FIND ▶▶
Diagnosis for all

Microbiologist, Zambia

Position: 80%

About the organization: FIND 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. In partnership with WHO, other global health agencies and the G20/G7, we are driving progress towards global health security and universal health coverage. We are a WHO Collaborating Centre for Laboratory Strengthening and Diagnostic Technology Evaluation. For more information, please visit www.finddx.org.

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
Regional hubs: India, Kenya, South Africa, Viet Nam

Location: Lusaka, Zambia

Reporting to: The role will report to Scientist, AMR programme.

Term: 12 months with possibility of extension based on funding availability.

Position: Not less than 80%, Starting Immediately

Deadline to send your application: please send a motivation letter and your resume to amr@finddx.org by **16 April 2024.**

Your mission/Position objective:

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a global health emergency. The landmark AMR review predicted that within a generation, AMR could be responsible for 10 million deaths every year – with a loss of US$100 trillion in economic output most adversely affecting low- and middle-income countries. FIND is tackling AMR holistically by addressing the urgent unmet needs of AMR across the entire diagnostic value chain. This includes developing new tests designed to detect AMR, addressing barriers to access to diagnostics, leading adaptation and use of connectivity solutions to support AMR surveillance, and generating data to inform policy and behavior change.

To support in these efforts, FIND is seeking a microbiologist based in Zambia to be a member of the AMR team. The role will provide technical support to antimicrobial resistance coordinating committee (AMRCC) and provide technical assistance support for laboratory technologists in human health laboratories in form of mentorship and training including human resources development, training on basic and advanced antimicrobial resistance (AMR) microbiology diagnostic procedures. The role requires a strong understanding of microbiology, laboratory skills including the use of AMR diagnostic equipment. The incumbent will also support the AMR team and other relevant FIND teams to ensure that all project-related aspects run efficiently and professionally, so that projects are completed on time and within budget and meet their defined targets/objectives in the country of operation.

Task and responsibility:

Project coordination

- o Provide project coordination support for the planning and implementation of activities.
- o Oversee and manage country projects from inception to end, to ensure progress towards pre-determined goals by engaging with staff members and/or consultants in FIND`s AMR team.
- o Establish and maintain relationships with ministries of health including AMR CC, Fleming Fund's country and regional grantees, academic and private sector institutions working on AMR to keep abreast of latest AMR developments in country.
- o Schedule and organize meetings/events and maintain agenda and support reporting of minutes or follow up of action points when appropriate. Support with intra- and inter-programme links and communication to coordinate needs, resources, reporting and M&E.
- o Collect reporting data and help prepare summary reports for the AMR team, and for reporting to external (donors) and internal (Finance, Operations, etc.) audiences.
- o Support the team to adequately record and monitor risks and issues.

Technical

- o Supervise the setup and implementation of Workstream activities in collaboration with key stakeholders in the country (National AMR CC, sites, Fleming Fund's country and regional grantees) and FIND's AMR team.
- o Lead designing of laboratory SOPS, training curriculum leveraging existing FIND training content customized to country needs and context and in discussion with stakeholders.
- o Coordinate and lead the capacity building and training workshops directed at laboratory personnel in Zambia on microbiology specimen processing, culture preparation and reading, antimicrobial susceptibility testing, molecular techniques, sample referral, Quality Assurance, AMR surveillance, microbiology reagent supply management, equipment management and the clinical management of antibiotics.
- o Participate in training assessors on the use of the AMR Scorecard and conduct assessments before and after implementation of laboratory strengthening activities.
- o Conducted Continuous Quality Improvement, Quality Indicators and External Quality Assurance mentorship and implementation of the AMR action plan.
- o Supported the review of the microbiology request form together with antimicrobial stewardship committee to include all microbiology requests.
- o Support conducted monthly microbiology data review meeting with laboratory staff for data driven decision making.

Qualifications

- o <u>Educational requirements</u> : University degree in Microbiology, laboratory science, medicine, medical microbiology or equivalent.
- o An advanced degree in microbiology or infectious diseases or Public Health.
- o A minimum of 5 years of experience in laboratory especially in bacteriology and antibiotic sensitivity testing.
- o Solid understanding of the diagnostics landscape, challenges, and priorities in Zambia.
- o Previous experience of working with the Zambia MOH AMR CC and a solid understanding of the major departments and associated stakeholders will be an asset.
- o Experience of conducting lab assessments, developing training contents and conducting trainings will be preferred.
- o Well familiar with microbiology lab techniques, equipment, and data analysis etc.
- o Excellent command of spoken and written English and local language of country operation.
- o Experience working with MS office software including MS Project, Excel, and an ability to

rapidly master new tools.
- o Excellent Communication and interpersonal skills
- o Team player comfortable multi-tasking and working in a multicultural environment.
- o Willingness to travel locally, in line with applicable health regulations.

Please note that due to the high volume of applications, ONLY short-listed candidates will be contacted. FIND is dedicated to building an inclusive workforce where diversity is valued. FIND is an equal opportunity employer. Every qualified applicant will be considered for employment. FIND does not discriminate based on race, colour, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, age, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, disability status, political ideology, military status, or any other attribute protected by applicable law.