issues
• A minimum of 3-5 years of work experience in the field of diagnostics implementation, infectious diseases and or development, ideally in low-resource settings
• Experience in in vitro diagnostics research and development and clinical trials, especially related to diagnostics for use in resource-limited settings
• Strong scientific background in research methodology, including experience and track record of planning and conducting laboratory-based and/or epidemiological studies
• Grant writing and scientific presentations to peers and colleagues
• Knowledge of Good Clinical Practice (GCP, GLP, and GCLP) guidelines and practical application in the field is an asset.
• Programme and/or project management experience is an asset.

Soft skills
• Ability to multitask and work in a rapidly changing environment
• Enjoy taking on new challenges and defining new areas of work
• Strong problem-solving skills
• Ability to lead and work in a cross-cutting manner with a team, and communicate effectively across the organization, as well as with external partners and stakeholders
• Ability to work without close supervision, as well as to meet tight timelines on a results-oriented basis
• Work and communicate well in multi-cultural teams who may be geographically dispersed
• Excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills
• Fluent in English (verbal and written). Knowledge of other languages considered an asset, including but not limited to French, Spanish or Portuguese

To apply
Please send your application to hr@finddx.org by 26 June 2021
The application must include:
• A complete curriculum vitae
• A motivation letter
• An acknowledgement letter, answering the following questions:
  1. Have you ever been criminally convicted or subject to any criminal or administrative penalty by any competent authority? If yes, please specify.
  2. Have you ever been terminated or separated (e.g., contract termination, dismissal, non-renewal) or subject to any disciplinary measure or sanction by your employer for fraud, harassment, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, or sexual abuse?
  3. Have you ever resigned while under investigation or during disciplinary proceedings?
A confirmation of the following declaration of understanding:
• I confirm the accuracy of the information provided, with the understanding that FIND will conduct reference checks to verify relevant information.
• I understand that if any false or misleading information is provided in my application, or any material fact suppressed, I may not be employed, or if I am employed, I may be dismissed.

FIND values diversity among its staff and aims to achieve gender equality both through gender parity at all levels of the organization and promoting a gender dimension in all its work. We welcome applications from women and men, and those with disabilities.

Please note that, due to high volume of applications, ONLY short-listed candidates will be contacted.